

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

'Knowing what we ought to do'



Today's Collect reminds us that prayer is more than simply asking God for something and waiting for an answer. We are part of the answer, for God works through us. We ask him what things we ought to **do**, and pray for grace and power to carry them out. As someone once said: 'Pray as if everything depended on God. Do as if everything depended on you.'

The Gathering

THE GREETING

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you. (1 Tim. 1:2)

(A HYMN may be sung)

Praise the Lord!

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

Save us, O Lord our God,
and gather us from among the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name
and glory in your praise.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.

And let all the people say,
'Amen. Praise the Lord!'

(Ps. 106:1-2, 47-48)

PRAYER

God our Father,
we are here to worship you
and learn more of your love for us
through Jesus Christ.
Renew us by your Spirit
that we may grow
in faith, hope and love,
for Jesus' sake.

Amen.

(SONGS may be sung)

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PENITENCE

We reflect silently, in the presence of our holy and merciful God, where our lives have gone wrong, and where we have failed to live up to the Christian values we profess ...

(silence)

Let us confess our sins and shortcomings:

Gracious God,
we pretend to be good when we are not ...
How quick we are to find fault in others.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Merciful Lord,
we turn our backs on those who need us ...
How slow we are to do good.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Holy God,
we place our own interests above everything else ...
How reluctant we are to seek your will.
Lord, have mercy, **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(The GLORIA, the VENITE, a SONG or RESPONSES may be used)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray ... (silent prayer)

O Lord,
we beseech you mercifully
to hear the prayers of your people
who call upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive
and know what things they ought to do,
and also may have grace and power
faithfully to fulfil them;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

THE SCRIPTURE READING(S)

(After the reading)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM/HYMN or SCRIPTURAL SONG

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

Glory to you, O Lord.

(After the reading)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We affirm our faith in God:

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life, the one for whom
we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son who
took our human nature, died for us, and rose
again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy
Spirit who gives life to the people of God and
makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

(A HYMN may be sung)

The Prayers

INTERCESSIONS

(Special thanksgivings and prayers ...)

Our Father in heaven, we pray for all people,
in the name of your Son Jesus Christ:

We pray for the Church, for bishop N., and
for all who lead, teach and minister in
Christ's name ... Grant that we may be
nourished in our faith and understanding,
and bear daily witness to Christ's love.
Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for the nations of the world and for
those who take authority to serve the cause
of justice and human well-being ...
Strengthen our Queen and the leaders of the
nations with gifts of wisdom, courage and
integrity, that your will may be done on earth
as it is in heaven.
Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for those who are afflicted by
natural disasters, or caught up in brutal
conflicts ...
Fill them with the resurrection hope that
good will prevail, and bless all who stand
with them in finding solutions to their
difficulties.
Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for the people we are called to

serve, in the home, the neighbourhood and
at work ... Help us to work hard at building
good relationships, and to strive for
reconciliation when they break down.
Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for all who suffer from illness,
loneliness or loss ... Raise them from
despair to hopefulness and health.
Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

We remember with thanksgiving those who
have died ... Strengthen all who mourn, with
the sure hope that, in Christ, their loved ones
are raised to fullness of life.
Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Accept all these prayers
for the sake of your Son
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(A HYMN may be sung)

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Teach me my God and King
in all things thee to see,
and what I do in anything
to do it as for thee. Amen.

(George Herbert)

(The BLESSING or the GRACE is said)