

As we come to a short time of prayer and reflection for the first Sunday after Trinity let's take a moment of quiet to recognise we are in the presence of God: Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen

The Lord be with you

In our Gospel today, Jesus looks upon the crowds who come to him with compassion because they are harassed and helpless. He calls a group of his companions to go out themselves and extend the ministry of teaching, preaching and healing that they have seen him begin and he encourages them to pray for more to come and join in this work.

As Jesus looks on our world and on each one of us with compassion let us take a moment to bring to mind all that has made us harassed and helpless, all that prevents us receiving and sharing that compassion:

In the wilderness we find your grace: you love us with an everlasting love. Lord have mercy

There is none but you to uphold our cause: our sin cries out, our guilt is great. Christ have mercy

Heal us Lord and we shall be healed: restore us and we shall know your joy. Lord have mercy.

May the God of love and power, forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen

Let us pray:

God of truth, help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom, that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son.

Amen.

We listen to a reading from the Gospel of Matthew 9:35-10:23

The Gospel of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon : see additional attachment

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, you called apostles to proclaim your good news and bring healing to your world. Bless your church today with wisdom to respond to that call now – finding ways to bring the justice, love and peace of your kingdom to a world crying out for love.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Lord Jesus, you had compassion for a harassed and helpless people. Be close to all those who feel helpless today whether through anxiety about Covid 19, worry about their economic future, fear because of structures of discrimination and injustice or concern about our environment and bless them with courage. Guide all who lead the nations in careful decisions for this time.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, you spoke honestly of the challenges that can come in family life. Bless our families, friends and neighbours in their own particular needs. Bring reassurance to the lonely, and to those missing each other. Bring support to those who are vulnerable and to all families struggling at this time.

Lord in your mercy

Lord Jesus, you came to cure us of every disease and sickness. We bring to you in our hearts all who we know to be suffering at this

time: through illness, injury or any kind of distress. Help them to have a sense of your presence with them. Bring them wholeness of body, mind and spirit, and the healing that is according to God's will,

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Lord Jesus, the good news you brought was of an eternal kingdom. We commend to the eternal love of God all who have died: those we love and see no longer, those who have died recently and those whose anniversary of death falls around now.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We gather all these intercessions in the prayer Jesus gave us:

Our Father who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory. Forever and ever, Amen.

And we pray for God's blessing:

Christ the good shepherd, who laid down his life for the sheep, draw you and all who hear his voice to be one flock within one fold; and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you all and all who you love and pray for, today and everyday. Amen.