



Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

♪ Hymn 557 ♪

Beauty for brokenness,
hope for despair,
Lord, in Your suffering world,
this is our prayer.
Bread for the children,
justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset
Your kingdom increase.

Shelter for fragile lives,
cures for their ills,
work for the craftsmen,
trade for their skills.
Land for the dispossessed,
rights for the weak,
voices to plead the cause
of those who can't speak.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray:
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain.
Come, change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

Refuge from cruel wars,
havens from fear,
cities for sanctuary,
freedoms to share.
Peace to the killing-fields,
scorched earth to green
Christ for the bitterness,
His cross for the pain.

Rest for the ravaged earth,
oceans and streams,
plundered and poisoned:
our future, our dreams.
Lord, end our madness,
carelessness, greed;
make us content with
the things that we need.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray,
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain.
Come, change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

Lighten our darkness,
breathe on this flame,
until Your justice
burns brightly again;
until the nations
learn of Your ways,
seek Your salvation
and bring You their praise.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray,
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain.
Come, change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

Graham Kendrick (b.1950)

© 1993 Graham Kendrick/Make Way Music

♪ Hymn (569) ♪

The kingdom of God
is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores
what sin would destroy;
God's power and glory
in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter
the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God
is mercy and grace,
the captives are freed,
the sinners find place,
the outcast are welcomed
God's banquet to share,
and hope is awakened
instead of despair.

The kingdom of God
is challenge and choice,
believe the good news,
repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners
brought Christ to His cross,
our crisis of judgement
for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come,
the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun,
in heaven made whole;
the heirs of the kingdom
shall answer His call,
and all things cry 'Glory!'
to God all in all.

Bryn A. Rees (1911-1983) © Mr Alexander Scott)

♪ Hymn (806) ♪

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in His justice
which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's
sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgement given.

For the love of God is broader
than the measure of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

But we make His love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify His strictness
with a zeal He would not own.

There is plentiful redemption
through the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.

There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple,
we should take Him at His Word;
and our lives would be all gladness,
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

Frederick William Faber (1814-1863)

♪ Chant (CAHON 950) ♪

Within our darkest night,
You kindle the fire that never dies away,
That never dies away.

(Repeat)

Taizé Community © Ateliers et Presses de Taizé

♪ Hymn (451) ♪

Just as I am, without one plea
but that Thy blood was shed for me,
and that Thou bidst me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, Thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth, and height to
prove,
here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come!

Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)

♪ Hymn (394) ♪

Tell out, my soul,
the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings
give my spirit voice;
tender to me
the promise of His word;
in God my Saviour
shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul,
the greatness of His name!
Make known His might,
the deeds His arm has done;
His mercy sure,
from age to age the same;
His holy name,
the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul,
the greatness of His might!
Powers and dominions
lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn
wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed,
the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul,
the glories of His word!
Firm is His promise,
and His mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul,
the greatness of the Lord
to children's children
and for evermore!

*Timothy Dudley Smith (b. 1926) © 1961 Timothy
Dudley Smith*

First Reading

Exodus 33.12–end

Moses said to the Lord, ‘See, you have said to me, “Bring up this people”; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, “I know you by name, and you have also found favour in my sight.”’¹³ Now if I have found favour in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favour in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.’

¹⁴He said, ‘My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.’¹⁵ And he said to him, ‘If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here.’¹⁶ For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.’

¹⁷The Lord said to Moses, ‘I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name.’¹⁸ Moses said, ‘Show me your glory, I pray.’¹⁹ And he said, ‘I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, “The Lord”; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.’²⁰ But’, he said, ‘you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and

live.’ ²¹And the Lord continued, ‘See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; ²²and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; ²³then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.’

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1.1–10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of people we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place where your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it.

⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead —Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Gospel

Matthew 22.15–22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?’ ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, ‘Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.’ And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’ ²¹They answered, ‘The emperor’s.’ Then he said to them, ‘Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Collect

God, the giver of life,
whose Holy Spirit wells up within your
Church:

by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the
gospel of Christ

and make us eager to do your will,
that we may share with the whole
creation

the joys of eternal life;
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.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father,
whose Son, the light unfailing,
has come from heaven to deliver the
world from the darkness of ignorance:
let these holy mysteries open the eyes
of our understanding that we may
know the way of life, and walk in it
without stumbling; through Jesus
Christ our Lord.