

Where there is pain, we ask for healing. Where there is hate, replace it with love. Where all seems hopeless, we beseech Your blessing. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

From the depth of our heart we ask all the above. This is our prayer and our deep desire, this is the passion that consumes our hearts. Help us to be an example for others. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

Hymn

1 There is a redeemer
Jesus God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God,
Messiah, Holy One.
Thank You, O my Father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit
'Till the work on earth is done.

2 Jesus, my Redeemer,
Name above all names,
Precious Son of God, Messiah,
Lamb for sinners slain;
Thank You, O my Father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit
'Till the work on earth is done.

3 When I stand in glory,
I will see His face,
And there I'll serve my King forever,
In that holy place.
Thank You, O my Father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit
'Till the work on earth is done.

Dismissal

Remember all God has done; rejoice in all he is doing; receive all he shall yet do; put your hand in his; the God of past, present and future; and walk with him wherever he may lead; knowing that he will walk with you; this day and always. Amen

You are most welcome to stay for coffee after the end of service



The St J's Group

MORNING PRAISE

10.30am - Sunday 12th May 2024 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

'God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them.' Acts 19:11-12

Welcome

Hymn

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|---|---|
| 1 Thou whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the Gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light. | 3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light. |
| 2 Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
let there be light. | 4 Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide
let there be light. |

Confession

Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrong doing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The collect for the 7th Sunday of Easter

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Time of Testimony

This is a time where we encourage each other and strengthen our faith as we share what God has been doing in our lives. If so please share that with us.

- *What has the Lord given you lately from his word?*
- *Has God answered your prayers?*
- *Has God been challenging you?*

Hymn

1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
and His righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alluluia.

2 Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, alluluia.

3 Ask and it shall be given unto you,
seek and ye shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened up to you.
Allelu, alluluia.

Reading – Acts 19:1-20

1 While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples 2 and asked them, ‘Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?’

They answered, ‘No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.’

3 So Paul asked, ‘Then what baptism did you receive?’
‘John’s baptism,’ they replied.

4 Paul said, ‘John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.’ 5 On hearing this, they were baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. 7 There were about twelve men in all.

8 Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God. 9 But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned the Way. So Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. 10 This went on for two years, so that all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord.

11 God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, 12 so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to those who were ill, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them.

13 Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon-possessed. They would say, ‘In the name of the Jesus whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out.’ 14 Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. 15 One day the evil spirit answered them, ‘Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?’ 16 Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding.

17 When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honour. 18 Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed what they had done. 19 A number who had practised sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand

drachmas. 20 In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Talk - ‘Ministry in Ephesus’ - Sarah Bubyer

Hymn

1 To God be the glory! great things He hath done;
so loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life gate that all may go in:
*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
let the earth hear His voice;
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father,
through Jesus the Son;
And give Him the glory;
great things He hath done!*

2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. *Chorus*

3 Great things he hath taught us, great things He hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see. *Chorus*

We sit or kneel to pray

Prayers of Intercession

King of Kings, Prince of Peace, we exalt You and praise Your name. We daily delight in your endless love and bask in Your saving grace. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

We come to You on bended knee, in earnest prayer and petition: Help us to live in harmony; this is our goal and our mission. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

Where there is brokenness, we ask You to mend it. Where there is weakness, we ask for Your strength. Where there is sin, we beg Your forgiveness. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

Where there is doubt, we invite more faith. Where there is pride, help us be humble. Where there's resentment, help us find peace. Where there is threat, we ask for protection. Please shelter our love beneath Your wings. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

Where there's a need, let us help one another. Where there's temptation, help us resist. Where we stumble, help us recover. Where praise is needed, let it come from our lips. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**