

**Blofield Church**

**A Service for the  
17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity  
(online)**



## **The Welcome and Greeting**

This is the day that the Lord has made.  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Almighty God,  
your Son has opened for us  
a new and living way into your presence.  
Give us new hearts and constant wills  
to worship you in spirit and in truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### The Hymn

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the almighty, the king of creation;  
O my soul, praise him, for his is thy health and  
salvation;  
all ye who hear,  
brothers and sisters draw near,  
praise him in glad adoration.
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and  
defend thee;  
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee:  
Ponder anew  
what the almighty can do  
if with his love he befriend thee.
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who when darkness and sin is  
abounding,  
who, when the godless do triumph, all virtue  
confounding,

sheddeth his light,  
chaseth the horrors of night,  
saints with his mercy surrounding.

- 4 Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore him;  
all that hath life and breath come now with praises  
before him;  
let the amen  
sound from his people again:  
Gladly for aye we adore him.

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### The Confession

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are  
hidden, to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

**All** **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,**  
**we have sinned against you,**  
**through our own fault,**  
**in thought, and word, and deed,**  
**and in what we have left undone.**  
**We are heartily sorry,**  
**and repent of all our sins.**  
**For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,**  
**forgive us all that is past;**  
**and grant that we may serve you in newness of**  
**life**  
**to the glory of your name.**  
**Amen.**

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

**All Amen.**

A Thanksgiving

*What would you say thank you to God for today?*

We thank you, O God,  
for you are gracious.

You have loved us from the beginning of time  
and you remember us in times of trouble and of joy.

**Your mercy endures for ever.**

We thank you, O God,  
for you came to us in Jesus Christ,  
who has redeemed us from the power of evil  
and saves us from our sins.

**Your mercy endures for ever.**

We thank you, O God,  
for you have sent your Holy Spirit,  
who comforts us and leads us into all truth.

**Your mercy endures for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## The Collect

Gracious God,  
you call us to fullness of life:  
deliver us from unbelief  
and banish our anxieties  
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

We hear the first Reading

Philippians.2.14-30

*Paul encourages the Christians at Philippi be a light to their generation. He writes of Timothy and Epaphroditus, his fellow workers and true servants of Christ Jesus.*

Do everything without grumbling or arguing, <sup>15</sup> so that you may become blameless and pure, 'children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.' Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky <sup>16</sup> as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labour in vain. <sup>17</sup> But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. <sup>18</sup> So you too should be glad and rejoice with me.

<sup>19</sup> I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. <sup>20</sup> I have no one else like him, who will show genuine concern for your welfare. <sup>21</sup> For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup> But you know that Timothy has

proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. <sup>23</sup> I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. <sup>24</sup> And I am confident in the Lord that I myself will come soon.

<sup>25</sup> But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, co-worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs. <sup>26</sup> For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill. <sup>27</sup> Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow. <sup>28</sup> Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety. <sup>29</sup> So then, welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honour people like him, <sup>30</sup> because he almost died for the work of Christ. He risked his life to make up for the help you yourselves could not give me.

This is the Word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God**

The Song.

Father God, I wonder how I managed to exist  
Without the knowledge of Your parenthood and Your  
loving care.

But now I am Your child, I am adopted in Your family,  
And I can never be alone,  
'Cause Father God, You're there beside me.

I will sing Your praises,  
I will sing Your praises,  
I will sing Your praises,  
Forever more.  
I will sing Your praises,  
I will sing Your praises,  
I will sing Your praises,  
Forever more.

### The Gospel Reading

*Jesus tells a parable about the consequences for Israel of being an unfruitful people and rejecting the prophets and their Messiah*

Jesus told a parable: “There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

“The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them in the same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said.

“But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

“Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

“He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes’?

“Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. He who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

This is the Word of the Lord

*All*

**Thanks be to God**

The Sermon



## The Song

How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
And make a wretch His treasure

How great the pain of searing loss,  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One,  
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon the cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice,  
Call out among the scoffers

It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection

Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

*All* **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the  
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

Our Prayers

Praise the Lord for he is good  
**May all our hearts sing with your praise**

Lord of the vineyard, help us as your church, and the  
people you have called to bear fruit pleasing to you in  
worship and in the whole of our lives.

Tend us as your vineyard. Prune us as you see fit and  
may we be nourished by the rich soil of your word.

Praise the Lord for he is good  
**May all our hearts sing with your praise**

Lord of the vineyard, you expect nations to produce the wine of justice. Raise up leaders who will promote conditions in which all may flourish. Defend the poor and weak, the vulnerable and those easily overlooked.

Today we pray for President Trump and Joe Biden and the American people as they prepare to cast an important vote.

We ask you to guide our politicians and parliamentarians as they make important decisions concerning the health and well-being of all and plan for economic recovery to provide for the needs of all.

Praise the Lord for he is good  
**May all our hearts sing with your praise**

Lord of the vineyard, you prepare wholesome fruit to refresh and revive us. Quench our thirst for wholeness and healing. Remember those troubled in mind or sick in body, amongst us and in our communities. Restore us in your mercy and bring us to declare your glory.

Praise the Lord for he is good  
**May all our hearts sing with your praise**

Lord of the vineyard, you hold before us the cup of salvation. Raise up all who have died Christ and bring us to share in the new wine of your Kingdom in this age and in the age to come

**Amen**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**All**    **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.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

Concluding Prayer

In darkness and in light,  
in trouble and in joy,  
help us, heavenly Father,  
to trust your love,  
to serve your purpose,  
and to praise your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

- 1 Now thank we all our God  
with hearts and hands and voices;  
such wonders he has done!  
in him the world rejoices.  
He, from our mother's arms,  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.
  
- 2 So may this generous God  
through all our life be near us;  
to fill our hearts with joy,  
and with his peace to cheer us:  
to keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed;  
to free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.
  
- 3 All praise and thanks to God  
who reigns in highest heaven,  
to Father and to Son  
and Spirit now be given,  
the one eternal God  
whom heaven and earth adore;  
for so it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

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