Service for the Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Welcome in the name of Christ.

God’s grace, mercy and peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

We are continuing our series on God’s promises to us, which in Jesus Christ are always ‘Yes’. Yes, I will bless you, Yes I will be with you, Yes, I will protect you, Yes, I will provide for you. This morning we are thinking about God’s promise of rest and peace. As Isaiah says of God, ‘You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.’

God of our days and years,

We set this time apart for you.

Speak your words of peace

to our troubled minds and distracted hearts.

Form us in the likeness of Christ

So that our lives may glorify you. **Amen.**

Opening hymn: I am a new creation

I am a new creation

No more in condemnation

Here in the grace of God I stand

My heart is overflowing

My love just keeps on growing

Here in the grace of God I stand

And I will praise You, Lord

Yes, I will praise You, Lord

And I will sing of all that You have done

A joy that knows no limit

A lightness in my spirit

Here in the grace of God I stand

Confession:

Seeing we have a great high priest

Who as passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God,

Let us draw near with a true heart

In full assurance of faith

And make our confession to our heavenly Father.

**Most merciful God,**

**Father of our Lord Jesus Christ**

**We confess that we have sinned**

**In thought, word and deed.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.**

**In your mercy forgive what we have been**

**Help us to amend what we are**

**And direct what we shall be;**

**That we may do justly, love mercy**

**And walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Almighty God,

Who forgives all who truly repent,

Have mercy upon us,

Pardon and deliver us from all our sins,

Confirm and strengthen us in all goodness

And keep us in eternal life;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading: Psalm 145: 8-18

A God of Promises:

Reading: Matthew 11:25-30

Address:

Hymn: Be still

Be still, for the presence of the Lord

The Holy One is here;

Come bow before Him now

With reverence and fear:

In Him no sin is found –

We stand on holy ground

Be still, for the presence of the Lord

The Holy One is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord

Is shining all around;

He burns with holy fire,

With splendour He is crowned:

How awesome is the sight –

Our radiant King of light!

Be still, for the glory of the Lord

Is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord

Is moving in this place.

He comes to cleanse and heal

To minister His grace –

No work too hard for Him.

In faith receive from Him.

Be still, for the power of the Lord

Is moving in this place.

Prayers:

Lord God,

whose we are and whom we serve:

We place our lives afresh in your hands.

Take us as we are, and make us

what you would have us to be;

And so fill us with your Holy Spirit

That we may be ready for your service

And quick to show your love and compassion.

Gracious Father, **Hear our prayer**

God of all mercy,

We pray for the nations of the world

As many seek to lift restrictions imposed by coronavirus

Give wisdom and strength of character

to all in positions of authority that they might

protect the lives and livelihoods of those in their charge

and safely bring and end to this pandemic.

Gracious Father, **Hear our prayer.**

Healing Father,

On this 72nd anniversary of the founding of the NHS

We give thanks for the vision and resolve of those

who brought our health service into being.

We give thanks for the dedication and commitment

Of all our doctors, nurses, care workers,

support and admin staff, Ambulance paramedics,

practitioners, reseachers and pharmacists,

Who together make our health service a national treasure,

Caring, tending, healing, bringing comfort, peace and consolation

To each and every person without discrimination or prejudice

Bless and protect all those on the front line.

Strengthen them by your Spirit, sustain them with you love

And fill them with your joy.

Gracious Father, **Hear our prayer.**

Lord God,

we pray for those who through no fault of their own

have been deprived of the work

that leads to the fulfilment of their lives

and the means of providing for their families.

Guide those in government and in business

To create opportunities for all to work

And find just reward for their labour.

Gracious Father, **Hear our prayer**.

Renew your Church O God

For mission and service,

And make it here and everywhere

A living fellowship of the Spirit

Revealing your love to the world

Reconciling all people to you and to one another

And serving all who are in need,

For the glory of Christ our Lord.

Gracious Father, **Hear our prayer.**

God of love, to your mercy and care,

We commit all who are dear to us,

Our friends and neighbours,

Our work colleagues and acquaintances

And especially those within our family circle.

Guard their lives; guide their steps

Grant them peace and unite us all

In faith, hope and love,

For the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gracious Father, **Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father,

We commend to your love and care

Those who suffer in body, mind or spirit,

And especially those known to us

Whom we hold up to you in silence now.

In your goodness and mercy

Grant them health of body

Soundness of mind and peace of heart

That in wholeness of being

They may glorify your name

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gracious Father, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are grieving

And those who can find no rest

in their hearts and minds.

Calm their anxiety and ease their pain

That in your arms of love they might find

A place of safety and consolation

Gracious Father, **Hear our prayer.**

Let us commend ourselves and all for whom we pray

to the mercy and protection of God,

in the prayer our Saviour taught 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**

**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.**

Closing Hymn: Before the throne of God above

Before the throne of God above

I have a strong, a perfect plea,

a great High Priest whose name is Love,

who ever lives and pleads for me.

My name is graven on His hands,

my name is written on His heart;

I know that while in heaven He stands

no tongue can bid me thence depart,

no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,

and tells me of the guilt within,

upward I look and see Him there

who made an end to all my sin.

Because the sinless Saviour died

my sinful soul is counted free;

for God the just is satisfied

to look on Him and pardon me,

to look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there! The risen lamb,

my perfect, spotless righteousness;

the great unchangeable I AM,

the King of glory and of grace!

One with Himself I cannot die,

my soul is purchased with His blood;

my life is hid with Christ on high,

with Christ my Saviour and my God,

with Christ my Saviour and my God.

Blessing:

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding,

keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge

and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

And the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

Be with you all this day and for ever more. **Amen.**