

St.Mary's Church, Eastham



Celtic Morning Prayer from the Northumbria Community

Wednesday 8th July 2020

**In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

*Opening sentences*

**One thing I have asked of the Lord,  
this is what I seek:  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life;  
to behold the beauty of the Lord  
and to seek Him in His temple.**

*Call: Who is it that you seek?*

*Response: We seek the Lord our God.*

*Call: Do you seek Him with all your heart?*

*Response: Amen. Lord, have mercy.*

*Call: Do you seek Him with all your soul?*

*Response: Amen. Lord, have mercy.*

*Call: Do you seek Him with all your mind?*

*Response: Amen. Lord, have mercy.*

*Call: Do you seek Him with all your strength?*

*Response: Amen. Christ, have mercy.*

*Declaration of faith*

**To whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life,  
and we have believed and have come to know  
that You are the Holy One of God.**

**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of endless glory.**

*Scripture Readings:*

*Psalm 46:6-11*

- <sup>6</sup>The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice, the earth melts.  
<sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.  
<sup>8</sup>Come, behold the works of the LORD;  
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.  
<sup>9</sup>He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.  
<sup>10</sup>"Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations,  
I am exalted in the earth."  
<sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

*(Short time of silence for personal reflection)*

*Old Testament Reading: 1 Samuel 1:12-17*

<sup>12</sup>As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. <sup>13</sup>Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk. <sup>14</sup>So Eli said to her, "How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine." <sup>15</sup>But Hannah answered, "No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD. <sup>16</sup>Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time." <sup>17</sup>Then Eli answered, "Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him."

*(Short time of silence for personal reflection)*

*New Testament Reading: Mark 1:35-37*

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you."

*(Short time of silence for personal reflection)*

### *Meditation*

In one single quiet hour of prayer the soul will often make more progress than in days of company with others. It is in the desert that the eye gets the clearest, simplest view of eternal certainties; it is in His presence alone, it is then that the soul gathers in wondrous refreshment and power and energy.

And so it is also in this way that we become truly useful to others. It is when coming out fresh from communion with God that we go forth to do His work successfully.

In nearness to God we get our vessels so filled with blessing that, when we come forth, we can not contain it to ourselves but must, as by a blessed necessity, pour it out whithersoever we go.

*Horatius Bonar*

*(Short time of silence for personal reflection)*

### *Prayers for others*

#### *Canticle*

**Christ, as a light  
illumine and guide me.  
Christ, as a shield  
overshadow me.  
Christ under me;  
Christ over me;  
Christ beside me  
on my left and my right.  
This day be within and without me,  
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.  
Be in the heart of each to whom I speak;  
in the mouth of each who speaks unto me.  
This day be within and without me,  
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.  
Christ as a light;  
Christ as a shield;  
Christ beside me  
on my left and my right.**

### ***Blessing***

**May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,  
wherever He may send you.**

**May He guide you through the wilderness,  
protect you through the storm.**

**May He bring you home rejoicing  
at the wonders He has shown you.**

**May He bring you home rejoicing  
once again into our doors.**

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

