



Sunday Worship at Home – Trinity 15 Education September 12<sup>th</sup> 2021

### **Opening Prayers:**

This is the day that the Lord has made!

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Father God, we thank you for this day and all it holds before us, we thank you for all those people who have influenced our lives and as we use our words to praise you, we remember that we can also use our words to encourage and support each other. Amen

### **Prayer of Confession;**

Loving God,

For the times we do not always choose the right words to say.

Lord have mercy

For the times we have hurt people with our words and actions.

Christ have mercy.

Forgive us for the wrong we have done and help us to speak kindly to each other.

Lord have mercy

### **The Collect (Special Prayer for the day)**

Lord God, Your Son Jesus Christ sat at the feet of others to learn,  
and sat on the mountains to teach:

Bless those who teach and those who learn, those who seek and those who find;

So that our homes, schools, universities and churches may be filled with a longing to learn  
and to grow, to serve and to give; Through Jesus Christ our Lord; Amen

### **A reading from James 3:1-12**

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh. This is the word of the Lord.

## Reflection

Words are powerful things. When we are learning, we perhaps feel teachers talk too much and give too much information to absorb at any one time. We might be told to listen without interruption, or we might be told to fully participate in any discussions. We all learn in different ways depending on how our brain works but none of us will learn without the use of words. Words can inform or rebuke, they can encourage or destroy and once words have been spoken to us, they cannot be unsaid, the praise is given with good words, or the damage is done with cruel words. So, before you speak, whatever the context, think carefully of the words you use, sometimes our words might not be as kind as they could be. Think of past conversations you have had. Have you said something encouraging to someone? How do you think that made them feel? Did someone say something encouraging to you? How did it make YOU feel? May the Lord God give us all the tongue of a teacher that we may know how to sustain others by the words we speak and spread God's love in our world. Amen

## The Creed

We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family in heaven and earth is named.  
We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.  
We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

## Amen

**Be still and Pray:** For your families and all those you love. For the Church throughout the world, especially the churches in our Benefice. We give thanks for all teachers and students as they return to schools at this time and we give thanks for the education we received. Keep in your hearts those who are ill at this time, asking for God to comfort them. Remember those you loved who have died. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, in 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; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever

## Amen

## Blessing:

Let us offer words of love and words to live by, words in times of need, words of hope when someone is struggling, and words to sow seeds of God.;  
and the blessing, of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit  
be with you, and all those you love, today and always. Amen

*Reverend Irene*