**14th of August: Ninth Sunday after Trinity**

Reading: **Luke 12: 49-56**

**This Sunday’s theme**

 “**An eruption of emotions.”**

In our worship today on this 9th Sunday after Trinity let us remember that the love of God for his people and for his church knows no limits. The Psalmist talks of God’s love reaching up to the heavens and his justice to the depth of the ocean, and yet he blesses us as individuals with the gifts of his Spirit so that his Church, his people might be a light in this place, to his glory.

[Alleluia, Sing to Jesus (Tune: Hyfrydol - 3vv) [with lyrics for congregations] - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UJDWFYIkBns)

Alleluia! sing to Jesus!
His the sceptre, his the throne.
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood.
Jesus out of every nation
Hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us,
Faith believes, nor questions how;
Though the cloud from sight received him
When the forty days were o'er
Shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

Alleluia! bread of heaven,
Here on earth our food and stay!
Alleluia! here the sinful
Flee to thee from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me.
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal,
Thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary,
Earth thy footstool,
Heaven thy throne.
Thou within the veil hast entered,
Robed in flesh, our great high priest.
Thou on earth both priest and victim
In the Eucharistic feast.

Father God, we bring our offering of worship and with it the service of our lives through this coming week. May we go from this place knowing that we have met with you and been blessed by your Spirit, to live and work to your glory. Amen

Living God whose Word became flesh in Jesus and whose Spirit of Truth speaks into our hearts all honour and glory and worship belong to you. As our praises pronounce your wonder may our lives overflow with love, that our words and deeds might tell of your goodness and declare your infinite grace. **Amen**.

**Confession**

Gracious God with gratitude and gladness we hear your promise of liberation: that in Christ we are forgiven and set free, and restored to serve you. Thanks be to you, Living God! **Amen.**

**Collect,**

Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful for your glory’s sake through Jesus Christour Lord **Amen.**

**Luke 12: 49-56**

**49**“I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! **50**But I have a baptism to undergo, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! **51**Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. **52**From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. **53**They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

**Interpreting the Times**

**54**He said to the crowd: “When you see a cloud rising in the west, immediately you say, ‘It’s going to rain,’ and it does. **55**And when the south wind blows, you say, ‘It’s going to be hot,’ and it is. **56**Hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky. How is it that you don’t know how to interpret this present time?

**Thought for the day from Roots.**

Whatever you thought about Oprah Winfrey’s now infamous interview with Harry and Meghan, it projected to the world the fragility of family, the complexity of familial relationships and how quickly things can fall apart.

Many of us will have a story about a family rift. Some family divisions last for decades and can even be passed down from generation to generation. Clearly, there are many and complex reasons for a family fall-out, but one of them stems from fundamental differences of opinion. During the Brexit vote, several news outlets carried statistics about the impact of the vote on family harmony. It is thought that disagreement on the politics of Brexit led to one in 20 people falling out with their family. You may recall that Boris Johnson’s own brother, Jo, famously left the government citing irreconcilable tension within himself over family loyalties and the national interest. However, when a family member moves beyond expressing different opinions and starts to live in a way that others don’t understand, or follows a set of beliefs not shared by the rest of the family, things can get really hard for everyone.

Today’s Gospel reading portrays something of the difficulties of holding a deep set of beliefs that is at odds with the people you love the most. For the first believers, the decision to follow Jesus and the consequences of signing up to a life of faith in him were hugely complex. Following Jesus divided people from their families, because the decision to follow him required disciples to put their trust fully in Jesus and align themselves to him above and beyond anything and anyone else. Jesus took priority.

Perhaps to us this seems a little extreme. But even in today’s world there are many that face this level of cost for their faith. Being divided from family members is a very real prospect for people across the globe choosing a life of faith in Christ. And yet people still make this choice. People today are opting into a life that will divide them from family, friends and communities they have grown up in. The choice for Jesus and the associated costs can give us pause for thought, particularly if our life of faith brings us little conflict or division.

 [Lord, For The Years - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkTrFQLy6js)

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
Speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive Your people's praise.

Lord, for our world when we disown and doubt him,
Loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him:
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us -
Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
Past put behind us, for the future take us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

**Intercessions and Lord’s Prayer**

**Intercessions** We pray…

for those living on the edge, in fear of the future:
bless them with a deepening sense of hope and trust in you;

for those caught up in the ways of the world,
relying on worldly treasures:
give them a blessing of release and joy in you;

for those battling with ill health:
give them the blessing of strengthening hope and healing;

for all who have the responsibility of leading your flock:
give them your blessing of wisdom and strength.

Lord, you watch and protect.
Strengthen all who are in need
with an unshakeable trust in you;
give them a glimpse of the treasures
that are theirs when they put their hope in you.
**Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**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** .

Generous God, you have nourished us with your word. Take us, bless us and send us, that our lips be touched with the gentleness of your peace; that our hearts burn with your passion and integrity; that our lives declare the good news of your love for the whole creation, in the name of Christ, **Amen**

Faithful God whose Word does not return empty but accomplishes all that you purpose, may your blessings fall like rain to water the earth, nourishing seed for our food, and filling us with the abundance of your love, through Jesus Christ your living Word. **Amen.**