

**Pentecost 13**

**23 August 2015**

*The church is fitted with a hearing loop which covers the body of the church.*

*Hearing aid wearers are advised to switch their aid to T-setting.*

**THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

ORGAN PRELUDE

*The people are invited to stand for the entrance of the Bible.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come together to remember  
the safety and graciousness of God's presence.

**God is with us in gentleness and great care.**

We come to discover again our true purpose and hope.

**God calls us here and now to restoration and renewal.**

HYMN 534 O for a thousand tongues to sing Tune: Richmond (424)

WELCOME

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

How lovely is your dwelling place, Gracious God.

**My soul longs, indeed it faints for your presence;  
my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

Even the sparrow finds a home,  
and the swallow a nest for herself,

where she may lay her young,  
at your altars, Our Host, Our Home.

**Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.**

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God:

we confess that while we know you are with us,  
we so rarely act as if that is our truth.

**We are silent when we should speak,  
we stand back when we should step forward.**

We so often do not live as people  
assured of love and acceptance.

**Forgive us, and give us courage and grace  
to live confidently, surely, fully. Amen**

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God is with us:

in glory and in shame,  
in faith and in doubt,  
in fear and in courage.

God is with us.

This is our great, redeeming truth.

**Thanks be to God. Amen**

*The children are invited to go with Jenny to the Lounge for special activities.*

#### THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

ANTHEM: O Lord my God

S.S. Wesley 1810—1876

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Like Solomon, we would pray for wisdom, Loving God.

Open our hearts and minds to hear your wisdom through your Word. **Amen**

FIRST READING      1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43

In this is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### PSALM

Psalm 84

- 1 O how amiable are thy dwellings thou Lord of hosts!
- 2 My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 3 Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she  
may lay her young even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 4 Blessed are they that dwell in thy house they will be alway praising thee.
- 5 Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee in whose heart are thy ways
- 6 Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well and the pools are  
filled with water.
- 7 They will go from strength to strength and unto the God of gods  
appeareth every one of them in Sion.
- 8 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 9 Behold, O God our defender and look upon the face of thine Anointed.
- 10 For one day in thy courts is better than a thousand.
- 11 I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the  
tents of ungodliness.
- 12 For the Lord God is a light and defence the Lord will give grace and  
worship, and no good thing shall he withhold from them that live a  
godly life.
- 13 O Lord God of hosts blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee.

*Please stand and sing the concluding Gloria*

**Glory be to the Father, and / to the / Son:  
and / to the / Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and / ever /shall be  
world without / end. / A / men**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

In this is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM : O how amiable

R. Vaughan Williams 1872—1958

*Please stand and face the gospel*

A reading from the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

**Glory to you, Lord**

GOSPEL READING            John 6:56-69

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

HYMN        511 Lord of the worlds above

SERMON

**THE RESPONSE TO GOD IN WORD AND ACTION**

HYMN        395 Christ is our cornerstone

*During the singing of this hymn our offering will be received.  
Please remain standing for the dedication prayer.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

For all your gifts we are truly thankful, Loving God.  
We pray that our gifts  
will be used to shape a world  
where everyone has all that they need,  
and all can be truly thankful. **Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God, we are well aware that many people  
in our world are in desperate need of protection.  
**We pray for all who seek safety and shelter.**

We are well aware that many people  
in our world are in desperate need of care.  
**We pray for all who seek healing and comfort  
of body, mind and spirit.**

We are well aware that there are few  
who make decisions that affect millions.  
**We pray for those who hold lives in the balance:  
give them wisdom and compassion.**

We are well aware that we are among the relatively privileged.  
**May we not harden ourselves to the plight of others.**

Flood the earth with your grace, Bread of Life,  
opening hearts and minds  
to generosity and joy. **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(printed inside cover of hymn book)*

**THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

HYMN        366 A safe stronghold our God is still (omit v3)

WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING

Go out to live the mystery of the gospel.  
Keep alert and pray at all times.  
Draw strength from God's presence.

And may God guide you with truth and righteousness;  
May Christ Jesus give you words of Spirit and life;  
and may the Holy Spirit draw you near to God's presence  
and bless you with honour and grace.

*You are invited to be seated for the playing of the postlude, or to leave at this  
point without disturbing those who wish to listen*

POSTLUDE    Eine feste Burg ist unser Gott        J. Pachelbel    1653—1706

*Please stand as the Bible is taken from the church.*

Presiding Ministers	Rev Jana Norman
Scripture Reader	Barbara Francis
Organist & Choir Director	Peter Kelsall
Assistant Organist	Christopher Bridge

The Choir of Pilgrim Church  
Copyright material © ST5772

***Please join us for tea or coffee and fellowship in the Lounge  
after the service.***