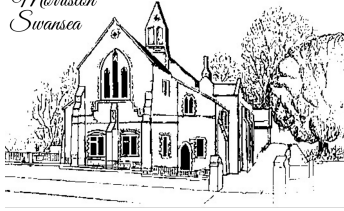


**THE MINISTRY AREA OF TAWE ISAF  
( The Parishes of Morriston  
& Llangyfelach with Clase )**

*St. David's Church  
Morriston  
Swansea*



*Llangyfelach Parish Church*



***Morning Prayer***

***Sunday, 14 June 2020  
The First Sunday after Trinity***

**Preparation**

We have come together in prayer as the family of God in our Father's presence, to offer him praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive his word, to bring before him the needs of the world and to seek his grace, that, through his Son, Jesus Christ, we may give ourselves to his service.

Jesus said: 'The first commandment is: "Listen Israel! The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all

your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.'

Let us confess our sins to the Father and seek his pardon and peace.

**Almighty and merciful God, we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with all our heart; and we have not loved others as Christ loves us. We are truly sorry. In your mercy, forgive us. Help us to amend our lives; that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you and set you free from sin, strengthen you in goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

O Lord, open our lips,  
**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

We sing to you, O Lord, and bless your name,  
**And tell of your salvation from day to day.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Worship the Lord.  
**All praise to his name.**

## ***Hymn***

### ***Benedicite – a Song of Creation (shorter version)***

- 1 Bless the Lord all you works of the Lord: sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 2 Bless the Lord you heavens: sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 3 Bless the Lord you angels of the Lord: sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 4 Bless the Lord all people on earth: sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 5 O people of God bless the Lord: sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 6 Bless the Lord you priests of the Lord: sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 7 Bless the Lord you servants of the Lord: sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 8 Bless the Lord all you of upright spirit: bless the Lord you that are holy and humble in heart.

*The Song of the Three 35-37, 60-65*

**Bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit:  
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.**

## **Prayer**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

### ***Silence is kept.***

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Word of God**

#### **Psalm 100 : A psalm for giving grateful praise.**

- 1 Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
- 2 Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.
- 3 Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
- 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.
- 5 For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

### ***A reading from scripture***

*Genesis 18.1-15 [21.1-7]*

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. 2 He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent

entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. 3He said, 'My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. 4Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. 5Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have said.' 6And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.' 7Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. 8Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. 9 They said to him, 'Where is your wife Sarah?' And he said, 'There, in the tent.' 10Then one said, 'I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.' And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. 11Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. 12So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, 'After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?' 13The Lord said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, and say, "Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?" 14 Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.' 15But Sarah denied, saying, 'I did not laugh'; for she was afraid. He said, 'Oh yes, you did laugh.' The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. 2Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. 3Abraham

gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him.  
4And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him.  
5Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. 6Now Sarah said, 'God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me.' 7And she said, 'Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.'

### ***Canticle : A Song of David***

***Refrain: Splendour and majesty are yours, O God; you are exalted as head over all.***

1 Blessed are you, God of Israel, for ever and ever, for yours is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty.

2 Everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head over all.

3 Riches and honour come from you and you rule over all.

4 In your hand are power and might; yours it is to give power and strength to all.

5 And now we give you thanks, our God, and praise your glorious name.

6 For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you.

*1 Chronicles 29.10b-13, 14b*

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Splendour and majesty are yours, O God;  
you are exalted as head over all.**

### ***Scripture Reading***

*Matthew 9.35-10.8 [9-23]*

35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; 38 therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.' 10 Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. 2 These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; 3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. 5 These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and

enter no town of the Samaritans, 6but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near." 8Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. 9Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, 10no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food. 11Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. 12As you enter the house, greet it. 13If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. 14If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. 15Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgement than for that town. 16 'See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. 17Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; 18and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. 19When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; 20for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. 21Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; 22and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. 23When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I

tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

***After a short silence this responsory will follow***

Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead  
**And Christ shall give you light.**

You have died and your life is hid with Christ in God.  
***Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.***

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on the earth.  
**And Christ shall give you light.**

When Christ our life appears you will appear with him in glory.  
**Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.**

*from Colossians 3*

***Gospel Canticle : The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)***

***Refrain: You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of your servant David.***

1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, who has come to his people and set them free.

2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David.  
3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,  
4 To show mercy to our ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant.  
5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
6 Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.  
7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
8 To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins.  
9 In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Luke 1.68-79

***Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.***

***Refrain: You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of your servant David.***

## **A BAPTISMAL CREED**

***I believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist.***

***I believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again.***

***I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world.***

***This is the faith of the Church. This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.***

## ***Hymn***

## **Sermon**

A man received a phone call from his doctor. The doctor said, "I have some good news and some bad news. The man answered, Okay, give me the good news first. The doctor told him, The good news is that you have 24 hours to live. The man replied, "What! If that's the good news, then what's the bad news? The doctor said, "The bad news is that I forgot to call you yesterday.

It is quite common to receive a mixture of good and bad news. And it can be quite a tough decision to work out which you want to hear first. Some people like to get the bad news over and done with and then finish on a high note. Others want to put off hearing the bad news for as long as they can.

In today's Gospel account we are presented with a good news/bad news situation in relation to the mission of the church. Jesus tells us the good news that the harvest is plentiful. But the bad news is that the workers are few.

Most of us are familiar with this text : so familiar, in fact, that it fails to impact us in the way it should. It is natural for us to latch on to bad news. There is a pessimist inside each of us and we have a tendency to imagine and expect the worst. So we hear that the workers are few and straight away we go into despair.

There will be those amongst us who immediately start thinking about how the work of the church is so often left up to the few. The old statistic is that 10% of the Christians do 90% of the work. And it is not just the churches that suffer from this problem. Sporting groups and other community organisations have often struggled to get people who are willing to volunteer.

But The harvest is plentiful! - this is good news! Wonderful news. We in the church often have the impression that no one out there is interested in hearing about God anymore “ that they are all too busy doing other things with their lives. God is irrelevant to them. We seem to be fighting a losing battle. We hear about the constant decline in worship and apathy toward God and his church.

But The harvest is plentiful! Jesus saw the people were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Today there is no shortage of harassed and helpless people in our society. People are desperate to hear some good news in a world that offers up so much bad news. And we have some good news for them to hear. In fact, no matter how bad things

get in our world and lives we have the incredibly good news that God's love will prevail.

So the harvest of people for God's kingdom is out there and they are ready and waiting to be welcomed into God's family. But the harvest will go to waste if there is no one to gather it in. But in our Gospel account Jesus immediately provides us with the solution to the problem. He says, Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

Some people are very good at identifying what's wrong with the church but they don't seem to offer up any solutions. Jesus on the other hand identifies the problem and provides the solution. We are told that the harvest is plentiful, the workers are few and that we need to ask the Lord to send out more workers. And then immediately Jesus sends out the twelve apostles. He sends them out with his authority to preach and teach and heal. And Jesus hasn't stopped doing this kind of thing for the last 2,000 years.

Jesus always went and met people where they were. All of us are workers in the field with countless opportunities to share the Gospel in different ways to family, friends, colleagues, neighbours and others. Even in the situation of the world today we have opportunities to show God's love - to show the church at the heart of helping our communities and individuals through some of the most challenging of times. And most importantly to pray for our communities.

So we ask for God to send workers into the harvest field, recognising the urgent need. We take comfort from knowing that God has been doing that down through the ages by calling apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers.

But you also are to see yourself as an answer to that prayer.  
Here I am Lord, send me.

It is ordinary workers that God is after because it is ordinary people who need to be reached.

So by all means, go ahead and ask the Lord for more workers to gather in the harvest. God loves answering that prayer. But he would also have you recognise that he is calling you and sending you to be part of the answer to that prayer. AMEN

## **Prayers**

The twelve apostles are called by Jesus and then given their mission to go out with his power to preach and heal. As God's people, let us pray for our own needs and for those of the Church throughout the world.

Let us pray for all people, that the spirit of Christ may guide us into all good works this coming week, and that they will demonstrate his love in tangible ways.

**LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Let us pray for the life of our Diocese and pray for our Bishop, John. May he guide us into a deeper knowledge and understanding of God and his wish for his kingdom in this part of the world.

**LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Let us pray for those in our parishes who are harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. May they

be made aware of the love and purpose of God in their lives, and may his church be a channel of his love for them.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Let us pray for all who are suffering at this time, particularly today we pray for all who are suffering from Coronavirus , or any other sickness, we pray too for those who care for them at home or in hospitals or residential homes. May the peace of Christ fill their minds, calm their confusion and order the chaos of their thinking.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Let us remember and pray for all who have died. And let us pray for all who are grieving the loss of someone they have loved. May God comfort and strengthen them, and bring them light and hope in their pain.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Let us now in quietness bring to God our own prayers  
...

LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Father of all goodness and mercy, we ask you to hear our spoken prayers and those of our hearts. MERCIFUL FATHER, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

***The Collect of the day is said***

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

***Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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.**

**The Conclusion**

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn**