Orlagh in the City
Twenty-fifth Sunday Year A

Opening Hymn:

Oh, the love of my Lord is the essence
Of all that I love here on earth
All the beauty I see God has given to me
And this giving is as gentle as silence

Every day, every hour, every moment
Have been blessed by the strength of God's love
At the turn of each tide, God is there at my side
And His touch is as gentle as silence.

There've been times when I've turned from God's presence
And I've walked other paths, other ways
But I've called on God's name in the dark of my shame
And His mercy was as gentle as silence

The Gloria: ***Response: Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo (x2)***

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
Source of our being, eternal and loving One, we worship You,
we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. (Response).

Jesus our companion, empowering our freedom and new life,
Compassionate face of the living God, You take away the sin of the world:
bring healing to your people; and renew the face of our earth. (Response)

You show us the way, the truth, and the life.
You shepherd us into pastures ever fresh and green.
We acclaim the goodness of your holy name, in union with the Holy Spirit,
to the glory of the Holy One who lives and reigns forever. (Response).

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: (Isaiah 55: 6-9)

Seek the Lord, while he may be found: call upon him, while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways, and the unjust learn righteousness. And let all return to the Lord, who is abundant in mercy and gracious in the power to forgive.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts: nor your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are exalted above the earth, so are my ways exalted above your ways, and my thoughts above your thoughts.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: (Psalms 145)

Resp: The Lord is close to those who call

I will bless you day after day
And praise your name forever.
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
His greatness cannot be measured. ®

The Lord is kind and full of compassion<
slow to anger abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all he creatures. ®

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
God is close to all who call,
who call from the depth of their hearts. ®.

Second Reading: (Philippians 1: 20c-24, 27a)

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Even in my imprisonment, I trust that Christ will be glorified in whatever happens to me, whether I live, or whether I die.
For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. To remain in this body means fruitful ministry; to depart would mean to be with Christ.
But I have become convinced that I shall remain, for your sake;
so that I can return to you, and share with you, once again, in your growth in faith, and in the great confidence and joy that you have in Christ Jesus.
So continue to live in accordance with the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come to see you myself, or whether I hear about you from afar, I will know that you are standing firm, and that you are working as one, in the spirit, for the faith, and for the gospel.
This is the word of the Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia: May my Word dwell deeply within you< and bless you with a discerning heart. Alleluia.

<u>Gospel</u>: (Matthew 20: 1-16a)

The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner, who went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard. And having agreed with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard.

And going out about the third hour, he saw others standing in the market place idle. And he said to them: Go you also into my vineyard, and I will give you what shall be just. And they went their way. And again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did in like manner.

But about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing, and he said to them: Why stand you here all the day idle?

And they replied: Because no one has hired us. He said to them: Go you also into my vineyard. And when evening had come, the lord of the vineyard said to his steward: Call the labourers and pay them their hire, beginning from the last even to the first.

When therefore those who came at the eleventh hour each received a denarius. But when the first also came, they thought that they should receive more: and they also each received a similar payment.

And receiving it they murmured against the master of the house, saying: These last have worked but one hour, and you have made them equal to us, we who have borne the burden of the day and the heat. But he answering said to one of them: Friend, I am doing you no wrong: did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go on your way. I will also give to these last even as I have given to you.

Or, is it not lawful for me to do what I will? Is your eye evil, because I am good? So shall the last be first, and the first last.

The Gospel of the Lord.

WELCOME TO THE TABLE **(The Creed)**

Gather around for the table is set, Welcome and take your place.
Wide is our circle with Christ at the heart, Sharing our sacred space.

CHORUS This is the banquet open to all, Spirit to nourish life.
Here at this meal, here in this place, gratefully we receive.

Calling forth adults the table to share, Co-celebrating as one.
The gift of each table our daily prayer CHORUS

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER*:* Preface:

1. Wise and faithful God, you have birthed us in goodness,
gifted us with life and cherished us in love.
In the heart of our being, your Spirit dwells;
a Spirit of courage and vision, a Spirit of wisdom and truth.

2. In the power of that same Spirit, we lift our hearts in prayer,
invoking anew the gift of wisdom and enlightenment,
that we may continue to praise and thank you, in union with
all who sing the ancient hymn of praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy: Let all that is within me, cry Holy (2)
Holy, Holy, Holy is the source of our being.

1. Creator God, we see around us the work of your hands,
the fruit of your wisdom and love. The unfolding story of
creation witnesses unceasingly to your creative power.
We, your creatures, often deviate from that wisdom,
thus hindering your creative presence in our midst.

2. Sending among us Jesus, our Saviour, you birth afresh
in our world the power of Sophia-Wisdom, and in the
gift of the Spirit, your creative goodness blooms anew,
amid the variety and wonder of life.

First Invocation:
ALL: That same Spirit we invoke upon the gifts of this
Eucharistic table, bread of the grain & vine of the grape,
that they may become the body and blood of Jesus –
to nurture afresh in us the discerning gifts of
wisdom, light and truth.

Co-Celebrants: Invoking the memory of tradition:
Gathering the disciples around the table of shared wisdom,
Jesus took bread; blessed you God of all good gifts,
broke the bread and along with the cup
handed to those seeking nourishment,
with these words: Take this all of you, eat and drink:
This is my body which will be given up for you.

Co-Celebrants: After the meal, Jesus took another cup,
poured out in a spirit of solidarity and empowerment.
Jesus gave thanks and shared the cup with his friends,
saying: Take this all of you and drink from it;
this is the cup of my life-blood,
the life of the new and everlasting covenant.
In prophetic solidarity, it is poured out for you and for all.
Sustain one another in the power of sacred memory.

Eucharistic Acclamation: Let all that is within me cry Blessed (x 2)
Blessed, Blessed, Blessed is the source of our being.

1. As we celebrate this sacred meal, we recall the wise and gracious
gifts bestowed on us down through the ages; and we look forward
in hope, knowing that you, our wise and faithful God,
will continue to endow us with abundant blessings.

Second Invocation:
ALL: In the power of this Eucharistic meal, bless us afresh
with the gift of the Spirit, that our hearts may be open
and receptive as you invite us into the fullness of life.

2. In union with all peoples living and dead, we unite our thoughts
and prayers, asking wisdom and courage:
- to discern more wisely your call to us in the circumstances
  of our daily lives;
- to act justly and courageously in confronting the pain and
  suffering that desecrates the Earth and its peoples;
- to take risks in being creative and proactive on behalf
  of the poor and marginalised;
- and to love all people with generosity of heart,
  beyond the labels of race, creed and colour.

1. And may we ever be aware and alert to the new things the
Spirit makes possible, as our world unfolds amid pain and beauty,
into the fullness of life to which all are called,
participating in the wise and wonderful work of co-creation.

Doxology:
ALL: In the wisdom of our triune God, Creator, Liberator, and Holy Spirit,
we are blessed with the gifts of this Eucharistic table, and with all
the good things bestowed upon our world, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

Eternal Spirit - Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all. Loving God, in whom is heaven.
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. (*New Zealand Prayer Book).*

Communion: **Quiet Music**

For the Road Ahead: The Wild Geese by Mary Oliver

You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
For a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
Meanwhile the world goes on.
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
are moving across the landscapes,
over the prairies and the deep trees,
the mountains and the rivers.
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
are heading home again.
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
the world offers itself to your imagination,
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting --
over and over announcing your place
in the family of things.

Notices & Concluding Prayer

Concluding Hymn: Canticle of the Sun

CHORUS: The Heavens are telling the Glory of God,
And all creation is shouting for Joy,
Come dance in the forest, come play in the field,
And Sing, Sing to the Glory of the Lord.

Sing to the Sun, the Bringer of Day,
God carries the light of new life in His rays,
The moon and the stars, who light up the Way
Unto your throne. (Chorus)

Praise to the wind, that blows through the Trees,
The seas mighty storms, the gentlest breeze,
They blow where they will, they blow where they please,
To please the Lord. (Chorus)

Praise to the rain, that waters our fields,
And blesses our crops, so all the earth yields,
From death unto life her mystery concealed,
Springs forth in Joy. (Chorus).