



## **Worship for the First Sunday after Trinity**

### **Opening Hymn**

Living God, your word has called us,  
summoned us to live by grace,  
make us one in hope and vision,  
as we gather in this place.  
Take our searching, take our praising,  
take the silence of our prayer,  
offered up in joyful worship,  
springing from the love we share.

Living God, your love has called us  
in the name of Christ your Son,  
forming us to be his body,  
by your Spirit making one.  
Working, laughing, learning, growing,  
old and young and black and white,  
gifts and skills together sharing,  
in your service all unite.

Living God, your hope has called us  
to the world that you have made,  
teaching us to live for others,  
humble, joyful, unafraid.  
Give us eyes to see your presence,  
joy in laughter, hope in pain.  
In our loving, in our living,  
give us strength that Christ may reign.

Jan Berry

## **Collect**

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.**

## **New Testament Reading**

Galatians 3: 23-end

## **Gradual Hymn**

In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north,  
but one great fellowship of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.

In him shall true hearts ev'rywhere  
their high communion find.  
His service is the golden cord  
close binding humankind.

Join hands, then, children of the faith,  
whate'er your race may be.  
who serves my Father as his child  
is surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west,  
in him meet south and north.  
All Christlike souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.

John Oxenham

## **Gospel Reading**

Luke 8: 26-39

## **Offertory Hymn**

For the healing of the nations,  
Lord, we pray with one accord;  
for a just and equal sharing  
of the things that earth affords.  
To a life of love in action  
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom,  
from despair your world release,  
that, redeemed from war and hatred,  
all may come and go in peace.  
Show us how through care and goodness  
fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,  
let it from the earth be banned:  
pride of status, race or schooling,  
dogmas that obscure your plan.  
In our common quest for justice  
may we hallow life's brief span.

You, Creator-God, have written  
your great name on humankind;  
for our growing in your likeness,  
bring the life of Christ to mind;  
that by our response and service  
earth its destiny may find.

Fred Kaan

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Eternal Father,  
we thank you for nourishing us  
with these heavenly gifts:  
may our communion strengthen us in faith,  
build us up in hope,  
and make us grow in love;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Hymn**

To God be the glory, great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,  
And give him the glory! Great things he hath done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!  
To every believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offender who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus forgiveness receives.

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,  
but purer and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

Fanny Crosby