



Sunday Service

Sunday 12th July 2020

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, fill your church with the fruit and gifts of your Holy Spirit so that our words of prayer and praise, and the actions of our hands, minds and hearts may reveal the Good news of Jesus in love and truth with all the world. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

Bible reading

On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

"Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
The kings of the earth rise up
and the rulers band together
against the Lord
and against his anointed one."

Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

Acts 4 : 23 - 31

Reflection :

- How did Peter and John respond to their trials? (v 23)
- Prayer together (v 24 – 30)
 - Praise God, recognising who He is
 - Rooted in the reality of the here and now, while realising the sovereignty of God
 - Seeking to do God's Will
- See God's affirmation and act (v 31)
- Application for us today
 - Be real
 - Lord's Prayer shaped Prayer
 - Act equipped by the Holy Spirit to do God's Will

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

Keep us good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.

Sustain and support the anxious, be with all those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;

that we may find comfort knowing nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Final prayer

Eternal God, unite and equip us through your Holy Spirit to be a people of prayer, praise and purpose, so that the world may see your saving grace in Jesus our Lord and Saviour, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Blessing

And now may the Spirit of truth lead us into all truth; give us grace to declare that Jesus is Lord, and strengthen us to proclaim the words and works of God.

And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us all, now and for ever more. Amen.