



*Chaplaincy of All Saints' Marseille
with Aix-en-Provence
and the Luberon*

*23rd June 2024
4th Sunday after Trinity
Olympic Day*

Welcome to our online service. Below you will find readings, prayers and links to music for this Sunday. There is also a reflection by The Revd Roxana Tenea Teleman, published separately on the website, the text of which is included in the service.

The Gathering

The minister says

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All **and also with you.**

Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TiX3kVxm5Ks>

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
Come ye before him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud and bless his name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good:
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
The god whom heaven and earth adore,
From us and from the angel-host
Be praise and glory evermore.

*Words: William Kethe (d. 1594) from Day's Psalter (1560)
Tune: Old Hundreth, from the Genevan Psalter (1551)*

Prayer of Preparation

All **Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

The minister says

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ

to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

The celebrant says

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

The Gloria

All say:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

The Collect

The minister says

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you,
without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy:
increase and multiply upon us your mercy;
that with you as our ruler and guide
we may so pass through things temporal
that we lose not our hold on things eternal;
grant this, heavenly Father,
for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 2.2-5

In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 46.1-3, 7, 9-11

- 1 God is our refuge and strength, *
a very present help in trouble;
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
and though the mountains tremble in the heart of the sea;
- 3 Though the waters rage and swell, *
and though the mountains quake at the towering seas.
- 7 The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- 9 He makes wars to cease in all the world; *
he shatters the bow and snaps the spear and burns the chariots in the fire.
- 10 'Be still, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.'
- 11 The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

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.

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable garland, but we an imperishable one. So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jv6Z8t1Tz_g

As the deer pants for the water,
So my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you.

*You alone are my strength, my shield,
To you alone may my spirits yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you.*

I want you more than gold or silver,
Only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
And the apple of my eye.

You're my friend and you are my brother,
Even though you are a king.
I love you more than any other,
So much more than anything.

Words and music: Martin Nystrom (b. 1956)

The minister says

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the light of the world, says the Lord.

Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness
but will have the light of life.

cf John 8.12

All **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection

'Citius! Altius! Fortius!' – Faster! Higher! Stronger! In just over a month, we will hear again these inspiring exhortations, as we immerse ourselves in the glory and excitement of the Olympics - a celebration of human potential, perseverance and fair play.

More than 10,000 athletes from around the world and all walks of life will compete in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. They will give their all to represent their countries with dignity, hoping to win medals and become champions. Those who journey alongside the athletes - coaches, staff, families, friends, and supporters - will share in their joys and in their disappointments, the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. For a few moments, we will all become part of something much larger than our individual lives and concerns.

However, in the athletes' quest for excellence, true victory is not defined by physical prowess or medals. As we witness their exploits, we will also see their commitment to embodying integrity, courage, respect, and friendship – the values upon which the modern Olympic movement was founded, with its aspiration to bring greater peace among peoples and to build a better world.

In 1992, the ancient tradition of the Olympic truce was revived - a period when the host state is not attacked, allowing athletes and spectators to travel safely and peacefully. I hope and pray that this year the solemn appeal for truce will be observed both individually and collectively across the world, that we will have a time when 'nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more' (Isaiah 2.4). We all know that, in these difficult times, the Olympic Truce is more relevant than ever. It can send an unequivocal signal to the whole world: yes, we can be united, even in times of war and crisis. Yes, we can work together for a better future.

'There is more that unites us than divides us'; 'develop harmony'; 'demonstrate respect'; 'practise a spirit of friendship and solidarity' – there is so much in the Olympic Charter that resonates deeply with the Gospel. It is not surprising, then, to hear Paul use the imagery of an athlete as a prototype or our own Christian journey: 'Do you not know,' he wrote to the community in Corinth, 'that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it.' Paul was very likely familiar with the Isthmian Games, held every other year just outside the city of Corinth. These games attracted athletes from distant parts, and the victor's prize was 'a perishable garland', a pine wreath in Paul's time.

Paul saw in the discipline and competition of these games a fitting model for Christian discipleship, which he likened to a race to be run, a fight to be fought, with the goal of receiving the imperishable crown of everlasting life. He encouraged the Corinthians to live a voluntary and determined life of discipleship.

Paul was right: who could fail to be inspired by the athletes? Their dedication, hard work, enthusiasm are always palpable. They know the cost of reaching their goals, take nothing for granted and are prepared to work hard to achieve them. Similarly, the journey of faith, like the road to the Olympic Games or any athletic achievement, requires determination, high standards for oneself, endurance in the face of challenges, perseverance in practising love for one's neighbour, and rigorous training on the path of justice and peace. We can't live our Christian faith vicariously, Paul says. We aren't spectators here; we are participants who should strive to do our best.

The desire to be the greatest, and to compete against the greatest, surely motivates many athletes. Some champions will be asked by interviewers: 'How does it feel to be the greatest in the world? What does it take to be the greatest in your discipline?' In today's Gospel reading, we find the disciples arguing about who among them is the greatest. This is a familiar scene to many of us, isn't it? Whether in sports, academics, or our careers, the desire to be recognized as the best often drives our actions. Despite walking closely with Jesus, the disciples, were not immune to this human tendency. Yet Jesus has a different take on greatness. The advice he gave his disciples turned - as ever - the world's thinking upside down: 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' In the kingdom of

God, greatness is not measured by our achievements, titles, or recognition. True greatness is measured by our willingness to serve and our humility in doing so.

If you ask me what my favourite virtue to witness in sports is, I will say without any hesitation that it is humility. We live in a look-at-me culture, where many, whether in the sports arena or everyday life, crave attention and fame and have a real drive to be in the spotlight. That is what makes the most humble sports heroes unique - people whose best work is done in silence, whose relentless pursuit of excellence is a quiet one, for whom teamwork is of paramount importance, and whom the accolades of success do not change.

A few weeks ago, I mentioned Eric Lidell, the Scottish Christian athlete described as someone entirely without vanity. His short life is remembered for his accomplishments in many different ways. There is, of course, the gold medal he won in the 400 metres at the 1924 Olympic Games in Paris. At the Games, he was held in respect because “what he has thought it right to do, that he has done, looking neither to the left nor the right, and yielding not one jot or tittle of principle either to court applause or to placate criticism.” But there is much more to his story than his sports achievements. Some of you may already know about his missionary service in China, his work as a teacher and sports trainer, and his death while imprisoned during the Second Sino-Japanese War. Even in this difficult situation, it is said that he remained hopeful and continued to communicate his optimism to the campmates. An Olympic champion who chose to live a life of compassionate and generous service, Liddell embodied humility, aware that God is the author of all good – a belief that surely guided his actions.

One of my hopes for this year’s Games is that they will surprise us not only with the quality of the spectacle and the number of records set, but also with the message that it is possible to compete fiercely, while embodying respect and friendship, and that true greatness lies in being humble and generous in service.

Last autumn, during the Rugby World Cup, my highlight was a very special moment when, after a bruising match, the teams of South Africa and Tonga gathered together in a circle on the field, held on to each other, knelt down, and prayed together. That’s the beauty of sports and the importance of the Olympics: they can bring people together, always building bridges and never erecting walls.

As we prepare to welcome the Olympic events here in France, and in our city of Marseille, may they rekindle in each of us a passion for goodness and righteousness, renewing our commitment to spread the light of hope and peace to those around us. May the God of peace guide us on this path.

Amen.

The Revd Roxana Tenea Teleman, Assistant Chaplain

The Nicene Creed

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying: Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace, harmony, and unity in all the world,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For all the leaders of the nations,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For each competitor and team,
and for all who coach and support them.
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the city of Paris, the city of Marseille,
and for all places where events will be held,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For all officials and adjudicators,
and for all volunteers,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For all visitors to this country
and for all who are hosting them,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the churches of France
and for all who seek sanctuary in them,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and suffering,
especially for Malcolm, Peter, Gabrielle, Eddie, Doreen, Gerline, and Effie,
for King Charles and Catherine, Princess of Wales,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who worked for peace and unity through sport,
whose earthly life has ended,
and for all those who now rest in God's eternal peace,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Let us commend ourselves, one another, and all our life to God.

Merciful Father,

All **accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Peace

The minister says

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5j48TLIRb4Q>

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
Hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey though:

Strong deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee.

Words: William Williams (1717-1791), tr. Peter Williams (1727-1796)
Tune: Cwm Rhondda - John Hughes (1873-1932)

Preparation of the Table

The celebrant says

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth
into your kingdom.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;
through him you have created all things from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.
Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead
and exalted him to your right hand on high.
Through him you have sent upon us
your holy and life-giving Spirit,
and made us a people for your own possession.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:**

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.**

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

**Notre Père, qui es aux cieux,
que ton nom soit sanctifié,
que ton règne vienne,
que ta volonté soit faite,
sur la terre comme au ciel.
Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain de ce jour.
Pardonne-nous nos offenses,
comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés;
et ne nous laisse pas entrer en tentation,
mais délivre-nous du mal.
Car c'est à toi qu'appartiennent le règne, la puissance et la gloire,
pour les siècles des siècles. Amen.**

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

All **Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

The celebrant says

Jesus is the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

As circumstances are such that we cannot share in the Eucharist in person, we make an Act of Spiritual Communion, in which we express our faith in Christ and in his presence in the Eucharist, and we ask him to unite himself with us.

Heavenly Father, in union with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist, hearing your holy Word and receiving the precious Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, we offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though we cannot at this time receive Communion, we pray that you will unite us with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us.

Come, Lord Jesus, into our hearts, dwell in us in the fullness of your strength, and send your Holy Spirit that we may be filled with your presence. Amen.

Music Let us break bread together - *traditional spiritual*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZFGqOWh2aOY>

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees.

*When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.*

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God,
comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken,
you have fed us at the table of life and hope:
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,
that all the world may acknowledge
the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

All Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YppcFC8mxKM>

Fight the good fight with all thy might;
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Thy joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God's good grace,
Lift up thine eyes and seek his face;
Life with its path before us lies;
Christ is the way, and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside; upon thy guide;
Lean, and his mercy will provide;
Lean, and the trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.

Faint not nor fear, his arm is near;
He changeth not, and thou art dear;
Only believe, and thou shalt see
That Christ is all in all to thee.

*Words: John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875)
Tune: Duke Street, attributed to John Hatton (d. 1793)*

Blessing

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The minister says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Picture: Faith, hope and love – The Camargue Cross, Notre-Dame de la Garde, Marseille (Photo: Chaplaincy)

Offertory

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