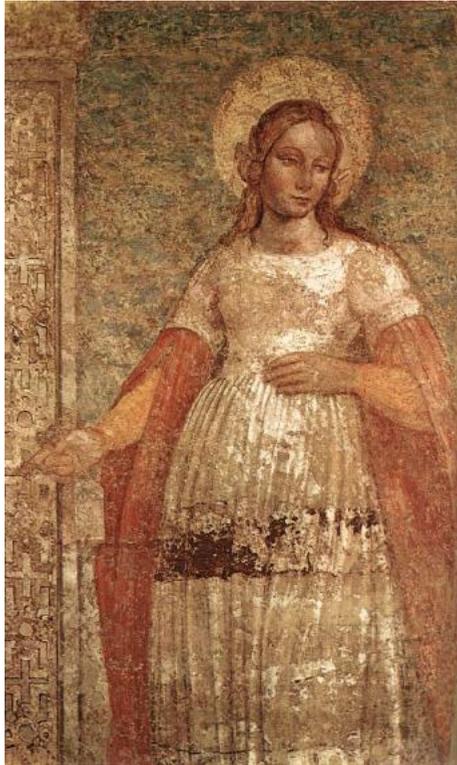


All Saints Church
Deanery of Northern Ryedale



Morning Prayer

Agnes, Child Martyr at Rome, 304

Fourth Day of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Thursday 21st January 2021, 10am

BEFORE THE SERVICE WE STILL OUR MINDS AND HEARTS. GENERAL CONVERSATION IS ENCOURAGED AFTER THE SERVICE RATHER THAN BEFORE.

Light a candle, if you have one, as the service begins:

Christ is the Light of the World, in him there is no darkness at all.

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

Your light springs up for the righteous
and all the peoples have seen your glory.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,
king of the nations,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.
As the Sun of Righteousness dawns in our hearts
anoint our lips with the seal of your Spirit
that we may witness to your gospel
and sing your praise in all the earth.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

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

Pause for reflection as we offer the day to God.

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.**

Psalm 148

Alleluia.

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights.

**Praise him, all you his angels;
praise him, all his host.**

Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you stars of light.

**Praise him, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

Let them praise the name of the Lord;
for he commanded and they were created.

**He made them fast for ever and ever;
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**

Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;

**Fire and hail, snow and mist,
tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word;**

Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;

**Wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and birds on the wing;**

Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;

**Young men and women,
old and young together;
let them praise the name of the Lord.**

For his name only is exalted,
his splendour above earth and heaven.

**He has raised up the horn of his people
and praise for all his faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Alleluia.**

**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.**

1 Corinthians 7.25-end

Now concerning virgins, I have no command of the Lord, but I give my opinion as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. I think that, in view of the impending crisis, it is well for you to remain as you are. Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife. But if you marry, you do not sin, and if a virgin marries, she does not sin. Yet those who marry will experience distress in this life, and I would spare you that. I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the affairs of the Lord, how to please the Lord; but the married man is anxious about the affairs of the world, how to please his wife, and his interests are divided. And the unmarried woman and the virgin are anxious about the affairs of the Lord, so that they may be holy in body and spirit; but the married woman is anxious about the affairs of the world, how to please her husband. I say this for your own benefit, not to put any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and unhindered devotion to the Lord.

If anyone thinks that he is not behaving properly towards his fiancée, if his passions are strong, and so it has to be, let him marry as he wishes; it is no sin. Let them marry. But if someone stands firm in his resolve, being under no necessity but having his own desire under control, and has determined in his own mind to keep her as his fiancée, he will do well. So then, he who marries his fiancée does well; and he who refrains from marriage will do better.

A wife is bound as long as her husband lives. But if the husband dies, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, only in the Lord. But in my judgement she is more blessed if she remains as she is. And I think that I too have the Spirit of God.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Homily and Silence

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth tremble before him.
Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is King.
O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
Tell out his salvation from day to day.
Let the whole earth tremble before him.
Declare his glory among the nations

and his wonders among all peoples.

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth tremble before him.**

Benedictus

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

**He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,

**To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.**

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

**To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of all their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow
of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**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.**

The Intercession

Collect for St Agnes

Eternal God, shepherd of your sheep,
whose child Agnes was strengthened to bear witness
in her living and her dying
to the true love of her redeemer:
grant us the power to understand, with all your saints,
what is the breadth and length and height and depth
and to know the love that surpasses knowledge,
even 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.**

A Prayer for Christian Unity:

God our Father,
you reveal to us your love
through Christ
and through our brothers and sisters.
Open our hearts so that we can
welcome each other
with our differences and live
in forgiveness.
Grant us to live united in one body,
so that the gift that is each person
comes to light.
May all of us together be a reflection
of the living Christ. **Amen**

Believing in the promises of God, 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.**

May Christ, who sends us to the
nations,
give us the power of his Spirit.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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