

**A CELEBRATION OF THE MINISTRY
OF ST HILDA, HALIFAX
1911 - 2023**



Give thanks to the Lord for He is good. His love endures forever. (Psalm 136)

Sunday 27th August 2023 at 10:15am

President and Preacher
The Bishop of Huddersfield
The Right Reverend Smitha Prasadam

St Hilda's Homily



Trade with the gifts God has given you.

**Bend your minds to holy learning,
that you may escape the fretting moth
of littleness of mind**

that would wear out your souls.

**Brace your wills to action,
that they may not be the
spoils of weak desires.**

**Train your hearts and lips to song,
which gives courage to the soul.**

Being buffeted by trials, learn to laugh.

Being reprov'd, give thanks.

Having failed, determine to succeed.

We all stand as the procession enters the church and then we sing.

Processional Hymn: Lord for the Years

1. Lord, for the years
your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us,
cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us,
pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years,
we bring our thanks today.

2. Lord, for that word,
the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts
and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains,
rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word,
receive your people's praise.

3. Lord, for our land
in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by
pleasure, wealth and care:
for young and old,
for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land,
be pleased to hear our prayer.

4. Lord, of our world
where men disown and doubt you,
loveless in strength,
and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless,
lost indeed without you;
Lord of the world,
we pray that Christ may reign.

5. Lord, for ourselves,
in living power remake us
self on the cross
and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us,
for the future take us;
Lord of our lives,
to live for Christ alone.



The Deputy Mayor of Calderdale Cllr Sue Holdsworth will welcome Bishop Smitha Prasadam to Calderdale and introduce the service.

The Greeting

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The Bishop greets the people and introduces the service.

We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
and to give thanks for this church and its people;
for the blessings they have received from God
and for the blessings they have offered to their community.

We sit for our time of confession.

Confession

A time of confession is introduced by Rev'd Martin Russell

Brothers and sisters,
as we prepare to celebrate,
let us call to mind our sins.

We pause for reflection.

Lord God, our maker and our redeemer,
this is your world and we are your people:
come among us and save us.
We have wilfully misused your gifts of creation;
Lord, be merciful:
forgive us our sin.

We have seen the ill-treatment of others and have not gone to their aid;

Lord, be merciful:

forgive us our sin.

We have condoned evil and dishonesty and failed to strive for justice;

Lord, be merciful:

forgive us our sin.

We have heard the good news of Christ, but have failed to share it with others:

Lord, be merciful:

forgive us our sin.

We have not loved you with all our heart, nor our neighbours as ourselves;

Lord, be merciful:

forgive us our sin.

*The Bishop pronounces
absolution:*

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Gloria

We all stand as the Bishop says:

People of God, as we mark the closing of this church of St Hilda, Halifax, we remember with thanksgiving the many ways in which God has blessed the ministry and lives of many in this place over the last 112 years. We praise God for this as we sing together:



**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,
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.**

Collect Prayer

The Bishop introduces the Collect with these words:

Let us pray that we may know and share the light of Christ

Silence is kept.

Lord Jesus Christ,
your name is blessed in all the earth,
receive our prayers and thanksgiving this day
for the blessings and comfort that
you have bestowed on your people in this house of prayer.
Continue your mercies to your church
that we may know your unchanging love in our lives.
now and always.

Amen.

We all sit for the reading.

Reading: Philippians 4:1, 4-9

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand to sing and remain standing for the Gospel.

Gradual Hymn: Guide me, O My Great Redeemer

1. Guide me, O my great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3. 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, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.



Gospel Reading: John 2: 18-22

Alleluia, alleluia.

'Go and make disciples of all nations,' says the Lord;
'And behold I am with you to the end of the age'.

A reading from the Gospel according to John
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

The Jews then said to Jesus, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under

construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sermon

The Bishop of Huddersfield

Prayers

We remain seated as a prayer is said in each part of the church that it relates to by Rev'd Caroline Greenwood.

At the entrance to the Whitby Room

God of our journey, through these doors you have brought many generations from this community. We thank you for all of the groups that have met here and been part of the life of St Hilda's church. We thank you for the hospitality, fun and fellowship that has been enjoyed here by so many and for being a place of welcome for all as they seek you in their lives. We praise you for all of these blessings and pray for all who will continue to use this place both now and in the future.

For these and all your gifts
We praise and thank you.

At the front of the nave

Almighty God, here in this place you have gathered us as your church and have filled our hearts with your love through our songs and praises. You have heard our sorrows and made us glad in our celebrations. And so we praise you now for our fellowship in Christ, for our mission and ministry and for all that you have given us in our life together in this church.

For these and all your gifts
We praise and thank you.

At the font

Loving God, at this font you have received us and have made us one with your Son Jesus Christ. Through baptism you have given to us your Holy Spirit so that faith, hope, wisdom and love might abide in all your people. And now we praise and thank you for the holy waters that have flowed from this font onto your disciples. We pray, too, that this river of life may continue to flow through us into your world.

For these and all your gifts
We praise and thank you.



At the lectern

Lord of love, from this lectern we have heard your powerful Word to us, the Word of Life. Here we have been built up by the Scriptures and here we have been taught, and challenged, and guided in your way. So now we praise and thank you for your powerful Word to us and we pray that it will continue to be for us a light to our path and a guide for our lives.

For these and all your gifts
We praise and thank you.

At the altar

God of our past, present and future at this table you have welcomed us into fellowship with you. Here you have strengthened us for our mission and for our daily lives and have sent us out to share Christ's love to the world. So now we praise and thank you for the grace and favour you have shown to us at this table as we look forward to sharing with you also in the heavenly banquet.

For these and all your gifts
We praise and thank you.

The Creed

Rev'd Martin Russell leads us in declaring our faith.

For all these things and for so many more, we give you our heartfelt thanks, almighty God. And we ask that you bless us as we go from this place. Yet in our parting, we declare our faith in you, our only Creator and Redeemer and we seek your presence for our lives as we affirm that faith this day in the words that have been taught us:

We say together in faith

**Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father, who created all things:

**for by his will they were created
and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son,
who was slain:

**for with his blood,
he purchased us for God,
from every tribe and
language,
from every people and
nation.**

We believe in God the Holy
Spirit:

**the Spirit and the Bride
say, 'Come!' Even so come,
Lord Jesus! Amen.**



The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Led by the Bishop.

The Peace

We stand.

Jesus says “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you, Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid!”

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may shake hands with those near to them as a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn: Jesus Stand Among Us

During which a collection will be taken to support the FGM Safe House in Mara, a charity that has been long supported by St Hilda’s Church.

1. Jesus stand among us

At the meeting of our lives;

Be our sweet agreement

At the meeting of our eyes.

O Jesus, we love You, so we gather here;

Join our hearts in unity and take away our fear.



2. So to You we're gathering
Out of each and every land;
Christ the love between us
At the joining of our hands.
O Jesus, we love You, so we gather here;
Join our hearts in unity and take away our fear.

3. Jesus, stand among us
At the breaking of the bread;
Join us as one body
As we worship You, our Head.
O Jesus, we love You, so we gather here;
Join our hearts in unity and take away our fear.

Preparation of the Table

The gifts of the people are gathered and presented. The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

We remain standing.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever!
From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.
You give us breath and speech
that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

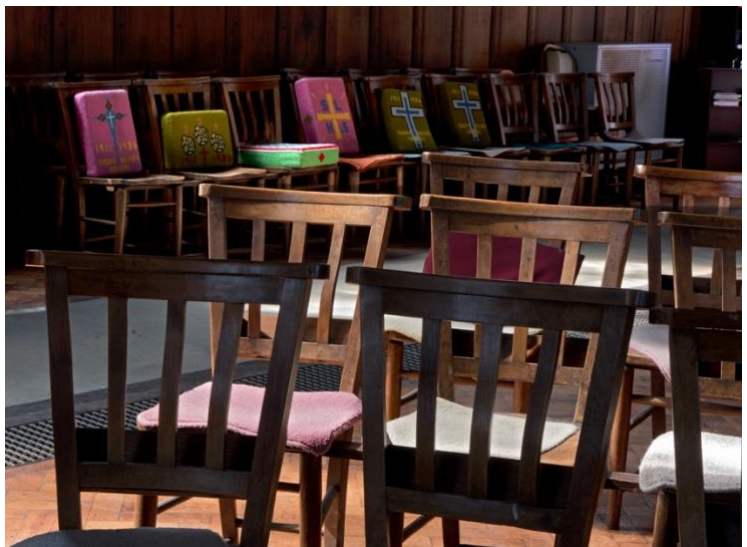
**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Please be seated.

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord!
As a mother tenderly gathers her children
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.
From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour,
born of Mary, to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his
friends,
and taking bread, he gave
you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to
them, saying:
Take eat: this is my body
which is given for you

At the end of supper, taking
the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and
said: 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.



Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring
before you these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood
of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in
your presence, form us into the likeness
of Christ, and build us into a living
temple to your glory.

Remember Lord your Church in every
land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith,
and preserve her in peace.

Bring us at the last with Hilda, John and
all the saints to the vision of that eternal
splendour for which you have created
us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by him, with him, and in him,
with all who stand before you in earth
and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

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



The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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.**



Breaking of the Bread

The Bishop breaks the consecrated bread.

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

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

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ

which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in
your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The Bishop and people receive communion.

Communion Hymns

1. This is my body, broken for you,
bringing you wholeness, making you free.
Take it and eat it, and when you do,
do it in love for me.

2. This is my blood poured out for you,
bringing forgiveness, making you free.
Take it and drink it, and when you do,
do it in love for me.

3. Back to my Father soon I shall go.
do not forget me; then you will see
I am still with you, and you will know
you're very close to me.

4. Filled with my Spirit, how you will
grow!
You are my branches; I am the tree.
If you are faithful, others will know
you are alive in me.

5. Love one another – I have loved you,
and I have shown you how to be free;
Serve one another, and when you do,
do it in love for me.



1. Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.
Come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

2. Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

3. Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place,
he comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.
No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him;
be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

The Conclusion

Led by the Bishop as we remain seated.

**Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people.**

**A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.**

**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.**

Nunc Dimittis

Anthem: The Lord Bless You And Keep You (John Rutter)

Commission

We all stand for the remainder of the service.

As we prepare to close this church, I call upon you to renew your
commitment to live out what you proclaim:

Empowered by the Holy Spirit
Will you walk into God's future
Trusting him to be your guide?
By the Spirit's power we will

Will you share your riches in common and
minister to each other in need?
By the Spirit's power we will

Will you pray for each other
until your hearts beat with longing for God?

By the Spirit's power we will

Will you carry the light of Christ
into the world's dark places?

By the Spirit's power we will

Recessional Hymn: To God be the Glory

1. To God be the glory!
Great things He hath 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.

Chorus:

*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!*

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

Chorus:

3. Great things He hath taught us,
great things He hath 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.

Chorus:

The Dismissal

Draw your Church together, Lord, into one great company of disciples,
together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, serving
him in his mission and witnessing to his love wherever we may be
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

The procession departs.



Acknowledgments

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