

## The Vine at Home

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Fifth after Pentecost) – Year B

27<sup>th</sup> June 2021

### Call to worship

As we have gathered, Jesus is here.  
As we have brought ourselves, the Spirit is amongst us.  
As we have come to worship, God is in our midst.  
Let us praise the Lord.

Amen.<sup>1</sup>

**Hymn: 657 STF - You give rest to the weary -**

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

### Opening Prayers

Loving God, we come to worship, desperate to receive from you through this act of worship. With our burdens and pains we come and present ourselves, to simply touch your clothing and be changed.

Your Son made a way for those in pain and suffering, may this way be made clear for all.

So God, let this be a transformational day like it was for the women who clung onto your sons clothing!

In this time of worship, open our eyes to beauty, tune our ears to harmony.

The fragrance of your love permeating every moment.

The touch of your hand, the assurance of your presence guiding all we do.

Together, we want to experience you with elation the joy of your presence be here today.

So, come, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

We come with desperate hearts to receive and worship the Living and inclusive God.

Amen.<sup>2</sup>

### Let us now say the Lord's Prayer

### Readings: 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 - David Mourns for Saul and Jonathan

**1** After the death of Saul, when David had returned from defeating the Amalekites, David remained two days in Ziklag.

**17** David intoned this lamentation over Saul and his son Jonathan. **18** (He ordered that The Song of the Bow<sup>[a]</sup> be taught to the people of Judah; it is written in the Book of Jashar.) He said: **19** Your glory, O Israel, lies slain upon your high places! How the mighty have fallen! **20** Tell it not in Gath, proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon; or the daughters of the Philistines will rejoice, the daughters of the uncircumcised will exult.

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<sup>1</sup> Call to Worship written by Tim Baker

<sup>2</sup> Opening prayers written by Matthew Forsyth

**21** You mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew or rain upon you, nor bounteous fields!<sup>[b]</sup> For there the shield of the mighty was defiled, the shield of Saul, anointed with oil no more.

**22** From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan did not turn back, nor the sword of Saul return empty.

**23** Saul and Jonathan, beloved and lovely! In life and in death they were not divided; they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.

**24** O daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you with crimson, in luxury, who put ornaments of gold on your apparel.

**25** How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan lies slain upon your high places.

**26** I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan; greatly beloved were you to me; your love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women.

**27** How the mighty have fallen, and the weapons of war perished!

## **2 Corinthians 8:7-15**

**7** Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you<sup>[a]</sup>—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.<sup>[b]</sup>

**8** I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. **9** For you know the generous act<sup>[c]</sup> of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. **10** And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something— **11** now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. **12** For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have. **13** I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between **14** your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. **15** As it is written,

“The one who had much did not have too much, and the one who had little did not have too little.”

## **Mark 5:21-43 – A Girl Restored to Life and a Woman Healed**

**21** When Jesus had crossed again in the boat<sup>[a]</sup> to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. **22** Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet **23** and begged him repeatedly, “My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.” **24** So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. **25** Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. **26** She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew

worse. **27** She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, **28** for she said, “If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.” **29** Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. **30** Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, “Who touched my clothes?” **31** And his disciples said to him, “You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, ‘Who touched me?’” **32** He looked all around to see who had done it. **33** But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. **34** He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.”

**35** While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader’s house to say, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?” **36** But overhearing<sup>[b]</sup> what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, “Do not fear, only believe.” **37** He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. **38** When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. **39** When he had entered, he said to them, “Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.” **40** And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child’s father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. **41** He took her by the hand and said to her, “Talitha cum,” which means, “Little girl, get up!” **42** And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. **43** He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

### **Reflections on the reading**

In the topsy-turvy values of the Kingdom of God, it is in giving away that we become rich, it is the poorest who go first, and it is those with the most material wealth who struggle to find their place...

*Read Lucy Zwolinska’s full reflection on how today’s New Testament readings unpack these kingdom values by subscribing to The Vine – email [thevine@twelvebaskets.co.uk](mailto:thevine@twelvebaskets.co.uk) to find out if your circuit is already subscribed.*

We are all invited to tune into the topsy-turvy values of the Kingdom of God.

Who are we told isn’t worth our time and attention and love? Who does society tell us we can ignore and overlook, but perhaps we are called to pay our attention to as they tremble? Who isn’t boldly approaching us and asking for help, but is secretly nursing need and hope? Let’s follow Jesus’ example and give them our time and attention.

Second Corinthians gives us another way that these values might play out in our lives. This letter was to the early church - disciples figuring out their way, much like we are today. The challenge is to give, so that everything is held equally, so that there are no poor and no rich.

What does that look like for us today? How can we actually model that topsy-turvy value that means that in giving away we are made whole, that in becoming poor we become rich?

### **Let’s pray:**

God we pray that you stir us up to live by your values: Where the first are last;

Where we listen to the voiceless.  
Help us to give time to those at the margins,  
Remind us that it is in giving up that we are made whole.  
Soften our hearts and our minds so that we might seek first your Kingdom. Amen.<sup>3</sup>

### **Prayers of intercession**

Oh Lord, we know that you hear us when we cry out to you.  
We know that each of your children is precious to you, and loved beyond measure.

Oh Lord, hear the prayers of your people  
**Hear us and set us free**

Lord, we know that you hear the cries that must be made in silence,  
Those who live in fear of an abuser,  
Those who are persecuted for their faith,  
Those who are lonely or isolated.

Oh Lord, hear the prayers of your people  
**Hear us and set us free.**

Lord, we know that you hear the cries of those living in the midst of conflict  
Those trying to protect their children in war-torn nations  
Those whose domestic situation is marred by constant tension and fear  
Those who work or live in hostile environments.

Oh Lord, hear the prayers of your people  
**Hear us and set us free.**

Lord, we know that you hear the cries of the hungry and thirsty,  
Those families who have to make the choice between heating the house and cooking a hot meal.  
Those experiencing the worst effects of the climate crisis, and facing drought or crop failure.

Oh Lord, hear the prayers of your people  
**Hear us and set us free.**

Lord, we know that you hear the cries of those who spend their days putting on a brave face,  
Those who hide their pain from others,  
Those who feel the need to be strong for someone else.

Help us to stand alongside all who cry out for you  
Not to speak for them, or to assume we understand, but to remind them they are not alone.

Help us to share a little of your love at the times when it's hard to feel your presence  
In Jesus name, we pray,

Amen.<sup>4</sup>

**Hymn: 713 STF - Show me how to stand for justice -**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jrMuTxZDGLI>

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<sup>3</sup> Reflection written by Lucy Zwolinska

<sup>4</sup> Prayers of intercession written by Emma Dobson

## Blessing

Jesus the Christ is restoring the whole of creation,  
Holding all things together.

Today, as we go from this place, we choose to play our part in that restoration.  
And may the peace of God go with you, every single step of the way.

Amen.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Additional prayers by Tim Baker

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