



***Investing in our Faith
Diocesan Day of Prayer
November 2nd 2008***

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ."

Investing in Our Faith celebrates the fact that all life is a gracious gift from God. All good things come from him and so it is right that we offer all that we are to him.

Today, on our Day of Prayer, we come together as Christians across Wakefield Diocese to seek God's guidance and inspiration. We look forward to finding out what good gifts God has in store for us. We also look forward to seeing how we can encourage and help one another.

This service book itself is a gift, produced with the kind help of Dixon, Coles and Gill.

Welcome by appropriate rural dean[s]

Gathering

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art,
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word
Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord,
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son,
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.**

**Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight,
Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might,
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower,
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.**

**Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Be thou my inheritance now and always,
Be thou and thou only the first in my heart,
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won,
Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Greeting

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

Amen.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

There is one body and one spirit.

There is one hope to which we were called;

one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

one God and Father of all.

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

The Bishop greets the people

Confession

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God

Heb 13

Let us confess to God our lack of generosity and love

Lord of all creation, giver of all good gifts, forgive our hoarding and fearfulness

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

You provide for our needs and the needs of others, forgive our lack of trust in you

Christ have mercy

Christ have mercy

You bless the generosity of your people, forgive our lack of faith.

Release us to praise and thank you

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

May almighty God have mercy upon you, forgive you your sins, and bring you to life eternal

Amen

Collect

Let us pray

We stand in silent prayer for a moment

God of holiness,

your glory is proclaimed in every age:

as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,

inspire us to follow their example

with boldness generosity and joy;

through Jesus Christ our Lord

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit

God now and to the ages of ages

Amen .

First Reading

A reading from the first letter of St John
See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

1 John 3.1-3

Transforming Lives

Interview on Personal Transformation - Canon Missioner

Prayer of Response

**God our Creator,
You are always before us with the vision of your
Kingdom;
Encourage us to journey with you.
Amen.**

Hymn

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
and his righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you;
allelu, alleluia.**

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
allelu, alleluia.*

**You shall not live by bread alone,
but by ev'ry word
that proceeds from the mouth of God;
allelu, alleluia.**

**Ask and it shall be given unto you,
seek and ye shall find;
knock, and it shall be opened unto you;
allelu, alleluia.**

Transforming Congregations

The Renewal of Commitment

As the people of God we are called to serve him in his world.

Christ has many services to be done:
some are easy, others are difficult;
some bring honour, others bring reproach;
some are suitable to our natural inclinations and material
interests,
 others are contrary to both;
in some we may please Christ and please ourselves;
in others we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves.
Yet the power to do all these things is given to us in Christ,
 who strengthens us.

Therefore, let us make this covenant of God our own.
Let us give ourselves to him,
 trusting in his promises and relying on his grace.

Prayer of Response

**I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will, place me where you will.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed for you or laid aside for you,
exalted for you or brought low for you.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and willingly yield all things to your pleasure and
disposal.**

**And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine, and I am yours. So be it for ever.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be fulfilled in heaven. Amen.**

The congregation is sprinkled with holy water.-

Hymn

**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 spirit 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.**

Transforming Communities

*Interview, by an Archdeacon, with a church seeking to transform its
community*

Prayer of Response

**God our Hope,
You commit us to each other to serve one world;
Renew us to be the sign of your Kingdom.**

**God our Future,
You lavish your grace on us to make us whole;
Transform us into a people of unity,
trust and peace.
Amen.**

Hymn

**All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voices, let us sing:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beams,
thou silver moon that gently gleams,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest man both warmth and light,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**And all ye men of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Alleluia.

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ."

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Alleluia.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and
utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in
the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before
you.

Matthew 5.1-12

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Alleluia.

Sermon

The Bishop of Wakefield

Intercession

Prayers will be offered as music is played

Our prayers conclude with

**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.**

The Dismissal

The Dismissal Gospel

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

' Matthew 28

The Blessing

May God, who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints, pour upon you the riches of his grace.

Amen.

May he give you joy in their fellowship and a share in their praises.

Amen.

May he strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness and to come to the full radiance of glory.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

A minister says

Following God's saints in the ways of holiness, generosity and truth, go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

The ministers and people depart.

**For all the saints
who from their labours rest,
who thee by faith
before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus,
be for ever blest.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thou wast their rock,
their fortress and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain
in the well-fought fight;
thou in the darkness drear
their one true light.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**O may thy soldiers,
faithful, true and bold,
fight as the saints
who nobly fought of old,
and win, with them,
the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**O blest communion!
fellowship divine!**

**We feebly struggle,
they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee,
for all are thine.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**And when the strife is fierce,
the warfare long,
steals on the ear
the distant triumph-song,
and hearts are brave again,
and arms are strong.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**From earth's wide bounds
from ocean's farthest coast
through gates of pearl
streams in the countless host,
singing to Father,
Son and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

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