

# The Promise and the Gift



Sunday Celebration

## ¶ Gathering

Cover photograph by Ottmar Morett

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

All **And also with you.**

*Words of welcome and introduction are said.*

### Hymn

Rock of ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood,  
from thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure:  
cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Not the labours of my hands  
can fulfil thy law's demands;  
could my zeal no respite know,  
could my tears for ever flow,  
all for sin could not atone:  
thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,  
simply to thy cross I cling;  
naked, come to thee for dress;  
helpless, look to thee for grace;  
foul, I to the fountain fly;  
wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,  
when my eyelids close in death,  
when I soar through tracts unknown,  
see thee on thy judgement throne;  
rock of ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee.

*A M Toplady*

## ¶ Word and Prayer

### **Genesis – the Grand Narrative:**

#### **Brothers in strife – again**

*Canon Nigel Ashworth*

#### **The Reading from Genesis – Read by Durham Grigg**

##### *Genesis 37.1-28*

<sup>1</sup> Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan.

<sup>2</sup> This is the story of the family of Jacob: Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father.

<sup>3</sup> Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. <sup>4</sup> But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

<sup>5</sup> Once Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. <sup>6</sup> He said to them, 'Listen to this dream that I dreamed. <sup>7</sup> There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright; then your sheaves gathered around it, and bowed down to my sheaf.' <sup>8</sup> His brothers said to him, 'Are you indeed to reign over us? Are you indeed to have dominion over us?' So they hated him even more because of his dreams and his words.

<sup>9</sup> He had another dream, and told it to his brothers, saying, 'Look, I have had another dream: the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me.' <sup>10</sup> But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him, and said to him, 'What kind of dream is this that you have had? Shall we indeed come, I and your mother and your brothers, and bow to the ground before you?' <sup>11</sup> So his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

<sup>12</sup> Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. <sup>13</sup> And Israel said to Joseph, 'Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them.' He answered, 'Here I am.' <sup>14</sup> So he said to him, 'Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me.' So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, <sup>15</sup> and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, 'What are you seeking?' <sup>16</sup> 'I am seeking my brothers,' he said; 'tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock.' <sup>17</sup> The man said, 'They have gone away, for I heard them say, "Let us go to Dothan."' So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. <sup>18</sup> They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. <sup>19</sup> They said to one another, 'Here comes this dreamer. <sup>20</sup> Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.'

<sup>21</sup> But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, 'Let us not take his life.' <sup>22</sup> Reuben said to them, 'Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him'—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. <sup>23</sup> So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; <sup>24</sup> and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

<sup>25</sup> Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. <sup>26</sup> Then Judah said to his brothers, 'What profit is there if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? <sup>27</sup> Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.' And his brothers agreed.

<sup>28</sup> When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Durham  
All This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**The Sons of Israel become his Tribes**  
*Canon Nigel Ashworth*

## **Gospel Reading** *read by Stacy Fox-Manning*

Stacy  
All

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### *John 1-18*

<sup>1</sup> After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He did not wish to go about in Judea because the Jews were looking for an opportunity to kill him. <sup>2</sup> Now the Jewish festival of Booths was near. <sup>3</sup> So his brothers said to him, 'Leave here and go to Judea so that your disciples also may see the works you are doing; <sup>4</sup> for no one who wants to be widely known acts in secret. If you do these things, show yourself to the world.' <sup>5</sup> (For not even his brothers believed in him.) <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to them, 'My time has not yet come, but your time is always here. <sup>7</sup> The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify against it that its works are evil. <sup>8</sup> Go to the festival yourselves. I am not going to this festival, for my time has not yet fully come.' <sup>9</sup> After saying this, he remained in Galilee.

<sup>10</sup> But after his brothers had gone to the festival, then he also went, not publicly but as it were in secret. <sup>11</sup> The Jews were looking for him at the festival and saying, 'Where is he?' <sup>12</sup> And there was considerable complaining about him among the crowds. While some were saying, 'He is a good man', others were saying, 'No, he is deceiving the crowd.' <sup>13</sup> Yet no one would speak openly about him for fear of the Jews.

<sup>14</sup> About the middle of the festival Jesus went up into the temple and began to teach. <sup>15</sup> The Jews were astonished at it, saying, 'How does this man have such learning, when he has never been taught?' <sup>16</sup> Then Jesus answered them, 'My teaching is not mine but his who sent me. <sup>17</sup> Anyone who resolves to do the will of God will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own. <sup>18</sup> Those who speak on their own seek their own glory; but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and there is nothing false in him.

Stacy  
All

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Jesus and his brothers**  
*Canon Nigel Ashworth*

## **Anthem Choir of St Ann's**

*The choir have prepared the anthem 'Hide thou not thy face' by Richard Farrant.  
The opening is taken from Psalm 27.10 in the Book of Common Prayer translation,  
and is as follows:*

Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord,  
and cast not off thy servants in thy displeasure;  
for we confess our sins unto thee  
and hide not our unrighteousness.  
For thy mercy's sake,  
deliver us from all our sins.

## Prayers and Collect

*Prayers are led by Nigel. The following response is used:*

Nigel  
All  
Father in heaven,  
hear our prayer.

*The prayers conclude with the collect.*

All  
Gracious Father,  
revive your Church in our day,  
and make her holy, strong and faithful,  
for your glory's sake  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

All  
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.

## Affirmation of Faith

Sydwell  
All  
Let us declare our faith in God.  
**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.  
We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

*cf Ephesians 3*

## Grace Hart

*Nigel welcomes Grace to our service.*

## The Peace

Nigel  
All  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*All are invited to share the peace together.*

## ¶ Ending

### Hymn

There's a wideness in God's mercy,  
like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in his justice,  
which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven;  
there is no place where earth's failings  
have such kindly judgement given.

For the love of God is broader  
than the measures of man's mind;  
and the heart of the Eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.  
But we make his love too narrow  
by false limits of our own;  
and we magnify his strictness  
with a zeal he will not own.

There is plentiful redemption  
in the blood that has been shed;  
there is joy for all the members  
in the sorrows of the Head.  
There is grace enough for thousands  
of new worlds as great as this;  
there is room for fresh creations  
in that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple,  
we should take him at his word;  
and our lives would be all gladness  
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

*F W Faber*

### The Blessing

Sydwell

The love of the Lord Jesus  
draw you to himself,  
the power of the Lord Jesus  
strengthen you in his service,  
and the joy of the Lord Jesus  
fill your hearts;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son  
and the Holy Spirit,  
be amongst you and remain with you always.

All

**Amen.**

### Voluntary

*Please come back after the music to greet other worshippers.*