

## Prayers of Intercession

Loving God, we bring to you our world of so much pain, so much need and sorrow; a world you care for so deeply that you willingly gave your all for it, living and dying among us through your Son, Jesus Christ. Reach out again in mercy, **and heal our wounds.**

We bring to you the causes of so much suffering -the sin of greed, denying the many their share of this earth's riches to the benefit of the few; the sin of waste, wantonly squandering the resources you have given with no thought of future generations; the sin of intolerance, dividing families, communities and nations through a refusal to engage in dialogue; the sin of pride, thinking too highly of ourselves and too poorly of others; the sin of indifference, caring too little about you, too little about anything. Reach out again in mercy, **and heal our wounds.**

We pray for those who pay the price of human folly -the poor and the hungry, the homeless and dispossessed, victims of war and violence, crime and cruelty; the distressed, isolated, crushed and forgotten, all who are deprived of love and denied hope. Reach out again in mercy **and heal our wounds.**

Loving God, come again to our world through your Son, our Saviour. Mend our divisions, forgive our folly, and guide all our affairs. Reach out again in mercy, **and heal our wounds.**

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

## Blessing and Dismissal - *We stand for the Blessing and Dismissal*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; 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 peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## Hymn – Tune:Hyfrydol

1 I will sing the wondrous story  
of the Christ who died for me;  
how he left his home in glory  
for the cross of Calvary:

*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story  
of the Christ who died for me;  
sing it with the saints in glory,  
gathered by the crystal sea.*

2 I was lost but Jesus found me,  
found the sheep that went astray;  
threw his loving arms around me,

drew me back into his way. *Refrain*

3 Days of darkness still come o'er me;  
sorrow's paths I often tread,  
but the Saviour still is with me;  
by his hand I'm safely led. *Refrain*

4 He will keep me till the river  
rolls its waters at my feet;  
then he'll bear me safely over,  
where the loved ones I shall meet.

*Refrain*

**You are most welcome to stay for coffee after the end of service**



## The Parish of Foxcote with Shoscombe

### MORNING PRAISE

11am - Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2011 - 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

**'How long, O LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save?' Habakkuk 1:2**

## Welcome

## Hymn

1 Amazing grace!-how sweet the sound-  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace first taught my heart to fear  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
God's grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

4 When we've been there ten thousand years  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we first begun.

## Confession

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you through our own fault in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are heartily sorry and repent of all our sins. For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

## The collect for the 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## First Reading – Matthew 5:43-48

[43] "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' [44] But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, [45] that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes

his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. [46] If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? [47] And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? [48] Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn**

<p>1 The king of love my shepherd is, whose goodness fails me never; I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine for ever.</p> <p>2 Where streams of living water flow a ransomed soul, he leads me; and where the fertile pastures grow, with food from heaven feeds me.</p> <p>3 Perverse and foolish I have strayed, but in his love he sought me; and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.</p>	<p>4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with you, dear Lord, beside me; your rod and staff my comfort still, your cross before to guide me.</p> <p>5 You spread a banquet in my sight of grace beyond all knowing; and, oh, the wonder and delight from your pure chalice flowing!</p> <p>6 And so through all the length of days your goodness fails me never: Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise within your house for ever!</p>
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**Reading** – Habakkuk 1:1-17 from *The Dramatised Bible*

**Announcer** This is the message that the Lord revealed to the prophet Habakkuk

**Habakkuk** O Lord, how long must I call for help before you listen, before you save us from violence? Why do you make me see such trouble? How can you endure to look on such wrongdoing? Destruction and violence are all round me, and there is fighting and quarreling everywhere. The law is weak and useless, and justice is never done. Evil men get the better of the righteous, and so justice is perverted

**Announcer** The Lord said to his people:

**The Lord** Keep watching the nations round you, and you will be astonished at what you see. I am going to do something that you will not believe when you hear about it. I am bringing the Babylonians to power, those fierce, restless people. They are marching across the world to conquer other lands. They spread fear and terror and in their pride they are a law to themselves.

Their horses are faster than leopards, fiercer than hungry wolves. Their horsemen come riding from distant lands; their horses paw the ground. They come swooping down like eagles attacking their prey.

Their armies advance in violent conquest, and everyone is terrified as they approach. Their captives are as numerous as grains of sand. They treat Kings with contempt and laugh at high officials. No fortress can stop them - they pile up earth against it and capture it. Then they sweep on like the wind and are gone, these men whose power is their God.

**Habakkuk**

Lord, from the very beginning you are God. You are my God, holy and eternal. Lord, my God and protector, you have chosen the Babylonians and made them strong so that they can punish us. But how can you stand treacherous, evil men? Your eyes are too holy to look at evil, and you cannot stand the sight of people doing wrong. So why are you silent while they destroy people who are more righteous than they are?

How can you treat people like fish, or like a swarm of insects that have no ruler to direct them? The Babylonians catch people with hooks, as though they were fish. They drag them off in nets and shout for joy over their catch! They even worship their nets and offer sacrifices to them, because their nets provide them with the best of everything.

Are they going to use their swords for ever and keep on destroying nations without mercy?

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

**Talk** - The anguish of Habakkuk - *Peter Foy*

**Hymn**

<p>1 Dear Lord and Father of mankind, Forgive our foolish ways; Reclothe us in our rightful mind; In purer lives thy service find, In deeper reverence, praise.</p> <p>2 In simple trust like theirs who heard Beside the Syrian sea The gracious calling of the Lord, Let us, like them, without a word Rise up and follow thee.</p> <p>3 O sabbath rest by Galilee! O calm of hills above, Where Jesus knelt to share with thee The silence of eternity, Interpreted by love!</p> <p>4 With that deep hush subduing all</p>	<p>Our words and works that drown The tender whisper of thy call, As noiseless let thy blessing fall As fell thy manna down.</p> <p>5 Drop thy still dews of quietness, Till all our strivings cease; Take from our souls the strain and stress, And let our ordered lives confess The beauty of thy peace.</p> <p>6 Breathe through the heats of our desire Thy coolness and thy balm; Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; Speak through the earthquake, wind and fire, O still small voice of calm!</p>
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