

Jeremy Taylor

*Bishop of Down and Connor, Teacher of the Faith, 1667
13th August*

The Gathering of God's People

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

SENTENCE

You did not choose me but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. *John 15:16*

INTRODUCTION

Jeremy Taylor, the distinguished Anglican theologian, who wrote devotional and theological books in the difficult days of the Commonwealth in England, came to Ireland in 1658 and is gratefully remembered in Lisburn and Ballinderry. In 1660 he became Bishop of Down and Connor. Although the times were controversial, he maintained, as was said at the time, much 'largeness and freedom of spirit'. His books, *Holy Living* and *Holy Dying* are still read. A study of his teaching on the Holy Communion by H.R. McAdoo (Archbishop of Dublin 1977-85) has drawn attention to the importance of Taylor's teaching in the book, *The Real Presence* (1654).

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden;
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PENITENCE

In sorrow for our sins and with faith in his mercy,
let us turn to the Lord,
for with him there is mercy and plenteous redemption.

Silence

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned in thought and word and deed,
and in what we have left undone.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may walk in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
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.

Almighty God,
 you have knit together your elect
 in one communion and fellowship
 in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:
 Grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints
 in all virtuous and godly living
 that we may come to those inexpressible joys
 that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Proclaiming and Receiving the Word

THE FIRST READING

1 Kings 3: 6-10

Solomon said to the Lord, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant King in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to Discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

from Psalm 119

**My delight is in your commandments,
 O God, which I have greatly loved.**

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes
 and I shall keep it to the end.
 Give me understanding and I shall keep your law;
 I shall keep it with my whole heart. ♫

Turn away my eyes lest they gaze on vanities;
O give me life in your ways.
Confirm to your servant your promise,
which stands for all who fear you. ¶

Turn away the reproach which I dread,
because your judgments are good.
Behold, I long for your commandments;
in your righteousness give me life. ¶

THE SECOND READING

Titus 2: 7,8, 11-14

Show yourself in all respects a model of good deeds, and in your teaching show integrity, gravity, and sound speech that cannot be censured, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say of us. For the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good works.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Whoever keeps the commandments and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. *Mt 5:19*

Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5: 17-20

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ,
according to St Matthew, chapter 5, beginning at verse 17.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Think not that I have come to abolish the Law and the Prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be

called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

ADDITIONAL READING

From Holy Living by Jeremy Taylor (adapted)

There is no greater argument in the world of our spiritual danger and unwillingness to religion, than the backwardness which most people have always, and all people have sometimes, to say their prayers; so weary of their length, so glad when they are done, so witty to excuse and frustrate an opportunity: and yet all is nothing but a desiring of God to give us the greatest and the best things we can need, and which can make us happy; it is a work so easy, so honourable, and to so great a purpose, that in all instances of religion and providence (except only the Incarnation of His Son) God hath not given us a greater argument of His willingness to have us saved, and of our unwillingness to accept it, His goodness and our gracelessness, His infinite condescension and our carelessness and folly, than by rewarding so easy a duty with so great blessings.

The Prayers of the People

We give thanks for the courage of Bishop Jeremy Taylor, who was 'valiant for truth'. We ask for God's blessing on inter-church dialogue continuing throughout the world in the search for Christian truth. We remember in prayer the diocese of Dromore and the work of its cathedral where Jeremy Taylor was buried.

Almighty God,

your servant Jeremy Taylor found in this land

a grove of peace in time of conflict

and was called to be a bishop to bring order

at a time of reconstruction:

Grant that we who give thanks for his holy life and legacy

may be strengthened by your Spirit in Holy Living

and for Holy Dying;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO THE PEACE

We are fellow-citizens with the saints
and of the household of God,
through Christ our Lord,
who came and preached peace to those who were far off
and those who were near.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Celebrating at the Lord's Table

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Wise and gracious God,
you spread a table before us;
nourish your people with the word of life,
and the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

The priest takes the bread and cup
Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us
therefore let us celebrate the feast.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer 2 With Extended Preface*

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good,
our duty and salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he has named his people
The salt of the earth and light of the world;
a city set on a hill which cannot be hidden.

Within this faithful company
your servant Jeremy Taylor became a learned teacher
through the gifts of the Holy Spirit of Christ,
that others might welcome his teaching as your gift,
a beacon on the path of holiness
that leads to eternal life.

As now we celebrate his memory
we join with angels and archangels
and all who have served you on earth
and worship you now in heaven
to raise our voices and proclaim your glory
for every praising you and saying:

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

Merciful Father, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,
and we pray that we who eat and drink them
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
in obedience to our Saviour Jesus Christ
in remembrance of his death and passion
may be partakers of his body and his blood,
who on the night he was betrayed took bread
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his Disciples, saying,
Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you;
Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his Disciples, saying,
Drink from 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.

Father, with this bread and this cup,
we do as our Saviour has commanded:
we celebrate the redemption he has won for us;
we proclaim his perfect sacrifice,
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
and we look for his coming
to fulfil all things according to your will.

Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom and in whom,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of never-ending praise:
Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, so we pray

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

 Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation
 but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
 now and for ever. Amen.

or

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

They recognized the Lord, Alleluia;
in the breaking of the loaf, Alleluia;

For the loaf that we break is the body
of our Lord Jesus Christ, Alleluia;
**The cup which we bless is the blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ, Alleluia**
for the remission of our sins. Alleluia;

O Lord, let your mercy come upon us, Alleluia;
in you O Lord have I put my trust. Alleluia.

They recognized the Lord, Alleluia;
in the breaking of the loaf, Alleluia.

Lk 24:35 1 Cor 10:16-17; Mt 26:28 Ps 31:1 Stowe (9th c)

AGNUS DEI

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

or

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

THE COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.
The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

THE GREAT SILENCE

Going out as God's People

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

God of truth, whose wisdom set her table
and invited us to eat the bread and drink the wine of the kingdom:
help us to set aside all foolishness
and to live and walk in the way of insight,
that we may come with your servant Jeremy
to the eternal feast of heaven,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

DISMISSAL *The Blessing*

God grant you grace
to be good and faithful servants of Jesus Christ,
nourished on the words of the faith
and on the sound teaching that you have followed; *cf 1 Tim 4:6*
And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you, always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.