

## Welcome to our Service for Sunday 30 August

### Romans 12: 9-12

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup> love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. <sup>11</sup> Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.<sup>[e]</sup> <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

### Confession and Absolution

### Romans 12: 13-21

<sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly;<sup>[f]</sup> do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup> Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup> If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup> Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God;<sup>[g]</sup> for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' <sup>20</sup> No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' <sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**Brother, sister, let me serve you,**  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace  
to let you be my servant, too.

2 We are pilgrims on a journey,  
and companions on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

- 3 I will hold the Christlight for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping;  
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
till we've seen this journey through.
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.
- 6 Brother, sister, let me serve you,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace  
to let you be my servant, too.

*Richard Gillard (born 1953)*

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## **Matthew 16: 21 – end.**

### Jesus foretells his death and resurrection

**21** From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, and chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised . **22** And Peter took him aside, and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord. This shall never happen to you." **23** But he turned, and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan. You are a hindrance to me, for you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

### Take up your cross and follow Jesus

**24**Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. **25**For whoever will save his life will lose it, but whoever will lose his life for my sake will find it. **26**For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world, and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? **27**For the Son of Man will come with his angels, in the glory of his Father and he will repay each person according to what he has done.

**28**Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death, until they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom.

**Sermon:** *kindly offered by The Revd Canon Richard Andrews*

**1 In a world where people walk in darkness,**

let us turn our faces to the light,  
to the light of God revealed in Jesus,  
to the daystar scattering our night.

*For the light is stronger than the darkness  
and the day will overcome the night,  
though the shadows linger all around us,  
let us turn our faces to the light.*

**2 In a world where suffering of the helpless  
casts a shadow all along the way,  
let us bear the cross of Christ with gladness  
and proclaim the dawning of the day.**

*Refrain*

**3 Let us light a candle in the darkness,  
in the face of death a sign of life;  
as a sign of hope where all seemed hopeless,  
as a sign of peace in place of strife.**

*Refrain*

*Robert A Willis (born 1947) © Very Revd Robert A Willis, sung by St Martin's Voices*

## Prayers

### God's Blessing

- 1 **Father, hear the prayer we offer:**  
not for ease that prayer shall be,  
but for strength that we may ever  
live our lives courageously.
- 2 Not for ever in green pastures  
do we ask our way to be;  
but the steep and rugged pathway  
may we tread rejoicingly.
- 3 Not for ever by still waters  
would we idly rest and stay;  
but would smite the living fountains  
from the rocks along our way.
- 4 Be our strength in hours of weakness,  
in our wanderings be our guide;  
through endeavour, failure, danger,  
Father, be thou at our side.

*Maria Willis (nee Whitcomb) (1824-1908), Samuel Longfellow (1819-1892)*

**Our thanks to Caroline and Paul for the readings and Rosie and Phil for the prayers. And of course to Chris for the CDs!**