

Service for Week 24<sup>th</sup>- 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024

by Chaplain Andy

### **Our Opening Prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, as you reached out to the sick and suffering, reach out now through all those who minister to body, mind and spirit.

Grant them your renewing and restoring power. **Amen**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*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**

### **Bible Reading Mk 5:21-24 and V35-43**

When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. Then one of the synagogue rulers, named Jairus, came there. Seeing Jesus, he fell at his feet and pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." So, Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him.

V35-43

While Jesus was still speaking, some men came from the house of Jairus,

the synagogue ruler. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?" Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, "Don't be afraid; just believe." He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. When they came to the home of the synagogue ruler, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him. After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha koum!" (which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"). Immediately the girl stood up and walked around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Holy words, Holy wisdom,

### **Thanks be to God**

### **Reflection.**

In our bible account we hear how Jesus took pity on a man whose little daughter was dying. We read that the man pleaded with Jesus to come and heal her. What is significant is that her father Jairus is one of the Synagogue rulers. He had an important position because he was an official appointed by the elders to look after the building,



its contents, and its arrangements for worship.

Jairus must have heard about Jesus and about Jesus' ability to heal the sick. In fact, Jesus was well known as a healer, we know this not just from the many accounts of Jesus' healing in the gospels but also from the writings of Jewish historian Flavius Josephus. As Jairus had a position with the synagogue we may have thought he would turn to the rabbi and synagogue leaders when his daughter was sick, but no he seeks out this wonderful healer Jesus that he has heard so much about.

Jairus pleads with Jesus to come but while doing this some members of Jairus's family come to tell him that his daughter has died. "Why bother the teacher anymore?" they say. But Jesus tells Jairus to ignore them. Then we learn that Jesus goes to the girl and brings her back to life much to their astonishment.

Last week we heard in Mark's gospel how Jesus has the power over nature when he calmed the storm on the sea of Galilee. In Mark's account this week we are reminded that God through Jesus has the power over life and death. Both of these aspects of Jesus were for his disciples, his followers and others, proof of Jesus' power and that he really was from God and of God.

For us today we learn how Jesus listened to Jairus's pleading. He takes pity on her and is moved by Jairus's faith that Jesus can help, and Jesus responds by going to help and heal her. Then when Jesus is told the situation is hopeless, that the girl has died he does not give up trying to help her. Even when others laugh, he does not give up. This account is about God's love through Jesus for that family, for that father and his daughter. The same depth of love that God has for each of us which is unending, that is eternal and never ending.

Modern medical science is wonderful, and I believe is God at work through our carers, nurses, doctors and scientists. We have made huge advances in recent years, but we have not yet been able to prevent the physical deterioration that we experience as we grow older. Also, we may not always be cured from the afflictions that we experience in this life. But we are reassured by Jesus that death, as for Jairus's daughter, is not the end.

Jesus said "Don't be afraid; just believe." **Amen**

### Closing prayer

Loving God, I remember how you looked to bring healing through Jesus Christ. I bring to you my need and the needs of those I know and pray again for your healing touch. **Amen**

Prayer inspired by Prayerfully Yours by Nick Fawcett