

# St. Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to our "Hybrid" Sunday Service

We gather today to contemplate what it means to respond to Jesus' question "Who do you say that I am?" with "You are the Messiah". This is a pivotal moment on our journey from Easter to Christmas; a journey we make for ourselves and for our world.

Please join in with the words in **bold** print.

## Gathering

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

*All* and also with you.

## Hymn: Jesus shall take the highest honour (360)

Jesus shall take the highest honour,  
Jesus shall take the highest praise;  
Let all earth join heaven in exalting  
The name which is above all other names.

Let's bow the knee in humble adoration  
For at his name every knee must bow  
Let every tongue confess He is Christ, God's only Son,  
Sovereign Lord we give you glory now

For all honour and blessing and power  
Belongs to You, belongs to You  
All honour and blessing and power  
Belongs to You, belongs to You  
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God

## Confession

Time and again God has called us, longing to hold us close. We too easily turn away for our own gain, forgetting to love the world and all who live in it.

You offer us love and we have turned away.

Lord have mercy *All* **Lord, have mercy.**

You showed us who you are and we did not want to understand.

Christ, have mercy. *All* **Christ, have mercy.**

You brought us peace and we look for discord.

Lord have mercy *All* **Lord, have mercy.**

## Absolution

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself and cleanse you from all your sins, that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All Amen.*

## Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his 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.**

## Collect

Let us pray:

Lord God,  
defend your Church from all false teaching  
and give to your people knowledge of your truth,  
that we may enjoy eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All Amen.*

## Reading: (Isaiah 50:4-9a)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Sovereign Lord has taught me what to say,  
so that I can strengthen the weary.

Every morning he makes me eager  
to hear what he is going to teach me.

The Lord has given me understanding,  
and I have not rebelled  
or turned away from him.

I bared my back to those who beat me.

I did not stop them when they insulted me,  
when they pulled out the hairs of my beard  
and spit in my face.

But their insults cannot hurt me  
because the Sovereign Lord gives me help.  
I brace myself to endure them.  
I know that I will not be disgraced,  
for God is near,  
and he will prove me innocent.  
Does anyone dare bring charges against me?  
Let us go to court together!  
Let him bring his accusation!  
The Sovereign Lord himself defends me—  
who, then, can prove me guilty?  
All my accusers will disappear;  
they will vanish like moth-eaten cloth.

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

### **Psalm 116**

I love the Lord, because he hears me; he listens to my prayers.  
He listens to me every time I call to him.

**The danger of death was all around me;  
the horrors of the grave closed in on me;  
I was filled with fear and anxiety.**

**Then I called to the Lord, “I beg you, Lord, save me!”**

The Lord is merciful and good; our God is compassionate.  
The Lord protects the helpless; when I was in danger, he saved me.

**Be confident, my heart, because the Lord has been good to me.  
The Lord saved me from death; he stopped my tears and kept me from defeat.**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;  
no one can come to the Father except through me.

*All* Alleluia.

### **Gospel: (Mark 8:27-35)**

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

Then Jesus and his disciples went away to the villages near Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, “Tell me, who do people say I am?” “Some say that you are John the Baptist,” they answered; “others say that you are Elijah, while others say that you are one of the prophets.”

“What about you?” he asked them. “Who do you say I am?” Peter answered, “You are the Messiah.” Then Jesus ordered them, “Do not tell anyone about me.”

Then Jesus began to teach his disciples: “The Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law. He will be put to death, but three days later he will rise to life.” He made this very clear to them. So Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But Jesus turned around, looked at his disciples, and rebuked Peter. “Get away from me, Satan,” he said. “Your thoughts don't come from God but from human nature!”

Then Jesus called the crowd and his disciples to him. “If any of you want to come with me,” he told them, “you must forget yourself, carry your cross, and follow me. For if you want to save your own life, you will lose it; but if you lose your life for me and for the gospel, you will save it.

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

## Talk

### Hymn: As the deer pants for the water (45)

**As the deer pants for the water  
So my soul longs after You.  
You alone are my hearts desire  
and I long to worship You.**

#### *Chorus*

**You alone are my strength, my shield  
To You alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my hearts desire  
And I long to worship You.**

**I want You more than gold and silver  
Only You can satisfy.  
You alone are the real joy giver  
And on You I can rely**

**You're my friend and You are my brother  
Even though You are the King  
I love You more than any other  
So much more than any thing**

### Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

*All*      **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

*All* **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

*All* **We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

*All* **This is our faith.  
We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

### Intercessions

*Between the prayers we say*

Lord, in your mercy

*All* **hear our prayer.**

*At the end of the prayers we say*

Merciful God, accept our prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

*All* **Amen**

### The Peace

As Christ brings his transformation to our lives when we turn to follow him, so we experience his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

*All* **and also with you.**

*We share a socially distanced sign of peace by turning and waving to those around us in church and to those joining us from home*

### Hymn: Brother, Sister let me serve you (88)

**1** 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) © 1977 Scripture in Song/Maranatha! Music/Adm. by Song Solutions CopyCare, 14 Horsted Square, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 1QG, UK. info@songsolutions.org.*

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord is here.

**All His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,  
through whom you have created all things;  
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

And now we give you thanks, most gracious God, holy and undivided Trinity:  
because you have given us the light of the knowledge of God  
in the face of Jesus Christ, that we may grow into your likeness,  
and be changed from glory to glory.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**All 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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave 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.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
    Drink 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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All Christ has died: Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of St. Christopher and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
    by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
    in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
    all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
    for ever and ever.

**All Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour 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.**

## Distribution of Communion

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ

*All* **Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

*If you wish to receive holy communion please stand*

The body of Christ

*All* **Amen**

*Holy Communion is distributed to those in the Church.*

## Hymn: All Heaven Declares (17)

**All heaven declares the glory of the risen Lord  
Who can compare with the beauty of the Lord  
Forever He will be the Lamb upon the throne  
I gladly bow the knee and worship Him alone**

**I will proclaim the glory of the risen Lord  
Who once was slain to reconcile us all to God  
Forever You will be the Lamb upon the throne  
I gladly bow the knee and worship You alone**

## Prayer of Spiritual Communion

**Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. Since I cannot now  
receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O  
most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.**

## Closing Prayer

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;  
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,  
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,  
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* Amen

## Notices

### Hymn: God is love (216)

**God is love: his the care, tending each, everywhere.  
God is love-all is there! Jesus came to show him,  
That mankind might know him:**

*Refrain:*

**Sing aloud, loud, loud!**

**Sing aloud, loud, loud!**

**God is good!**

**God is truth! God is beauty! Praise him!**

**None can see God above; we can share life and love;  
Thus may we Godward move, seek him in creation,  
Holding every nation:**

**Jesus lived on the earth, hope and life brought to birth,  
and affirmed human worth, for he came to save us  
By the truth he gave us:**

**To our Lord praise we sing, light and life, friend and king,  
Coming down love to bring, pattern for our duty,  
Showing God in beauty:**

## The Blessing

Knowing the transforming love of God,  
a love so great he suffered and died for us,  
let us go out with courage to be Christ in God's world.

*All* Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit  
come down upon you and remain with you always.

*All* Amen.

## **The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*All*    **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

***If you are in the church, please stay in your place until  
you are directed by a steward to leave the building.***

*We are now permitted to gather outside the Church for a chat.  
Please ensure you remain socially distanced (minimum of 2m)  
from anyone not in your household.*

***Thank you for filling in our COVID-19 track and trace book, if you  
feel unwell during the week, please ring 07824 323815 so that we  
can contact others who were here today.***

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