

St. Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood

Sunday 26th September 2021 – 17th Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to our "Hybrid" Sunday Service

The Gospel today challenges us to look beyond our own group, and discover what the Holy Spirit is doing to build the kingdom of God through the lives of other people.

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: O Lord all the world belongs to you (509)

**O Lord, all the world belongs to you
and you are always making all things new.
What is wrong, you forgive, and the new life you give
is what's turning the world upside down.**

**The world's only loving to its friends,
but your way of loving never ends,
loving enemies too; and this loving with you
is what's turning the world upside down.**

**The world lives divided and apart,
you draw us all together, and we start
in our friendship to see that in harmony we
can be turning the world upside down.**

**The world wants the wealth to live in state,
but you show a new way to be great:
like a servant you came, and if we do the same,
we'll be turning the world upside down.**

**Oh lord all the world belongs to you
and you are always making all things new.
Send your spirit on all in your church whom you call
to be turning the world upside down.**

Confession

Mindful of our own narrowness of mind, and narrowness of vision, we bow our heads in confession to God our Father, to acknowledge our limitations.

We are God's beloved children, made for God's glory, but we have been reluctant to share this with others.

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

We are brothers and sisters in Christ, committed to fellowship, but we put stumbling blocks in the way of others.

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

We are sent out by the Spirit to be people of healing and mercy, but we have been unwilling to forgive.

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:

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Reading: (Numbers 11:4-6. 10-16. 24-29)

A reading from the book of Numbers

There were foreigners traveling with the Israelites. They had a strong craving for meat, and even the Israelites themselves began to complain: "If only we could have some meat! In Egypt we used to eat all the fish we wanted, and it cost us nothing. Remember the cucumbers, the watermelons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic we had? But now our strength is gone. There is nothing at all to eat—nothing but this manna day after day!"

Moses heard all the people complaining as they stood around in groups at the entrances of their tents. He was distressed because the Lord had become angry with them, and he said to the Lord, "Why have you treated me so badly? Why are you displeased with me? Why have you given me the responsibility for all these people? I didn't create them or bring them to birth! Why should you ask me to act like a nurse and carry them in my arms like babies all the way to the land you promised to their ancestors? Where could I get enough meat for all these people? They keep whining and asking for meat. I can't be responsible for all these people by myself; it's too much for me! If you are going to treat me like this, have pity on me and kill me, so that I won't have to endure your cruelty any longer."

The Lord said to Moses, "Assemble seventy respected men who are recognized as leaders of the people, bring them to me at the Tent of my presence, and tell them to stand there beside you."

So Moses went out and told the people what the Lord had said. He assembled seventy of the leaders and placed them around the Tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him. He took some of the spirit he had given to Moses and gave it to the seventy leaders. When the spirit came on them, they began to shout like prophets, but not for long.

Two of the seventy leaders, Eldad and Medad, had stayed in the camp and had not gone out to the Tent. There in the camp the spirit came on them, and they too began to shout like prophets. A young man ran out to tell Moses what Eldad and Medad were doing.

Then Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses' helper since he was a young man, spoke up and said to Moses, "Stop them, sir!" Moses answered, "Are you concerned about my interests? I wish that the Lord would give his spirit to all his people and make all of them shout like prophets!"

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

Psalm 19

The law of the Lord is perfect; it gives new strength.

The commands of the Lord are trustworthy, giving wisdom to those who lack it.

The laws of the Lord are right, and those who obey them are happy.

The commands of the Lord are just and give understanding to the mind.

Reverence for the Lord is good; it will continue forever.
The judgments of the Lord are just; they are always fair.

**They are more desirable than the finest gold;
they are sweeter than the purest honey.
They give knowledge to me, your servant; I am rewarded for obeying them.**

None of us can see our own errors; deliver me, Lord, from hidden faults!
Keep me safe, also, from wilful sins; don't let them rule over me.

**Then I shall be perfect and free from the evil of sin.
May my words and my thoughts be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my refuge and my redeemer!**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth.
All Alleluia.

Gospel: (Mark 9:38-50)

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

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw a man who was driving out demons in your name, and we told him to stop, because he doesn't belong to our group."

"Do not try to stop him," Jesus told them, "because no one who performs a miracle in my name will be able soon afterward to say evil things about me. For whoever is not against us is for us. I assure you that anyone who gives you a drink of water because you belong to me will certainly receive a reward.

"If anyone should cause one of these little ones to lose faith in me, it would be better for that person to have a large millstone tied around the neck and be thrown into the sea. So if your hand makes you lose your faith, cut it off! It is better for you to enter life without a hand than to keep both hands and go off to hell, to the fire that never goes out. And if your foot makes you lose your faith, cut it off! It is better for you to enter life without a foot than to keep both feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye makes you lose your faith, take it out! It is better for you to enter the Kingdom of God with only one eye than to keep both eyes and be thrown into hell. There 'the worms that eat them never die, and the fire that burns them is never put out.'

"Everyone will be purified by fire as a sacrifice is purified by salt.

"Salt is good; but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again?"

"Have the salt of friendship among yourselves, and live in peace with one another."

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

Talk

Hymn: A New Commandment (35)

A new commandment I give unto you:
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.

By this shall all know that you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another.

By this shall all know that you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.
Without my help you can do nothing.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.
Without my help you can do nothing.

I am the true vine, my Father is the gardener.
Abide in me: I will be with you.

I am the true vine, my Father is the gardener.
Abide in me: I will be with you.

True love is patient, nor arrogant nor boastful;
Love bears all things, love is eternal.

True love is patient, nor arrogant nor boastful;
Love bears all things, love is eternal.

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

The Lord sends his Spirit of peace on those who work faithfully for the kingdom of God and calls us to be at peace with one another.

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: Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart (202)

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given

Jesus Christ, His Son

And now let the weak say, I am strong

Let the poor say, I am rich

Because of what the Lord has done for us (x2)

Give thanks

Henry Smith, Copyright © 1978 Integrity Hosanna! Music

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.

Chant: In the Lord (929)

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice

Look to God, do not be afraid;

Lift up your voices the Lord is near,

Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

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

Lord, we pray that your grace
may always precede and follow us,
and make us continually to be given to all good works;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

Notices

Hymn: You shall go out with joy (766)

And be let forth with peace,
And the mountains and the hills
Will break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy
And the trees of the fields
Will clap, will clap their hands.

And the trees of the fields will clap their hands,
And the trees of the fields will clap their hands,
And the trees of the fields will clap their hands,
While you go out with joy.

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The Blessing

May the Lord bless all who bring healing and wholeness,
support those who are struggling and forgive those who truly repent.

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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