

St. Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood

Service Appendix – 25th September 2022

Hymns

Gathering:	Sheet	All Are Welcome
Gradual:	45	As the Deer Pants for the Water
Offertory:	17	All Heaven Declares
Communion:	929	In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful
Post Communion:	709	We Are Marching

Words of Introduction

Each Sunday is a celebration of the Easter mystery, the centre of our Christian faith. We gather in the presence of our risen Lord, who is here among us, as he promised his disciples he would be when they come together.

Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:
grant that your people may be fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel
that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Reading: (Amos 6:1, 4-7)

How terrible it will be for you that have such an easy life in Zion and for you that feel safe in Samaria—you great leaders of this great nation Israel, you to whom the people go for help! How terrible it will be for you that stretch out on your luxurious couches, feasting on veal and lamb! You like to compose songs, as David did, and play them on harps. You drink wine by the bowlful and use the finest perfumes, but you do not mourn over the ruin of Israel. So you will be the first to go into exile. Your feasts and banquets will come to an end.

Psalm: 146

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, my soul!
I will praise him as long as I live; I will sing to my God all my life.

**Don't put your trust in human leaders; no human being can save you.
When they die, they return to the dust;
on that day all their plans come to an end.**

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob to help them and who depend on the Lord their God, the Creator of heaven, earth, and sea, and all that is in them.

He always keeps his promises; he judges in favour of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

**The Lord sets prisoners free and gives sight to the blind.
He lifts those who have fallen; he loves his righteous people.
He protects the strangers who live in our land;
he helps widows and orphans,
but takes the wicked to their ruin.**

The Lord is king forever. Your God, O Zion, will reign for all time.
Praise the Lord!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia

Jesus Christ was rich, but he became poor for your sake,
To make you rich out of his poverty

Alleluia!

Gospel: (Luke 16:19-31)

“There was once a rich man who dressed in the most expensive clothes and lived in great luxury every day. There was also a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who used to be brought to the rich man's door, hoping to eat the bits of food that fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs would come and lick his sores.

The poor man died and was carried by the angels to sit beside Abraham at the feast in heaven. The rich man died and was buried, and in Hades, where he was in great pain, he looked up and saw Abraham, far away, with Lazarus at his side.

So he called out, ‘Father Abraham! Take pity on me, and send Lazarus to dip his finger in some water and cool off my tongue, because I am in great pain in this fire!’ But Abraham said, ‘Remember, my son, that in your lifetime you were given all the good things, while Lazarus got all the bad things. But now he is enjoying himself here, while you are in pain. Besides all that, there is a deep pit lying between us, so that those who want to cross over from here to you cannot do so, nor can anyone cross over to us from where you are.’

The rich man said, ‘Then I beg you, father Abraham, send Lazarus to my father's house, where I have five brothers. Let him go and warn them so that they, at least, will not come to this place of pain.’ Abraham said, ‘Your brothers have Moses and the prophets to warn them; your brothers should listen to what they say.’ The rich man answered, ‘That is not enough, father Abraham! But if someone were to rise from death and go to them, then they would turn from their sins.’ But Abraham said, ‘If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone were to rise from death.’”

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.

The Blessing

May the Lord turn his face to you and be gracious to you; may the Lord look on you with kindness and give you peace;