

# St. Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity – Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023

Welcome to our "Hybrid" Sunday Service

God has gathered us into a community of care and worship. As we come together to praise God, author of a good creation, we are ready to help each other through hard times and celebrate in good times. Let us worship with love, thanksgiving and praise.

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.**

## Gathering Hymn: All Glory Laud and Honour (14)

## Confession

Come, let us return to the Lord and say:

*All* **Lord our God, in our sin we have avoided your call.  
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,  
like the dew that goes away early.  
Have mercy on us; deliver us from judgement;  
bind up our wounds and revive us;  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## 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:

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow:  
though our faith is small as mustard seed,  
make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All Amen.*

### **Reading: (Wisdom 12:13, 16-19)**

A reading from the Wisdom of Solomon,

All things are under your care, and there is no other god to whom you must justify your decisions.

Your strength is the source of justice. You can show mercy to everyone, because you are the Lord of all. You show your strength when people doubt that your power is perfect, and you punish anyone who knows your power but dares to ignore it. Even though you have absolute power, you are a merciful judge. You could take action against us whenever you like, but instead, you rule us with great patience.

By the things you have done you have taught your people that a person who is righteous must also be kind. You have given your people abundant hope by allowing them to repent of their sins.

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

### **Psalm: 86**

Teach me, Lord, what you want me to do, and I will obey you faithfully;  
teach me to serve you with complete devotion.

**I will praise you with all my heart, O Lord my God;**

**I will proclaim your greatness forever.**

**How great is your constant love for me!**

**You have saved me from the grave itself.**

Proud people are coming against me, O God;  
a cruel gang is trying to kill me - people who pay no attention to you.

**But you, O Lord, are a merciful and loving God,  
always patient, always kind and faithful.**

**Turn to me and have mercy on me; strengthen me and save me,  
because I serve you just as my mother did.**

Show me proof of your goodness, Lord; those who hate me will be ashamed  
when they see that you have given me comfort and help.

### Gradual Hymn: All That I Am (x2) (23)

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind,  
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.

*All* Alleluia.

### Gospel: (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

*All* Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus told them another parable: "The Kingdom of heaven is like this. A man sowed good seed in his field. One night, when everyone was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. When the plants grew and the heads of grain began to form, then the weeds showed up. The man's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, it was good seed you sowed in your field; where did the weeds come from?' 'It was some enemy who did this,' he answered. 'Do you want us to go and pull up the weeds?' they asked him. 'No,' he answered, 'because as you gather the weeds you might pull up some of the wheat along with them. Let the wheat and the weeds both grow together until harvest. Then I will tell the harvest workers to pull up the weeds first, tie them in bundles and burn them, and then to gather in the wheat and put it in my barn.'"

When Jesus had left the crowd and gone indoors, his disciples came to him and said, "Tell us what the parable about the weeds in the field means." Jesus answered, "The man who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world; the good seed is the people who belong to the Kingdom; the weeds are the people who belong to the Evil One; and the enemy who sowed the weeds is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvest workers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered up and burned in the fire, so the same thing will happen at the end of the age: the Son of Man will send out his angels to gather up out of his Kingdom all those who cause people to sin and all others who do evil things, and they will throw them into the fiery furnace, where they will cry and

gnash their teeth. Then God's people will shine like the sun in their Father's Kingdom. Listen, then, if you have ears!”

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

## Talk



## 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

May your roots grow deep into God's love and keep you strong.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

*All*    **and also with you.**

Let us offer each other a sign of peace

*We share a sign of peace with each other*

### Offertory Hymn: In Christ Alone (Sheet)

### 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.**

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**All    we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All    Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
         but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

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

## Communion Hymn: O Lord Hear My Prayer (938)

### Prayer of Spiritual Communion (For Private Prayer)

**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 God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,  
ever giving himself that the world may live: may we so receive within ourselves  
the power of his death and passion that, in his saving cup,  
we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

## Notices

### Post Communion Hymn: You Shall Go Out with Joy (766)

#### The Blessing

May God watch over you in the week ahead,  
May you know you are held in the palm of God's hand.  
And may you, like the good seed, grow strong in faith.  
And may almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
*All Amen.*

#### The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*All In the name of Christ. Amen.*

***Refreshments are served after the service.***

Bible passages from Good News Translation (GNT) Copyright © 1992 by American Bible Society  
Liturgy © copyright The Archbishops' Council 2000

St. Christopher's holds Church Copyright Licences for music that is copied and livestreamed.  
For further details see: <https://www.stchristopherschurch.org.uk/about-us/pcc/church-copyright-licensing>