

# St. Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Welcome to our “Hybrid” Sunday Service

Today's theme invites us to consider how we treat those with whom we disagree. Even those who offend us are held within the circle of Christ's love and we are invited to love them as we love our neighbour.

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: Be Still for the Presence of the Lord (67)

## 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:

Merciful God, your Son came to save us  
and bore our sins on the cross:  
may we trust in your mercy and know your love,  
rejoicing in the righteousness  
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

### **Reading: (Ezekiel 33:7-11)**

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel,

“Now, mortal man, I am making you a lookout for the nation of Israel. You must pass on to them the warnings I give you. If I announce that an evil person is going to die but you do not warn him to change his ways so that he can save his life, then he will die, still a sinner, and I will hold you responsible for his death. If you do warn an evil person and he doesn't stop sinning, he will die, still a sinner, but your life will be spared.”

The Lord spoke to me. “Mortal man,” he said, “repeat to the Israelites what they are saying: ‘We are burdened with our sins and the wrongs we have done. We are wasting away. How can we live?’ Tell them that as surely as I, the Sovereign Lord, am the living God, I do not enjoy seeing sinners die. I would rather see them stop sinning and live. Israel, stop the evil you are doing. Why do you want to die?”

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

### **Psalm: 119**

Teach me, Lord, the meaning of your laws, and I will obey them at all times.  
Explain your law to me, and I will obey it; I will keep it with all my heart.

**Keep me obedient to your commandments,  
because in them I find happiness.**

**Give me the desire to obey your laws rather than to get rich.**

Keep me from paying attention to what is worthless;  
be good to me, as you have promised.

Keep your promise to me, your servant -  
the promise you make to those who obey you.

**Save me from the insults I fear; how wonderful are your judgments!  
I want to obey your commands; give me new life, for you are righteous.**

### Gradual Hymn: Longing for Light (Sheet)

#### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia  
God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself,  
And he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.  
*All Alleluia.*

#### Gospel: (Matthew 18:15-20)

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "If your brother sins against you, go to him and show him his fault. But do it privately, just between yourselves. If he listens to you, you have won your brother back. But if he will not listen to you, take one or two other persons with you, so that 'every accusation may be upheld by the testimony of two or more witnesses,' as the scripture says. And if he will not listen to them, then tell the whole thing to the church. Finally, if he will not listen to the church, treat him as though he were a pagan or a tax collector.

"And so I tell all of you: what you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and what you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven.

"And I tell you more: whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them."

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

Love is fulfilling the law. In our love for one another we find Christ's peace.

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: Colours of Day (108)

#### 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: Bless the Lord My Soul (923)

## 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, the source of truth and love,  
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,  
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* Amen

## Notices

## Post Communion Hymn: 10,000 Reasons (Sheet)

## The Blessing

May God, who loves you in Christ,  
give you grace to love one another day by day.

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.

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

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