

St. Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood

20th Sunday after Trinity – Sunday 22nd October 2023

Welcome to our “Hybrid” Sunday Service

We gather together to draw each other into the quiet and stillness of God's sacred space, that we may be refreshed in spirit and strength to live justly, to love kindness and to walk humbly with our Lord.

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: Bind Us Together, Lord (72)

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:

God, our light and our salvation: illuminate our lives,
that we may see your goodness in the land of the living,
and looking on your beauty may be changed
into the likeness of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Reading: (Isaiah 45:1-7)

A reading from the book of prophet Isaiah,

The Lord has chosen Cyrus to be king. He has appointed him to conquer nations; he sends him to strip kings of their power; the Lord will open the gates of cities for him.

To Cyrus the Lord says, "I myself will prepare your way, levelling mountains and hills. I will break down bronze gates and smash their iron bars. I will give you treasures from dark, secret places; then you will know that I am the Lord and that the God of Israel has called you by name. I appoint you to help my servant Israel, the people that I have chosen. I have given you great honour, although you do not know me.

"I am the Lord; there is no other god. I will give you the strength you need, although you do not know me. I do this so that everyone from one end of the world to the other may know that I am the Lord and that there is no other god. I create both light and darkness; I bring both blessing and disaster. I, the Lord, do all these things.

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

Psalm: 96

Sing a new song to the Lord! Sing to the Lord, all the world!
Sing to the Lord, and praise him!

**Proclaim every day the good news that he has saved us.
Proclaim his glory to the nations, his mighty deeds to all peoples.**

The Lord is great and is to be highly praised;
he is to be honoured more than all the gods.
The gods of all other nations are only idols, but the Lord created the heavens.

**Glory and majesty surround him; power and beauty fill his Temple.
Praise the Lord, all people on earth; praise his glory and might.
Praise the Lord's glorious name;
bring an offering and come into his Temple.**

Bow down before the Holy One when he appears;
tremble before him, all the earth! Say to all the nations, "The Lord is king!

**The earth is set firmly in place and cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with justice."
Be glad, earth and sky! Roar, sea, and every creature in you;
be glad, fields, and everything in you!**

The trees in the woods will shout for joy when the Lord comes to rule the earth.
He will rule the peoples of the world with justice and fairness.

Gradual Hymn: God Is Love, His the Care (216)

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia
You will shine in the world like bright stars
because you are offering it the word of life
All Alleluia.

Gospel: (Matthew 22:15-22)

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

The Pharisees went off and made a plan to trap Jesus with questions. Then they sent to him some of their disciples and some members of Herod's party. "Teacher," they said, "we know that you tell the truth. You teach the truth about God's will for people, without worrying about what others think, because you pay no attention to anyone's status. Tell us, then, what do you think? Is it against our Law to pay taxes to the Roman Emperor, or not?"

Jesus, however, was aware of their evil plan, and so he said, "You hypocrites! Why are you trying to trap me? Show me the coin for paying the tax!" They brought him the coin, and he asked them, "Whose face and name are these?" "The Emperor's," they answered.

So Jesus said to them, "Well, then, pay to the Emperor what belongs to the Emperor, and pay to God what belongs to God." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

The Lord said to Moses, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." May God's presence rest upon you and compose your heart in holy 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: Be Still for the Presence of the Lord (67)

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: Jesus, Remember Me (931)

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

God our Father, whose Son, the light unfailing,
has come from heaven to deliver the world from the darkness of ignorance:
let these holy mysteries open the eyes of our understanding
that we may know the way of life, and walk in it without stumbling;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen**

Notices

Post Communion Hymn: One More Step Along the World I Go (535)

The Blessing

May the Lord God fill you with gracious intent to follow Jesus
and humbly declare his truth in word and deed.

May the divine glory, which gave Moses strength to continue the exodus journey,
lead you on your path.

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.

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>