

ST PETER'S & ALL SAINTS' CHURCHES, NOTTINGHAM

Sunday 26th July 2020
The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Officiant: The Reverend Christopher Harrison
Preacher: Liz Marsh

INTRODUCTION

Grace, mercy and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

The service is introduced

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession of sin and asking for God's forgiveness

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA

recorded by individual members of the church choir in online collaboration

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.
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.**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

**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.**
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

**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.
*Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.***

THE COLLECT

A special prayer for the day

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; 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.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Listening to and reflecting on Scripture

NEW TESTAMENT READING

St Paul writes of his confidence that nothing will separate us from the love of God

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8.26-39

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Speak Lord, for your servant is listening. You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells parables which describe the kingdom of heaven

Jesus put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

Mathew 13.31-33, 44-52

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

ANTHEM

sung by the church choir at Salisbury Cathedral in May 2015

Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum,
ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.

*As the deer longs for running water,
so longs my soul for you, O God.*

Music: GP da Palestrina (1525-1594)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Christopher Kent

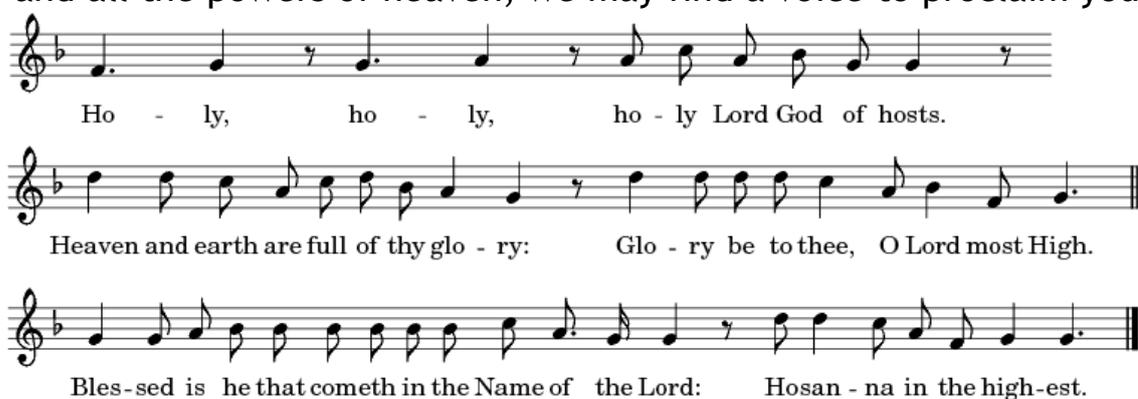
THE PEACE

Since we cannot currently share the Peace face to face, I encourage you now to think of particular people in our churches and pray that God's peace will be upon them. Let us also pray that God's peace will be upon the whole world at this difficult time for us all.

We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

GIVING THANKS FOR THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

From the beginning, O God, you have created all things, and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation. You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven, we may find a voice to proclaim your praise:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy glo - ry: Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord most High.
Bles - sed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord: Hosan - na in the high - est.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, as we recall that through his body, broken for us, and by his blood, shed for us, we enjoy new life in Him. For in the same night that he was betrayed, he 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and we look for the coming of your kingdom.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise; and as we remember his death and resurrection, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in his body, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

Silence is kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.



O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.



O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.



O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: grant us thy peace.

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

HYMN

sung by the Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-the-Fields, London, and used with permission

Since it is not currently possible to make your offerings to St Peter's and All Saints' churches during worship, please consider making a donation by means of the online giving facility which can be found at <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/7870#!/DonationDetails>.

**God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
now fulfil thy church's story;
bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo, the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways;
from the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days.**

Cure thy children's warring madness,
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton selfish gladness,
rich in goods and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places,
gird our lives that they may be
armoured with all Christlike graces
in the fight till all be free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
that we fail not earth nor thee.

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

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

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

'Giant' Fugue in D minor, BWV 680

JS Bach (1685-1750)

played and recorded this week at All Saints' by Michael Leuty