

Eucharist 6th Sunday after Trinity

19th July 2020

Welcome and notices

The first verse of the recorded hymn 'Great is thy faithfulness' sung by St Martin in the Field's Choir is played and the ministers process in.

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.
and also with you.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

The people are invited to reflect on their sins.

We keep a few moments of silence to remember before God our faults and the things we have done that are wrong. God promises us forgiveness, healing and a fresh start when we confess our sins in faith and penitence.

**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.

The GLORIA is sung by a solo voice

COLLECT

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love
you such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
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

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 44:6-8

6 Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
7 Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.
8 Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Alleluia, alleluia. *(sung by solo voice)*

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life.

1 Samuel 3:9, John 6:68

Alleluia.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

24 He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow

good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" ²⁸He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" ²⁹But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." ' "

36 Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' ³⁷He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *written and led by Mike O'Brien BCM*

So we pray for the Church and for the world as we thank God for His eternal goodness.

Lord Jesus, we have been through the darkest and strangest of times. We have been shrouded in a thick mist of uncertainty and still we cannot always see a clear way forward. Lives have been lost and we have been unable to mourn. Family and friends have cried for our help and we have not always

been able to respond as we would wish. People we know have faced financial worries and we have not had the resources to help them. Comforting routines have been broken, person-to-person contact has been rendered challenging and many of the things we have taken for granted have been snatched away.

Yet, through all this, we have seen glimmers of your light. In the goodness of neighbours offering simple acts of kindness to those in need. In the sublime courage of those in the front line of all our care services. In the determination and strength of commitment in keeping alive our faith through the internet.

Lord, we know that, through our faith in You, light will shine out of darkness.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Lord, be with those who are sick in mind, spirit or body. Give strength to all those who care for them as healthcare workers, family and friends.

Comfort those who grieve the passing of their loved ones, especially those locked in the rawness of their loss. May it be that, with the passing of time, the grief is made more manageable through happy memories and the joy and security that mutual love brought to our years with them. Our ardent hope is that they may now be with You in the Kingdom of God, free of pain and suffering, at peace in the eternal paradise of God the Father.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Be with us in the week ahead, Lord. Even in darkness, there will be light, amidst gloom there will be happiness and in the aftermath of tears, there will be laughter. We shall remain true servants and our faith shall be strengthened by adversity.

You know us and love us and we know You hear our prayers today and every day, so keep us in the eternal fellowship of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers for the sake of Your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.**
Amen

THE PEACE

The priest introduces the peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The recorded hymn 'Be still for the presence of the Lord' is played while the altar is prepared.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you,
And of your own do we give you.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

The priest praises God for his mighty acts and we respond:

**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.**

The priest recalls the Last Supper.

Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

The Prayer continues.

At the end we respond:
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 forever.
Amen.**

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

Jesus is the lamb of God
Who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
But only say the word, and I shall be healed.**
GIVING OF COMMUNION

You are invited to use the prayer for Spiritual Communion below asking Jesus to be with you now.

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.

The anthem 'O God of hope and Lord of healing' is played while the congregation receive the sacrament.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

THE BLESSING

A blessing is given.

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

The recorded hymn 'Lord, for the years' is played and the ministers depart.

Spiritual Communion.

The term 'Spiritual Communion' has been used historically to describe the means of grace by which a person, prevented for some serious reason from sharing in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ. The form of prayer offers Christians an opportunity to give thanks for their communion with him, particularly at times when they would ordinarily be present at the Eucharist.

The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly 'eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ', although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves. Making a Spiritual Communion is particularly fitting for those who cannot receive the sacrament at the great feasts of the Church, and it fulfils the duty of receiving Holy Communion 'regularly, and especially at the festivals of Christmas, Easter and Whitsun or Pentecost' (Canon B 15).

The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ of which we are members. In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, 'I am the Bread of Life'.