

Benefice of Silsoe, Pulloxhill and Flitton
Growing as beacons of Christ's light in our communities

Sunday 12 July 2020



Welcome to our Eucharist service

Led by Rev Julie Cox

Welcome

Almighty God,
sustainer of life and work and provider of all our needs.
Open our hearts to your creative power so that we might
know your will, praise your name and share your vision
for the creation of your kingdom.
In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Our Confession

**Lord of the Universe, we praise you for your creation.
We praise you for the many different skills of hand and brain.
We recognise that we often spoil these gifts by our selfishness
and because we are sometimes distrustful and destructive.**

**Forgive us we pray.
Help us to use all that you give to us for the good of all people.
We wholeheartedly repent of the evil we have done and we
look for grace to offer forgiveness and to know ourselves forgiven,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Your sins are forgiven. Be at peace

Collect for Trinity 5

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Reading by Peter Cox

Romans 8: v1 - 11

8 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the sinful man, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

⁵ Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what the nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

⁶ The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ The sinful mind is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸ Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who lives in you.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Creed

We are not alone

**We believe in God,
Who has created and is creating.
Who has come in Jesus
to reconcile and make new.
We trust God who calls us to be the church;
To love and to serve others
To seek justice and to resist evil,
To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen
Our judge and our hope.
In life, in life beyond death
God is with us.
We are not alone
Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

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

Matthew 13: 1 - 9, 18 - 23

13 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ² Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹ He who has ears, let him hear."

¹⁸ "Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰ The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. ²² The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. ²³ But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

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

Hymn: Breathe on Me Breath of God

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that as you love, so may I love,
and do what you would do.

3. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fulfil my heart's desire,
until this earthly part of me
glows with your heav'nly fire.

2. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure:
until my will is one with yours
to do and to endure.

4. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life
of your eternity.

Edwin Hatch (1835 - 1889) alt. This version © 1999 Kevin Mayhew Ltd.

Sermon

Intercessions led by Martyn Gates

Bidding: Lord hear us

Response: Lord graciously hear us

The Peace

May God's peace be real to us
as we share it with each other.
Peace to you.

And also to you

We Gather at the Lord's Table

Father accept these offerings of bread and wine
as tokens of all the good things which you give us.
We praise you and give you thanks, because you
created us, women and men, together in your image,
to cherish your world and seek your face.

**Divided and disfigured by sin. while we were yet helpless,
you emptied yourself of power and gave us Jesus, your Son,
born into a human family.**

**He shared our suffering and died on the cross to bring forth
the hope of resurrection.**

**Therefore with those in heaven and on earth,
for whom You are the goal of all our longing,
we praise You, saying:**

Holy, holy, holy, vulnerable God

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory

Hosannah in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord

Hosannah in the highest.

1 Corinthians 11: 23 - 26

The Lord Jesus, in the night when He was betrayed
took a loaf of bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said,
"This is My body, that is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way, He took the cup also after supper, saying,
"This cup is the new covenant in My blood.
Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me.

For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,
you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. "

And so Father, remembering how Jesus sacrificed His life for us,
believing that His life did not end with His death,
and realising His presence here among us,
we offer this bread and this wine,
we offer ourselves to do what You wish us to do.
Help us to be open to receive Your spirit of power, freedom and love,
and when we share this bread and wine,
we may also share in the life and the self of Jesus.

Now for all who ever existed or ever will exist,
with all creation in all time, with joy we say;

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

Now we say with confidence the prayer
which Jesus himself taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

The gift of God to share among us.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
for we all share the same bread**

Together we pray

**God our Father, bread in our wilderness,
spring of living water, companion on our road,
we offer to you our commitment to seek
the promised community and to journey with your
in justice and in love. Amen**

Hymn: I, the Lord of sea and sky

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them?
Whom shall I send?

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them,
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them
Whom shall I send?

Chorus

(Written by Daniel L Schutte)

Chorus

*Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them,
Whom shall I send?

Chorus

Dismissal

Our service is ended.
Jesus goes before us into the world.
Let us go in peace and do the will of God.

We go in the name of Christ. Amen