

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

Sunday 24 July 2020, 7th Sunday after Trinity



Welcome to our Service of Holy Communion

Led by Rev Anna Garvie

Welcome

Gathering

Priest In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

All Amen

Priest We gather in the name of the living Christ to worship God.

All Surely, God is in this place and calls us to worship in spirit and in truth

Priest God's love is for you and for all people everywhere

All May we be renewed in the refreshing Spirit of the living Christ,
that we may share God's love and life.

Priest The living Christ is with us.

All Praise the Lord

Preparation

Priest 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.

All Amen

Collect

Priest 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.

All Amen

The Epistle - Read by Martyn Gates

Romans 8:26-39

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.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn

1. Be thou my vision, O lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought by day and the night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2. Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word,
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one

3. Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight,
be thou my dignity, thou my delight
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

4. Riches I need not, nor man's empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art!

5. High King of heaven, my victory won,,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun;
heart of my own heart, whatever befall
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

The Gospel - Read by Jo Holt

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and planted in his field; though it is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when it grows it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree so that the birds come and make perch in its branches.'

He told them still another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in into about 60lbs of flour until it worked all through the dough.'

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, when a man found it, he hid it again and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish; when it was full, the fishermen pulled it up onto the shore, then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets but threw the bad fish away.

This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all these things?' Jesus asked. 'Yes.' they replied.

He said to them, 'Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of the house who brings out of his store room new treasures as well as old.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you O Christ

Sermon

Creed

Priest Let us declare our faith in God.

All We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Intercessions

Bidding: Lord, in your mercy.

Response: Hear our prayer.

Invitation to Confession

Priest You then, who truly and earnestly repent of your sins,
and are in love and charity with your neighbours,
and intend to lead a new life,
following the commandments of God,
and walking from this day forward in his holy ways:
draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort;
and make your humble confession to almighty God.

Confession

All Almighty God, our Heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry,
and repent of all our sins.
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

Absolution

Priest Almighty God, our Heavenly Father
who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins
to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to him:
have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness
and bring you to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

Hymn

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.

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.

Eucharistic Prayer

Priest The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Priest Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Priest Father, you made the world and love your creation.
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.
His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.
And so we gladly thank you,
with saints and angels 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.**

Priest We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.

So Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Priest Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Priest Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **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.

Invitation to Communion

Priest Come, not because you must, but because you may,
not because you are strong, but because you are weak.
Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come,
but because you need mercy and help.
Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love Him more.
Come, because He loved you and gave Himself for you.
Come and meet the risen Christ, for we are His body.

Hymn

1. Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here;
come, bow before him now,
with reverence and fear.
In him so sin is found,
we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here.

2. Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of Light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

3. Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place,
he comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister his grace.
No work too hard for him,
in faith receive from him;
be still for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

Prayer after Communion

All **Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Blessing

Priest 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 with each one of you and those you love, today always.

All **Amen**

Priest Go in the name of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God.**