

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



**Service of Holy Communion for the  
last Sunday after Trinity  
'BIBLE SUNDAY'  
25 October 2020**

Led by Rev Anne Barker  
at St James the Great, Silsoe

**Welcome**

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

**All Amen**

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you**

**Prayer of Preparation**

**All: 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.**

*Priest* Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**All Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

## Prayer of Confession

*Priest:* And we pray together

**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.

*Priest:* 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.

**All:** Amen.

## The Gloria

**All:** 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 for last Sunday after Trinity

*Priest:* Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, 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 Maggie Jeeves

### 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

<sup>1</sup>You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain,  
<sup>2</sup>but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition.  
<sup>3</sup>For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery,  
<sup>4</sup>but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts.  
  
<sup>5</sup>As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed;  
<sup>6</sup>nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others,  
<sup>7</sup>though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children.  
  
<sup>8</sup>So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

This is the word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God.**

### The Gospel - Matthew 22:34-46

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**All: Glory to you O Lord**

<sup>34</sup>When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together,  
<sup>35</sup>and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. <sup>36</sup>Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?  
<sup>37</sup>He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."  
<sup>38</sup>This is the greatest and first commandment.  
<sup>39</sup>And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." <sup>40</sup>On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.' <sup>41</sup>Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question:  
<sup>42</sup>'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.'  
<sup>43</sup>He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,  
<sup>44</sup>'The Lord said to my Lord,  
'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet'?"  
<sup>45</sup>If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?'  
<sup>46</sup>No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ**

## Sermon

## Creed

**All: We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

**Intercessions** led by Maggie Jeeves

*Bidding:* Lord in Your mercy

**Response:** Hear our prayer

**Merciful Father, Accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ  
Amen**

### **The Peace**

*Priest:* The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All: And also with you.**

**Hymn:** Brother, sister, let me serve you

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you;  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey,  
and companions on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

3. I will hold the Christlight for you  
in the nighttime of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.

4. I will weep when you are weeping;  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow,  
till we've seen this journey through.

5. When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.

6. Brother, sister, let me serve you;  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

### **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 him thanks and praise.**

*Priest:* It is indeed right,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;  
through him you have created all things from the beginning,  
and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,  
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;

you raised him from the dead  
and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us  
your holy and life-giving Spirit,  
and made us a people for your own possession.

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.**

*Priest* Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember now his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

*Priest* Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit  
inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son,  
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 words of everlasting praise:

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

*Priest* As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**All** 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.  
And 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.

## Preparation

*Priest:* 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.

Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

## Invitation to Communion

*Priest* Here is the table of the Lord,  
we are gathered to his supper,  
a foretaste of things eternal.  
Come, when you are fearful, to be made new in love.  
Come, when you are doubtful, to be made strong in faith.  
Come, when you are regretful, and be made whole.  
Come, old and young,  
there is room for all

**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 who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
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 Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Hymn: O Jesus I Have Promised

O Jesus, I have promised, to serve Thee to the end;  
Be Thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend:  
I shall not fear the battle if Thou art by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway if Thou wilt be my Guide.

O let me feel Thee near me, the world is ever near;  
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear:  
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;  
But, Jesus, draw Thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear Thee speaking, in accents clear and still,  
Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self will!  
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;  
O speak and make me listen, Thou guardian of my soul!

O Jesus, Thou hast promised, to all who follow Thee,  
That where Thou art in glory, there shall Thy servant be;  
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end;  
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

O let me see thy foot-marks, and in them plant mine own;  
My hope to follow duly is in thy strength alone:  
O guide me, call me, draw me, uphold me to the end;  
And then in heaven receive me, my Saviour and my friend.



## Dismissal

*Priest:* The peace of God, which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and your 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 in your hearts, today and always  
**Amen.**

*Priest:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**All: In the name of Christ, Amen**

*Common Worship © The Archbishops' Council*