

**The Eucharist Sunday 5 July 2020 Fourth Sunday after Trinity**

**(72<sup>nd</sup> birthday of the NHS)**

**The Greeting**

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.**

**Prayer of Preparation: A prayer of sadness**

**God, our hearts are filled with joy to be able to return to this place.  
Yet, our Church is incomplete, not all of our brothers and sisters here.  
Hold all those still at home in your loving arms; protect them from all harm;  
bring comfort to the mourning or frightened, and healing to the sick.  
In Jesus' name,  
Amen.**

*In a moment of silence we hold before God those members of our community for whom this time is still so difficult.*

**Prayers of Penitence**

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy  
forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly,  
love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
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 Collect**

God our saviour,  
look on this wounded world  
in pity and in power;  
hold us fast to your promises of peace  
won for us by your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

### **Reading (Colossians 3.9-14)**

Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

### **Gospel Reading (Matthew 11.16-19, 25-30)**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that time Jesus said,

'To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another, "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn."

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon"; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!" Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.

'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows

the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

### **The Creed**

**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 worshipped 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.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Let us pray to God our Father, whose Son came that we may have life.

We give you thanks for the life and work

of all those whose vision founded our National Health Service,  
and for those who serve others in care and compassion.

We pray that their work and ministry to the sick may enrich and support the welfare of all.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We give thanks for all who provide leadership in healthcare,  
for those who exercise stewardship and allocate resources  
and pray that, in challenging times,  
support and compassion may be shown to those most in need.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for all who promote health and wellbeing in policy and practice;  
for all who care for the sick, in hospital, in care homes, and at home;  
for doctors, nurses, care assistants and cleaners.

We seek guidance and strength for all chaplains,  
and for all engaged in teaching and medical research.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;  
for those who are terminally ill, elderly or frail;  
for all who live with disability or in constant pain,  
and for the many who strive to bring comfort and healing to them.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Remember in your kingdom, O Lord,  
all those who have faithfully served you here on earth and are now at rest;  
grant us, with them, and with all the faithful departed, the joy of your salvation.  
We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,  
to the mercy and protection of God.

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

### **The Peace**

Christ is our peace.  
He has reconciled us to God  
in one body by the cross.  
We meet in his name and share his peace.

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

### **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 be with you  
**and also with you.**

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.**

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:

**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.**

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 cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

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 [*N and*] 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.

**Amen.**

### **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.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

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.**

### **Giving of Communion**

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.**

The body and blood of Christ.  
**Amen.**

*Communion is administered in silence.*

### **Spiritual Communion**

*Those who are at home are invited to say one or both of these prayers:*

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.

*after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester*

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples,  
'I am with you always'.

Be with me today, as I offer myself to you.

Hear my prayers for others and for myself,  
and keep me in your care. Amen.

**Prayer after Communion: A prayer of hope**

**Gracious God, persevering through the years, persevering to the end,  
as we face the future as a community of your people in this place,  
may we know afresh your faithful love,  
and see afresh your loving faithfulness.**

**May it be your words of life for which we listen,  
and by which alone we live.**

**God before and God behind, for all that has been – thanks.**

**For all that will be – Yes!**

**Amen.**

**The Dismissal**

The Lord bless you and watch over you,  
the Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious to you,  
the Lord look kindly on you  
and give you peace.

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.**

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