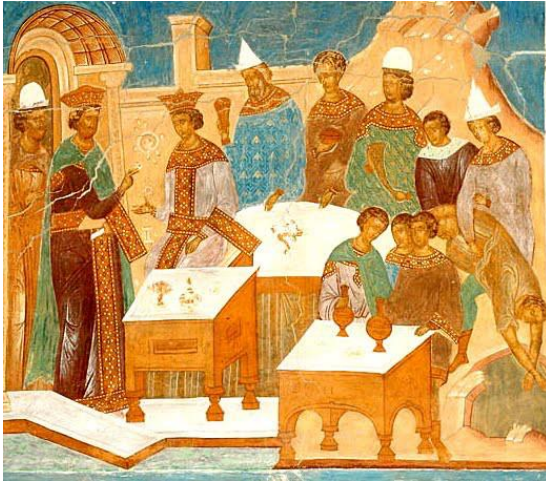


The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

(Proper 23 Year A)



The parable of the wedding banquet

The Parish Mass

live streamed from church
during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Sunday 11th October 2020

10.15 am

¶ Keeping everyone safe at St Matthew's

If you have any of the recognised Covid-related symptoms, please self-isolate immediately and seek a test.

*For all others, and in accordance with Government guidance and local decision,
we respectfully request and require you to:*

Go directly to a chair where there is an order of service booklet, and remain there. Please fill up the available chairs in the centre of the nave and transepts first. Do not move from chair to chair, or remove a booklet from another chair. (NB - some chairs in the side aisles have a restricted view).

Please do not move the chairs, or handle any other furniture. Soft furnishings such as church kneelers (hassocks) cannot be used.

You are required to **wear a face covering throughout** unless you belong to one of the medically exempted groups. This must cover both your mouth and your nose. (Plastic visors do not protect others).

At communion - you are asked to ensure that your face covering is in place until the words of administration have been spoken by the priest and you have responded by saying 'Amen'.

After the service - you may wish to light a candle. Please departed via the north door. A monetary offering for your booklet, candle, and towards parish funds may be made there. Please sanitise your hands as you leave.

Setting

Mass for three voices

William Byrd 1543-1623

Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

Music before the service

Please stand at the sound of the bell

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All Amen.

The Greeting

Welcome in the name of Christ.
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you
All and also with you.

The Priest introduces the service

Invitation to Confession

The Bible uses the image of a banquet in describing the blessings God wishes to bestow on his people, blessings that are now offered to us.

Let us call to mind our sins and infidelities, and open ourselves to receive the blessings that come from God.

Silence is kept

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.**

Kyries

Lord Jesus, you bring pardon and peace to sinners.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

You bring light to those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death.
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

You guide our feet into the way of peace.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

May almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive † you your sins,
and bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

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.**

The Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
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.**

Please be seated

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Philippians 4.1-9

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

Reader The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

All **I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

All I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full.
Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

All I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Please stand

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22.1-14

Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.

All Alleluia.

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves,

maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

‘But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

The Nicene Creed

Please stand

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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.**

*All may
bow* *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 the Faithful

Priest Through Christ we enjoy the benefits of salvation.
Let us pray that these benefits may be felt by all people,
but especially those in need.

Please be seated

The response to each petition

Intercessor As you have called us:
All **Lord, we come.**

After the final petition

Priest Heavenly Father,
may we love you in all things and above all things,
and reach the joy you have prepared for us,
which is beyond all our imagining.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Please stand

Sign of Peace

Saint Paul wrote, “Keep on doing the things that you have learned...
and the God of peace will be with you.”

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

With an appropriate gesture, let us extend to each other
a sign of Christ’s peace.

Please sit while the altar is prepared

Organ music

Invitation to Prayer

Please stand

Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

All **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Prayer over the Gifts

O Lord, accept the prayers of your faithful people
that these sacrificial offerings, though these acts of devotion,
may help us on our pilgrimage to the glory of heaven.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

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

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,

From sunrise to sunset this day is holy,
for Christ has risen from the tomb
and scattered the darkness of death with light that will not fade.
This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people,
unfolds for us your word,
and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread.
And though the night will overtake this day
you summon us to live in endless light,
the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord.

And so, with choirs of angels and with all the heavenly host,
we proclaim your glory and join their unending song of praise:

Choir *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.*

*Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

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.

Christ is the bread of life:

All **When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember 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.

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 songs of everlasting praise:

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

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated, and bells are rung

Please be seated

The Lord's Prayer

God's kingdom is a kingdom of justice, love and peace.
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.**

Breaking of the Bread

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.**

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The clergy receive Holy Communion

Giving of Communion

When the Lord appears, we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.

*If you are able, please stand at your chair to receive Holy Communion,
and then sit*

Spiritual Communion – for those at home

It is an ancient practice of the Church that, when you are prevented from attending the Holy Eucharist, people are invited to express, in the words of St Thomas Aquinas, “an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him.” Therefore, during this time you are invited to pray this prayer, which may be said as often as you desire:

Act of Reception

**All In union, blessed Jesus,
with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church
where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,**

(and remembering particularly my own parish)

**I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,
for creation and all the blessings of this life,
for the redemption won for us by your life, death,
and resurrection,
for the means of grace and the hope of glory.**

(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)

**I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,
I pray you to come into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart,
my soul, and my mind.
Let nothing separate me from you;
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.**

Agnus Dei

Choir *O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Please stand

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast:
for here we receive you,
here the memory of your passion is renewed,
here our minds are filled with grace,
and here a pledge of future glory is given,
when we shall feast at that table where your reign
with all your saints for ever.

All **Amen.**

**Lord, we have broken your bread
and received your life.
By the power of your Holy Spirit
keep us always in your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Notices for the Community

Please be seated

¶ Sending Out

Please stand

All The Lord be with you.
and also with you.

The Blessing

All May Christ, the Good Shepherd, guide you along the right path.
Amen.

May he give you a sense of his comforting presence
when you walk through the valley of darkness.
All **Amen.**

And when your earthly journey is over,
may he lead you to the green pastures of eternal life.
All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

All The Mass is ended, go in peace.
Thanks be to God.

Organ Voluntary

Sheep may safely graze BWV 208

Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

Please take this booklet home with you

You are welcome to light a votive candle

Please leave church via the north door,
facing Collingwood Road.

A monetary offering may be made there.

You are most welcome to join us on the green
at the east end of the church
in physically distanced groups of up to six.



A suggested donation towards the production of this booklet