

The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Proper 16



The politics of betrayal

The Parish Mass

Sunday 22nd August 2021

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 we respectfully ask you to:

Wear a face covering whilst in church unless you belong to one of the medically exempted groups. To be effective this should cover your nose as well as your mouth.

Orders of service are available in the porch, please pick one up having first used the hand sanitiser provided.

Nave seating You may sit where you wish. Couples, households and former 'bubbles' in particular are now able to sit together if they wish. More generally, **we ask you to respect one another's space**, spread out, and take advantage of our spacious environment. Individual chairs remain available in the transepts. As far as possible, we ask that you keep the touching of other surfaces to a minimum.

The church toilet facilities are available for use. Please follow the directions on the signs, and leave the cubical light on and the door open after use, to facilitate ventilation.

Holy Communion will be administered in one 'kind' only, standing, at one or two 'stations' at the front of the nave. Please approach via the centre aisle and return via the side aisles. For mutual protection, we ask that you keep your face covering on until the words of administration have been spoken, and you have responded by saying 'Amen'. If you have difficulty being mobile please let us know, sit on the end of a row, and we will come to you.

After the service - please depart via the main porch sanitizing your hands as you leave. (Weather permitting the north porch door will be left open to facilitate ventilation).

Please do join us on the green for fellowship afterwards.

* * * * *

Reflection

The words of Jesus have echoed down the centuries,
bringing light to those in darkness
and hope to those in despair.

Lord, may the Eucharist keep us faithful to you,
for you alone have the words of eternal life,
and you alone can give us the food of eternal life.
Grant that we may come to possess this life completely in the kingdom,
where you live and reign with the Father
and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and for ever.

Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

Please stand at the sound of the bell

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

The Greeting

All The grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The service is introduced

Invitation to Confession

As we remember our Lord's sacrifice of his body, broken for us,
and his blood, poured out for us,
let us offer him our whole selves in penitence and faith.

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, your words are a lamp for our steps and a light for our path:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Those who build their lives on your words, are building them on rock:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Heaven and earth will pass away, but your words will never pass away:
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,
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid
and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and meditation
of 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 sit

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Joshua 24.1-2a, 14-18

Reader

A reading from the Book of Joshua.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in

the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.'

Then the people answered, 'Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 34.15-22

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous
and his ears are open to their cry.
The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

**All My soul shall glory in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

The righteous cry and the Lord hears them
and delivers them out of all their troubles.
The Lord is near to the brokenhearted
and will save those who are crushed in spirit.

**All My soul shall glory in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

Many are the troubles of the righteous;
from them all will the Lord deliver them.
He keeps all their bones,
so that not one of them is broken.

**All My soul shall glory in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

But evil shall slay the wicked
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.
The Lord ransoms the life of his servants
and will condemn none who seek refuge in him.

**All My soul shall glory in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

Please stand

Holy Gospel

John 6.56-69

Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life:
You have the message of eternal life.

All Alleluia.

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

**All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the Jews, 'Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.' He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, 'This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?' But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, 'Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, 'For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.'

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, 'Do you also wish to go away?' Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

Please sit

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 The Lord hears the cries of his people
and rescues them from all their distress.
Let us pray to him now with confidence.

Please sit

After each petition

Intercessor Holy Lord,
All **our trust is in you.**

Priest Heavenly Father,
help us to follow your Son faithfully on earth,
and come to share his glory in heaven,
where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.
All **Amen.**

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Please stand

Sign of Peace

The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating or drinking,
but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

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

As you feel able, let us offer each other the sign of Christ's peace.

Hymn

All We pray thee, heavenly Father,
To hear us in thy love,
And pour upon thy children
The unction from above;
That so in love abiding,
From all defilement free,
We may in pureness offer
Our Eucharist to thee.

All that we have we offer,
For it is all thine own,
All gifts, by thine appointment,
In bread and cup are shown;
One thing alone we bring not,
The wilfulness of sin,
And all we bring is nothing
Save that which is within.

Within the pure oblation,
Beneath the outward sign,
By that his operation,
The Holy Ghost divine,
Lies hid the sacred body,
Lies hid the precious blood,
Once slain, now ever glorious,
Of Christ our Lord and God.

**Wherefore, though all unworthy
To offer sacrifice,
We pray that this our duty
be pleasing in thine eyes;
For praise, and thanks and worship,
for mercy and for aid,
The catholic oblation
Of Jesus Christ is made.**

Words: Vincent Stuckey Stratton Coles (1845-1929)

Music: Dies Dominica
John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

Invitation to Prayer

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, who gained for yourself a people by adoption
through the one sacrifice offered once for all,
graciously bestow on us the gifts of unity and peace in your Church;
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:

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.**

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.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

All **Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

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.

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 Mary the Virgin Mother of God,
Saint Matthew 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.

All **Amen.**

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and bells are rung

The Lord's Prayer

There is one God who is Father of us all.
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.**

Agnus Dei

All **Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

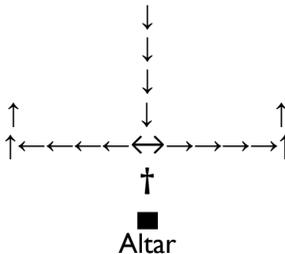
God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Giving of Communion

The earth is filled with the fruit of your works, O Lord;
bringing forth bread from the earth
and wine to gladden our hearts.

*Holy Communion, or God's blessing, is administered standing at a 'station',
as indicated. Please approach the priest via the centre aisle and return to your
seat via the side aisles whilst maintaining physical distancing.*



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.**

Prayer after Communion

Please stand

Let us pray.

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Notices for the Community

Please sit

¶ Sending Out

Please stand

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

Solemn Blessing

All May the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home in you.
Amen.

All May you never doubt that God will fulfil the promises
he has made to us in Christ.
Amen.

All May the peace of God, which is beyond all understanding,
guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

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

The Dismissal

All Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Voluntary

Fantasia in C minor

J S Bach (1685 – 1750)

Please take this booklet home with you

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