

The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Proper 11 Year B



The Good Shepherd in action

The Parish Mass

Sunday 21st July 2024

10.15 am



No mobile phones



Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church

Safeguarding *St Matthew's is committed to providing a safe environment for all who come. If you have any concerns, please speak with one of our welcomers or a churchwarden who may be identified by their lanyard. They will be happy to help you.*

Live streaming *Please note that this service is being streamed. You may sit where you wish, If, however, you prefer not to be seen online, please sit in a side aisle. The administration of Holy Communion will not be shown.*

Toilet and changing facilities *may be found at the base of the church tower. There is also a small servery.*

For younger children *In the north aisle a carpeted area equipped with Christian resources is provided. Please feel free to use it.*

This morning's readings *In the gospel reading we see Jesus, the Good Shepherd, in action. Firstly, we see his care for the Twelve, who have just returned from their missionary work and needed a break. Secondly, we see his care for the ordinary people.*

His attempt to go off to a quiet place is frustrated, but he doesn't get annoyed with the people. Instead, he is deeply moved by their earnestness and by their need. Since the people's most pressing hunger was spiritual, he began by teaching them.

It is our custom to spend some time in quiet preparation before the liturgy begins, and save further conversation until we meet socially for refreshments afterwards. The following reflection, based on today's themes, may be found helpful:

Reflection

Jesus looked at the people,
and seeing that they were like sheep without a shepherd,
he took pity for them, and taught them at length.
Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd.
Take pity on us, for at times we too are like sheep.
Save us from a blind following of the herd.
Help us to listen to your voice and to follow you.
See that we follow not the wrong path,
and lead us along the path of eternal life.

Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

§ *At the sound of the bell, all stand*

Hymn

§ *The procession enters*

All

**CHURCH of God, elect and glorious,
Holy nation, chosen race;
Called as God's own special people,
Royal priests and heirs of grace:
Know the purpose of your calling,
Show to all his mighty deeds;
Tell of love which knows no limits,
Grace which meets all human needs.**

**God has called you out of darkness
Into his most marvellous light;
Brought his truth to life within you,
Turned your blindness into sight.
Let your light so shine around you
That God's name is glorified;
And all find fresh hope and purpose
In Christ Jesus crucified.**

**Once you were an alien people,
Strangers to God's heart of love;
But he brought you home in mercy,
Citizens of heaven above.
Let his love flow out to others,
Let them feel a Father's care;
That they too may know his welcome
And his countless blessings share.**

**Church of God, elect and holy,
Be the people he intends;
Strong in faith and swift to answer
Each command your master sends:
Royal priests, fulfil your calling
Through your sacrifice and prayer;
Give your lives in joyful service -
Sing his praise, his love declare.**

Words James Seddon (1915-1983)
from 1 Peter 2

Music Lux Eoi
Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900)

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

The Greeting

All Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The service is introduced

Invitation to Confession

Every page of the Gospel shows that Jesus cared about people.
He cares about us too.
Let us now approach the Good Shepherd in a spirit of trust and love,
asking pardon for our failures and strength for our weakness.

Silence is kept

Confession

All **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.**

Kyries

Lord Jesus, you guide us along the right path:
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

You accompany us through the valley of darkness:
Christ, have mercy.
All **Christ, have mercy.**

You lead us to the green pasture of eternal life:
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

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.**

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 Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern
 both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws
 and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and 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.**

§ *Sit*

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Reader A reading from the prophecy of Jeremiah.

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore, thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

Jeremiah 23.1-6

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Response



The Lord_ is my shep- herd, there is no thing I shall want. The



Lord_ is my shep- herd, there is no thing I shall want.

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

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. **Response**

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. **Response**

Psalm 23

Holy Gospel

§ Stand

Acclamation

1. Choir only
 2. Choir and Congregation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord,
 I know them and they follow me.

All Alleluia ...

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All

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

All

f
 Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, ‘Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.’ For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Mark 6.30-34, 53-56

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All

f
Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

§ Sit

The Nicene Creed

§ *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 Let us pray to the Father who cared about us so much that he sent his Son to be our friend and shepherd.

§ *Kneel*

The response to each petition

Intercessor Lord, we come before you;
All **in you is our peace.**

After the final petition

Priest God of power and love,
may we who have experienced the love of Christ,
the Good Shepherd,
show that same love to others.

We ask this through the same Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

§ *Stand*

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

Lord Jesus, you said to your apostles, 'I am the gate of the sheepfold. Anyone who enters through me will be saved and find pasture.'

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

Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

Hymn

All

**ETERNAL ruler of the ceaseless round
Of circling planets singing on their way;
Guide of the nations from the night profound
Into the glory of the perfect day;
Rule in our hearts, that we may ever be
Guided and strengthened and upheld by thee.**

**We are of thee, the children of thy love,
The brothers of thy well-belovèd Son;
Descend, O Holy Spirit, like a dove,
Into our hearts, that we may be as one:
As one with thee, to whom we ever tend;
As one with him, our brother and our friend.**

**We would be one in hatred of all wrong,
One in our love of all things sweet and fair,
One with the joy that breaketh into song,
One with the grief that trembleth into prayer,
One in the power that makes thy children free
To follow truth, and thus to follow thee.**

**O clothe us with thy heavenly armour, Lord,
Thy trusty shield, thy sword of love divine;
Our inspiration be thy constant word;
We ask no victories that are not thine:
Give or withhold, let pain or pleasure be;
Enough to know that we are serving thee.**

Words John White Chadwick (1840-1904)

Music Song I
melody and bass by
Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

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 God, who in the one perfect sacrifice
brought to completion varied offerings of the law,
accept, we pray, this sacrifice from your faithful servants
and make it holy,
so that what each has offered to the honour of your majesty
may benefit the salvation of all.
We ask this through 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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

The musical notation is a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes and half notes. The lyrics are: 'Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.' The dynamics are marked as *mf* (mezzo-forte) for the first two phrases, *cresc.* (crescendo) for the third, and *f* (forte) for the final phrase. The piece ends with a double bar line.

All

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world,
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Mary the Virgin Mother of God,
John the Baptist and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and bells are rung

§ *Kneel*

The Lord's Prayer

Christ broke down the barrier between Jews and Gentiles,
making them into one people.
Let us pray with confidence to our heavenly Father as he 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

My flesh is food indeed,
and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

All **Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood
dwell in me and I in them.**

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

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.**

Giving of Communion

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
he appointed a memorial of his marvellous deed.
He gave food to those who feared him.

Spiritual Communion – *for those at home*

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.

Hymn

All

O BREAD of heaven, beneath this veil
Thou dost my very God conceal:
My Jesus, dearest treasure, hail;
I love thee and adoring kneel;
Each loving soul by thee is fed
With thy own self in form of bread.

O food of life, thou who dost give
The pledge of immortality;
I live; no, 'tis not I that live;
God gives me life, God lives in me:
He feeds my soul, he guides my ways,
And every grief with joy repays.

O bond of love, that dost unite
The servant to his living Lord;
Could I dare live, and not requite
Such love, then death were meet reward:
I cannot live unless to prove
Some love for such unmeasured love.

Belovèd Lord in heaven above,
There, Jesus, thou awaitest me;
To gaze on thee with changeless love;
Yes, thus, I hope, thus shall it be:
For how can he deny me heaven
Who here on earth himself hath given?

Words Italian, St Alphonsus Liguori (1696-1787)
translated by Edmund Vaughan C.SsR

Music St Catherine (Tynemouth)
Henri Frederic Hemy (1818-1888)
adapted by Richard Runciman Terry (1865-1938)

§ *All sit for a period of silent reflection and thanksgiving*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

§ *Stand*

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
 be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love
shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed with your body
 be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.

All **Amen.**

**Fill us, good Lord, with your Spirit of love;
and as you have fed us with the one bread of heaven,
so make us one in heart and mind,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Hymn

All **NOW let us from this table rise
Renewed in body, mind and soul;
With Christ we die and rise again,
His selfless love has made us whole.**

**With minds alert, upheld by grace,
To spread the Word in speech and deed,
We follow in the steps of Christ,
At one with all in hope and need.**

**To fill each human house with love,
It is the sacrament of care;
The work that Christ began to do
We humbly pledge ourselves to share.**

**Then grant us grace, Companion-God,
To choose again the pilgrim way
And help us to accept with joy
The challenge of tomorrow's day.**

Words Fred Kaan (1929-2009)

Music Solothurn
Swiss traditional melody
from Johann Friedrich Reichart (1752-1814)

Notices for the Community

§ Sit

¶ Sending Out

§ Stand

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

Solemn Blessing

All May you be blessed with an unshakeable belief in the love of Christ,
the Good Shepherd.
Amen.

All May you find joy in belonging to his flock.
Amen.

All May you imitate his love by the concern you show for others.
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

Alla Marcia

John Ireland (1879-1962)

Please remain standing until the procession has departed

Those leaving immediately are asked to be aware of those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary.

Collection – our response to God’s generosity

We invite you to make a monetary offering towards the ministry and mission of St Matthew’s Church. You may do so using any of the following methods:

Cash, cheques, stewardship envelopes - using the receptacle provided at the back of church. If you are a taxpayer please use the envelopes in the chairs, and fill out the details in order that our parish may also benefit from the Gift Aid (an extra 25p for every pound given) associated with your giving.

Contactless giving - using the terminal provided. Just press the button for the amount you wish to give - £5, £10, or £20, and then hold your bank card over the reader.

Giving on your smart phone - using the QR code printed below. It gives you the option of any amount, Gift Aid, and making a regular payment.

Giving online - click the donate button on the parish website or Facebook page and follow the instructions.



Your generosity is gratefully received. Thank you.

*Our thanks are due to Katie and Jack Murphy
who have generously financed
the production of this week's service booklet.*

This evening at 5.30 pm
Congregational Evensong

**Please take this booklet home
as an aid to prayer and reflection during the week,
and then re-cycle it.**

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