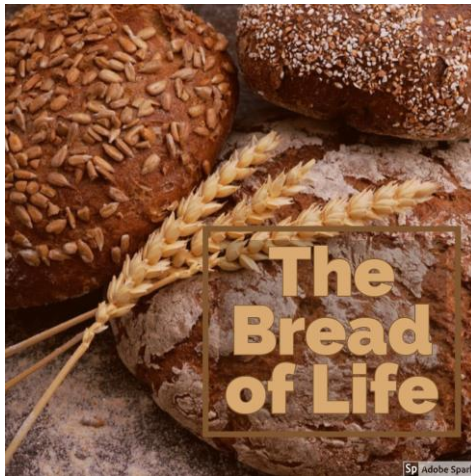


The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Proper 14 Year B



Food for the journey

The Parish Mass

Sunday 11th August 2024

10.15 am



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 baby 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 (nearest to Collingwood Road), a carpeted area equipped with appropriate Christian resources is provided. Please feel free to use it.*

* * * * *

This morning's Gospel Jesus declares that he is 'the bread that has come down from heaven.' The bread in question is primarily the revelation given to people in and through Jesus. Only at a secondary level does it envisage the Eucharist.

The fundamental reaction called for in one of belief, or of 'coming to him', which is a synonym of belief. Even though faith is a gift from God, it does demand openness on our part. Jesus is the source of eternal life for those who believe in him. He is the 'manna' for heaven. Those who 'eat' this food will live for ever.

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 prayer, based on today's themes, may be found helpful:

Heavenly Father,
you nourished Elijah with food in the wilderness,
and strengthened by that food,
he walked all the way to Mount Horeb.
Grant that we whom you have fed with the food of the Eucharist,
may have the strength to walk all the way to the promised land of eternal life.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

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

Hymn

§ *The procession enters*

All

**ALLELUYA, sing to Jesus,
His the sceptre, his the throne;
Alleluya, his the triumph,
His the victory alone:
Hark the songs of peaceful Sion
Thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
Hath redeemed us by his blood.**

**Alleluya, not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluya, he is near us,
Faith believes, nor questions how;
Though the cloud from sight received him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore?'**

**Alleluya, bread of angels,
Thou on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluya, here the sinful
Flee to thee from day to day;
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.**

**Alleluya, King eternal,
Thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluya, born of Mary,
Earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
Thou within the veil hast entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
Thou on earth both priest and victim
In the eucharistic feast.**

Words William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

Music Hyfrydol
Melody by Richard Huw Pritchard (1811-1887)

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

The Greeting

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

The service is introduced

Invitation to Confession

We are God's people,
journeying in faith towards the promised land of eternal life.
For this journey we need a special kind of food,
food that only God can give us.

Let us turn to the Lord now, confident that he will give us this food.

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 are our strength in times of weakness:
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

You are our light in times of darkness:
Christ, have mercy.
All **Christ, have mercy.**

You are our hope in times of despair:
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

May God our Father forgive † you your sins
and bring you to the fellowship of his table in heaven
with his saints for ever.
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.

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
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.**

§ *Sit*

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Reader A reading from the First Book of the Kings.

Elijah went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, 'Get up and eat.' He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, 'Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.' He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

I Kings 19.4-8

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Response

All **O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.**

Reader I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
My soul shall glory in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad. **Response**

O magnify the Lord with me;
let us exalt his name together.
I sought the Lord and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears. **Response**

Look upon him and be radiant
and your faces shall not be ashamed.
This poor soul cried, and the Lord heard me
and saved me from all my troubles. **Response**

The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him and delivers them.

○ taste and see that the Lord is gracious; blessed is the one who trusts in him. **Response**

Psalm 34.1-8

Holy Gospel

§ *Stand*

Acclamation

1. *Choir only*
2. *Choir and Congregation*

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

I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord. Anyone who eats this bread will live or ever.

All **Alleluia ...**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All

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

All

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the crowd, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down

from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

John 6.35, 41-51

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 now bring our needs before God,
trusting that he will listen to our prayers
as he listened to the prayer of his servant, Elijah.

§ *Kneel*

The response to each petition

Intercessor Lord our God,
All **our hope is in you.**

After the final petition

Priest All-powerful God,
through your Son you have planted in our hearts
the hope of eternal life.
Guard this hope with your grace,
and bring it to fulfilment in the kingdom of heaven.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

§ *Stand*

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and 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.

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

Hymn

All **O FOR a closer walk with God,
A calm and heavenly frame;
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!**

**Where is the blessedness I knew
When first I saw the Lord?
Where is that soul-refreshing view
Of Jesus and his word?**

**What peaceful hours I once enjoyed,
How sweet their memory still;
But they have left an aching void
The world can never fill.**

**Return, O holy dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
And drove thee from my breast.**

**The dearest idol I have known,
Whate'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from thy throne,
And worship only thee.**

**So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.**

Words William Cowper (1731-1800)

*Music Stracathro
Charles Hutcheson (1792-1860)
Christian Vespers, 1832*

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, graciously sanctify these gifts,
And, accepting the oblation of this pure sacrifice,
make us an eternal offering to you.
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.

Christ is the bread of life:

All

The musical score is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. The second staff continues with a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, and a quarter note G. The lyrics 'When we eat this bread and drink this cup,' are written below the notes. The first staff has a dynamic marking of *mf* above the second measure. The second staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, and a quarter note G. The lyrics 'we pro-claim your death, Lord Je - sus, un - til you come in glo - ry.' are written below the notes. The second staff has a dynamic marking of *cresc.* above the first measure and a dynamic marking of *f* above the last measure. The piece ends with a double bar line.

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,
Matthew 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



A- men.

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and bells are rung

§ *Kneel*

The Lord's Prayer

As we pray to our heavenly Father in the words our Saviour gave us,
may our prayer arise before him like fragrant incense.

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

I am the bread of life, says the Lord,
whoever comes to me will never be hungry,
whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

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 **SOUL of my Saviour, sanctify my breast,
Body of Christ, be thou my saving guest,
Blood of my Saviour, bathe me in thy tide,
Wash me with water flowing from thy side.**

**Strength and protection may thy Passion be,
O blessèd Jesu, hear and answer me;
Deep in thy wounds, Lord, hide and shelter me,
So shall I never, never part from thee.**

**Guard and defend me from the foe malign,
In death's dread moments make me only thine;
Call me and bid me come to thee on high
Where I may praise thee with thy saints for ay.**

Words *Anima Christi sanctifica me*,
attributed to Pope John XXII (1249-1334)
Anonymous English translation

Music *Anima Christi*
William Maher (1823-1877)

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

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

§ *Stand*

God of our pilgrimage,
you have willed that the gate of mercy
should stand open for those who trust in you:
look upon us with your favour
that we who follow the path of your will
may never wander from the way of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

**GOD is love: let heaven adore him;
God is love: let earth rejoice;
Let creation sing before him,
And exalt him with one voice.
He who laid the earth's foundation,
He who spread the heavens above,
He who breathes through all creation,
He is love, eternal love.**

**God is love: and he enfoldeth
All the world in one embrace;
With unfailing grasp he holdeth
Every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking
Under sorrow's iron rod,
Then they find that selfsame aching
Deep within the heart of God.**

**God is love: and though with blindness
Sin afflicts each human soul,
God's eternal loving kindness
Holds and guides, and makes us whole.
Sin and death and hell shall never
O'er us final triumph gain;
God is love, so love for ever
O'er the universe must reign.**

Words Timothy Rees CR (1874-1939)

Music Blaenwern
William Penfro Rowlands (1860-1937)

Notices for the Community

§ Sit

† Sending Out

§ Stand

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

Solemn Blessing

All May almighty God bless you with a faith that never falters.
Amen.

All May he inspire you to lead others to Christ by the way you live.
Amen.

All May the Eucharist bring you healing and lead you to eternal glory.
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

Fugue in G major BWV 576

J S Bach (1685-1750)

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 Anonymous Donor 10
who has generously financed
the production of this week’s service booklet.*

This evening at 5.30 pm
BCP Evening Prayer

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

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