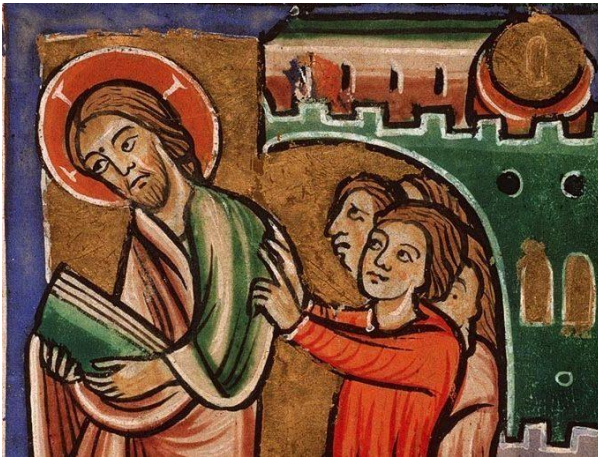


The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Proper 9 Year B



*Jesus is rejected in his hometown
and sends his disciples out in pairs*

All Age Mass for the Parish Family

Sunday 7th July 2024

10.15 am

Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church

God sends a prophet to his people to ensure that they do not remain in ignorance of their disobedience.

A biblical prophet is someone who has received a divine call to speak God's word to his people. Even though the word of God could be a hard word, it was a word of love because it meant that God had not abandoned his people. God's spokesperson had to be prepared for opposition and rejection. It was so for the Old Testament prophets, and for Jesus himself, as we see in the gospel.

True to the proverb that no prophet is honoured by his own people, Jesus is rejected by the people of Nazareth. At the close of his Galilean ministry Jesus is rejected by the people of his hometown, who can't bring themselves to believe in the greatness of someone who is one of themselves. Consequently, his power is ineffective there. Their rejection of him is an anticipation of his rejection by the Jewish nation as a whole. Christians today should not grow discouraged by lack of belief or rejection.

Prayer

I asked for strength, and God gave me difficulties to make me strong.
I asked for wisdom, and God gave me problems to solve.
I asked for prosperity, and God gave me brains and brawn to work.
I asked for courage, and God gave me dangers to overcome.
I asked for love, and God gave me troubled people to help,
I asked for favours, and God gave me opportunities.
I received nothing I wanted, but everything I needed.

Setting

The Mass of St Thomas

David Thorne



Order of Service

Gathering to Worship God

All stand at the sound of the bell

Call to Worship

Priest God says, you are never too young, never too old, to be part of my work. Come near, all who are weak, all who are afraid, all who know their need of me.

All Lord, meet us where we are, meet us in our need.
We give our lives to you.

Hymn

The flags are presented

All **SPREAD, O spread, thou mighty word,
Spread the kingdom of the Lord,
Wheresoe'er his breath has given
Life to beings meant for heaven.**

**Tell them how the Father's will
Made the world, and keeps it still,
How he sent his Son to save,
Hoe Christ conquered o'er the grave.**

**Tell of our Redeemer's love,
Who for ever doth remove
By his holy sacrifice
All the guilt that on us lies.**

**Tell them of the Spirit given
Now to guide us up to heaven,
Strong and holy, just and true,
Working both to will and do.**

**Word of life, most pure and strong,
Lo, for thee the nations long;
Spread, till from its dreary night
All the world awakes to light.**

Words Jonathan F Bahnmaier (1774-1841)

Music Savannah (Herrnhut)

translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

† In the name of God, Father, Son, and 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 service is introduced

Saying Sorry to God

When Jesus returned to Nazareth it was a sad occasion for him,
because most of the people rejected him.

But they were the real losers,
because he was unable to do anything for them.

Jesus comes to us during this Eucharist.

We have a chance to listen to him with faith,
and to receive him with love.

We keep silence

Kyrie Confession

Lord Jesus, you reconcile us with one another
and with the Father.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you heal our wounds of sin and division.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you intercede for us at the right hand of the Father.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

God's forgiveness

Father God,

you save all those who call upon you in faith,

forgive us † every kind of wrong

and lead us out of darkness to walk as children of light.

All **Amen.**

Glory to God

All sing **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 Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

Lord, awaken us to your call.
Open our ears to hear your words,
open our eyes to your presence,
open our hands with your generosity,
open our hearts to your love,
that we may live and work for you,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All

¶ Hearing and Responding to the Word of God

First Reading

Reader A reading from the prophecy of Ezekiel.

He said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God.' Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

Ezekiel 2.1-5

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Acclamation

1. Choir
2. Choir and Congregation

Fintan O'Carroll

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

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

Choir The Lord has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty to captives,
and the let the oppressed go free.

All **Alleluia ...**

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

Musical notation for the phrase "Glo - ry to you, O Lord." The notation is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of the following notes: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter). The notes are connected by a slur. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is placed above the first note. The lyrics "Glo - ry to you, O Lord." are written below the notes, with "O" and "Lord." on a longer note value.

Jesus came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honour, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.' And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, 'Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.' So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Mark 6.1-13

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All

Musical notation for the phrase "Praise to you, O Christ." The notation is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of the following notes: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter). The notes are connected by a slur. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is placed above the first note. The lyrics "Praise to you, O Christ." are written below the notes, with "O Christ." on a longer note value.

Hymn

The choir come and sit in the Nave

All **LORD of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**

**Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**

**Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**

**Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

Words Jan Struther (1901-1953)

Music Slane

Talk / Presentation

All sit

The themes of the day are briefly explored

We Believe

All stand

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

All We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.

We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Our Prayers to God

All kneel

Priest Blessed are you, Lord God, giver of life and light.
You give us of your love:
you give us of yourself.
Open our ears to your call and our hearts to your love.
Send us out in the power of your spirit
to proclaim the Good News of your saving love
as revealed in our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Blessed are you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Intercessor We give thanks that you sent Jesus to live among us.
We pray that we may share in his mission,
that we may pass on the message of the Gospel
and show acts of mercy that reveal God's love.
May your whole Church be moved to share in the ministry
that is theirs.

We remember all involved in the healing ministry.
We ask you to bless all counsellors, spiritual directors and
confessors, and all who lead us in ministry.

Lord, hear us:

All **show us your loving kindness.**

We remember all who are suffering under totalitarian states,
all who are oppressed and forced to do
what they do not want to do.

We ask your blessing on all who are seeking to bring liberty
and freedom to captive peoples.

Give courage and strength to all who are working for
relief agencies
and generosity to all who are called upon to support them in
their work.

Lord, hear us:

All **show us your loving kindness.**

We give thanks for our homes and loved ones.

Through our families teach us to be sensitive
to the needs of others;

help us to listen carefully and to respond quickly.

We ask your blessing upon all who have stopped communicating
properly with each other,

that they may again be awakened to those with whom they live
and work.

Lord, hear us:

All **show us your loving kindness.**

We give you thanks that you, O God, care for us,
body, mind and spirit.

We remember in your presence all suffering people.

We pray especially for those who feel no one listens or cares.

We ask you to bless all who are homeless,
all who are deeply in debt.

We pray for all who are drug addicts
and all who cannot cope with life.

We remember all who are ill in our own community:
(*the acutely ill ...*).

Lord, hear us:

All **show us your loving kindness.**

We rejoice in the Good News of eternal life.

We remember in your presence friends and loved ones who are
departed from us :

(*the recently departed ... ; anniversaries of death ...*).

Lord, hear us:

All **show us your loving kindness.**

Priest Merciful Father,

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

[Uniformed Organisations]

[*All sit*]

*Members of the uniformed organizations
may be invested or presented with awards etc.*

¶ Preparing to meet Jesus in Bread and Wine

Hymn

All stand

The bread and wine are brought forward

A collection is taken. Please give as you are able.

All

**BE still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here;
Come bow before him now
with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found,
we stand on holy ground;
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.**

**Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.**

**Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place;
He comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister his grace.
No work too hard for Him,
in faith receive from Him;
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.**

Words & music David J Evans (born 1957)
based on Exodus 3.1-6

Offering the Bread and Wine

Lord, may this offering dedicated to your name purify us,
and day by day bring our lives closer to the life of heaven.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Prayer over the Bread and Wine

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.

Children Why is it right to give thanks and praise?
Adults **Listen, and we will hear.**

Lord of all life, you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.
You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish.

You give us sun and moon and star-lit sky,
everything that gives us light,
light for our eyes, our hearts, our minds.

Your Son sent his disciples out into the world in pairs
to change the hearts and lives of your children everywhere,
and to bring healing and peace.

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 thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

Children
Adults

Why do we share this bread and wine?
Listen, and we will hear.

On the night before he died,
when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread.
He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples,
saying:
'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Children How do we follow Jesus Christ?

Adults **Listen, and we will hear.**

Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.
And now with Mary and Matthew and all the saints
we give you glory,
through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

There is nothing we cannot master with the help of God's grace.
Let us pray to our heavenly Father in the words our Saviour
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.**

Sign of Peace

Jesus was rejected by his home town,
but we have not rejected him.
We have been brought together today
by our mutual love of Christ.
Let us trust in his peace.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

The children and their leaders return to their seats

Kneel

Breaking of the Bread

All We break this bread,
communion in Christ's body once broken.

Invitation to Communion

All God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The clergy and servers receive Holy Communion

Giving of Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed are those who trust in him.

Baptized persons who are communicant members of other Churches are warmly invited to receive Holy Communion, as shown below. Alternatively, if you wish to receive God's blessing, please bring this booklet with you.

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.

The choir sing Lamb of God

Motet

Choir O come ye servants of the Lord

Christopher Tye (c.1505-1573)

All sit for a time of silence reflection and thanksgiving

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray:

All stand

All **God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Hymn

The flags are returned to their bearers

All

**WILL you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown,
in you and you in me?**

**Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?**

**Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?**

**Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?**

**Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.**

*Words John L Bell (born 1949)
and Graham Maule (1958-2019)*

*Music Kelvingrove
Scottish traditional melody*

Notices for the Community

All sit

¶ Going out to Serve God

All The Lord be with you
 and also with you.

God's Blessing

May the Lord be within you to strengthen you,
and outside you to protect you.

May the Lord be above you to watch over you,
and beneath you to uphold you.

May the Lord be before you to guide you,
and behind you to keep you from straying.

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

All **Amen.**

Sending Out

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

Music

Episcopal March: "Sacerdos et Pontifex" *Wynn Jones*

The procession departs

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

Refreshments in the Parish Centre after Mass, please join us.

Collection - responding 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 17
who has generously financed
the production of this week's service booklet.*

Today at Midday
Baptism of Ruby Elizabeth Self

This evening at 5.30 pm
Choral Evensong

Our next all age Mass

10.15 am on Sunday 15th September
The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 19)

Jesus begins to talk about his passion

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

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