

The Parish of Berkswich
in the Church of England Diocese of Lichfield

Sung Eucharist for 16th Sunday after the Trinity



Welcome to our worship this morning. We rejoice to sing in church again. If you are in church, unless exempt please continue to wear a mask when moving around the building or singing hymns. Sections in each of our buildings are reserved for those who wish to maintain strict social distancing – please respect those who have done so. Those at home, please do continue to sing loudly, you will still be muted!

The gathering



We come to worship seeking Jesus, asking that we might grow in expressing the character of God's kingdom. We come, willing to be great enough to do the small things for God, that we might be small enough for God to do great things through us.

**All hail the power of Jesu's name;
let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem
to crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.**

**Crown him, ye morning stars of light,
who fixed this floating ball;
now hail the Strength of Israel's might,
and crown him Lord of all.**

**Crown him, ye martyrs of your God,
who from his altar call;
praise him whose way of pain ye trod,
and crown him Lord of all.**

**Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,
ye ransomed of the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all.**

**Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your trophies at his feet,
and crown him Lord of all.**

**Let every tribe and every tongue
to him their hearts enthral,
lift high the universal song
and crown him Lord of all.**

Edward Perronet (1726-1792)

The greeting

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

The Lord of glory be with you.
And also with you

The Act of Penitence

Jesus' obedience took him to the cross, that by his life we might be brought into the presence of God for ever. So we come to confess our sins and receive the cleansing that he offers us.

For when we have used our knowledge to put others down rather than build them up.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

You showed us who you are and we did not want to understand.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You brought us peace and we look for discord.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Words of forgiveness

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. **Amen**

The Gloria



Our virtual choir sing the Gloria.

The Collect for the day

Let us pray

Silence is kept

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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.

Amen.

The liturgy of the word

First reading James 3:13 – 4:3. 7-8a

A reading from the letter of James

James urges Christians to submit to God, the source of wisdom characterised by peace and love. Such wisdom is visible in the goodness of the believer's life.



Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet* something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading

The virtual choir sing the Alleluia



The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

9:30-37

Aware that his disciples do not yet understand his mission and are arguing over personal precedence, Jesus teaches that his kingdom is centred on servanthood, not status.

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily



In Holy Trinity, at this point the service continues on page 5

Affirmation of faith



With our Christian sisters, brothers and siblings throughout the world, let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord invites us to come with the world's needs, and problems that are beyond our power to resolve, and place them in the loving hands of our almighty God.



At the end of each bidding the following response is used

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

At the end, on behalf of us all, the intercessor gathers our individual prayers together into one, by saying on our behalf

We thank you, Lord, that you hear our prayers. Help us to trust in your love and power as we rest our concerns in your care. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The liturgy of the sacrament

The Peace

The Lord of glory be with you.
And also with you



Jesus invites us amid the world's jostle and strife to receive his peace from above, a peace that the world cannot offer.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory Prayer

Father, accept all we bring before you this day. Guide us with your love and feed us at your table as you nourish the faith of the Church by the preaching of your apostles. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here
His spirit is with us.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

Eternal God, in the abundance of your love you have caused all things to be; from dust and spirit you have woven our humanity; in all our wanderings you never cease to call us to fullness of life. You gave us Jesus, son of Mary, the bread of life broken for the world; he fed us and feasted with us, he healed us and suffered for us; his dying and rising have set us free from the poverty of sin and the famine of death. Therefore, with all whom you have made, cherished and called, with all who hunger for your kingdom and will not rest until all your children are fed, with the broken saints and redeemed sinners of all the ages, we take up the song of your praise:

Our Virtual Choir will sing the Sanctus. The priest then continues the prayer, recalling the words and actions of Jesus at the Last Supper during which our Virtual Choir will sing our Memorial Acclamation – a response to what has been proclaimed in the Eucharistic prayer

At the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer, the assent to the prayer by saying....

Amen!

The Lord's Prayer

Let us offer our prayers to God with grateful and trusting hearts as we say together.

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

Lord, we died with you on the cross.
Now we are raised to new life.
We were buried in your tomb.
Now we share your resurrection.
Live in us,
that we may live in you

The priest breaks the consecrated bread as our virtual choir sing the Agnus Dei

An act of Spiritual Communion

Those at home, as they look on to the consecrated elements - the Body and Blood of Our Lord present in the Bread and Wine, are invited to say

In union, dear Father, with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist, hearing your holy Word and receiving the Precious Body and Blood, I offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though I am exiled from tasting the Bread of Heaven and drinking the Cup of Life I pray that you will unite me with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us. Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send your Holy Spirit that I may be filled with your presence.

As those in church receive, a hymn will be sung

**O thou who camest from above
the fire celestial to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart!**

**There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its source return
in humble prayer and fervent praise.**

**Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work, and speak, and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up the gift in me.**

**Ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat;
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make the sacrifice complete.**

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Prayer after communion

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The dismissal



**Shout for joy! The Lord has let us feast;
heaven's own fare has fed the last and least;
Christ's own peace is shared again on earth;
God the Spirit fills us with new worth.**

**No more doubting, no more senseless dread:
God's good self has graced our wine and bread;
all the wonder heaven has kept in store
now is ours to keep for evermore.**

**Celebrate with saints who dine on high;
Witnesses that love can never die.
'Hallelujah!' – thus their voices ring:
nothing less in gratitude we bring.**

**Praise the Maker, praise the Maker's Son,
praise the Spirit – three yet ever one;
praise the God whose food and friends avow
heaven starts here! The Kingdom beckons now!**

John L Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (1958-2019)

The Blessing

The Lord of glory be with you.
And also with you

May you be led in God's good purposes,
accompanied by the Son's grace
and equipped by the Holy Spirit to be fruitful in God's
kingdom.

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

Jesus said to the disciples, 'Go into all the world and
proclaim the good news to the whole creation.'

Mark 16.15

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

*Equipped to go out into our world, we leave in silence
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The liturgy of Baptism

Parents and godparents, the Church receives Sebastian with joy. Today we are trusting God for his growth in faith. Will you pray for him, draw him by your example into the community of faith and walk with him in the way of Christ?

Parents/Godparents: With the help of God, we will.

In baptism Sebastian begins his journey in faith. You speak for him today. Will you care for him, and help him to take his place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

Parents/Godparents: With the help of God, we will.

We all wander far from God and lose our way: Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home. In baptism we respond to his call. Do you turn to Christ?

Parents/Godparents: I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

Parents/Godparents: I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

Parents/Godparents: I renounce evil.

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross ✠ do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. **Amen.**

We move to the Font

Praise God who made heaven and earth, who keeps his promise for ever.

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

We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son Jesus. He was baptized in the River Jordan, where your Spirit came upon him and revealed him as the Son you love. He sent his followers to baptize all who turn to him. Now, Father, ✠ bless this water, that those who are baptized in it may be cleansed in the water of life, and, filled with your Spirit, may know that they are loved as your children, safe in Christ for ever. **Amen.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, Who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Sebastian Alexander, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light.

Sebastian, you have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life. Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord invites us to come with the world's needs, and problems that are beyond our power to resolve, and place them in the loving hands of our almighty God.



At the end of each bidding the following response is used

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

At the end, on behalf of us all, the intercessor gathers our individual prayers together into one, by saying on our behalf

We thank you, Lord, that you hear our prayers. Help us to trust in your love and power as we rest our concerns in your care. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: Heidi, by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you

We continue with the peace on page 3

Prayers by **OpenDoors**

A focus on Uzbekistan

In October, Uzbekistan will hold a presidential election. It's the first since 2016, when the 25-year dictatorship of President Islam Karimov ended, prompting hope that pressure on Christians would ease. But five years on, has anything really changed? During Karimov's reign, Uzbekistan was found guilty of severe violations of religious freedom. His replacement, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, pardoned hundreds of prisoners convicted on religious freedom charges, and promised to ease the registration process for religious groups. However, Christians have not seen significant changes. Churches continue to experience strong pressure through strict restrictions and surveillance by the authorities. Although the last three years have seen a marginal drop in pressure – likely due to a reduction in church raids – freedom for believers remains severely curtailed. “Officially registered churches [mostly Russian Orthodox] may have more freedom than before, but 90 per cent of the churches have no official registration,” shares Azamat*, a church leader. This year, President Mirziyoyev signed a new Religion Law which contains almost all existing restrictions. Sharing faith remains banned, whilst state permission is required for religious activities, teaching and religious materials. Meanwhile, Christians from Muslim backgrounds continue to face intense pressure from family, friends and communities, who see them as traitors. But believers know they are not alone. “Tell the people who pray for us that we feel their prayers,” Azamat adds

Father, may the election be the beginning of substantial change for our family in Uzbekistan. Encourage believers in their faith. Amen.

Central Asia

Give thanks that Maxut*, a deaf missionary who was hospitalised after a car accident, has now recovered and returned to ministry. He recently attended a training event for deaf church leaders. “Being deaf in our country, we do not have many opportunities to learn the Bible in such detail,” he shares. “I learned so many things for myself personally and I have so many things to share with other deaf believers in my missionary trips

Israel and Palestinian Territories

Pray for reconciliation and unity between Palestinian Christians and Messianic Jews. Both communities have seen tensions grow since violence erupted in Gaza in May. Pray for healing for those who lost homes, businesses or loved ones, and for grace to live out the peace that Jesus won on the cross

*Names changed for security reasons

Key Contacts...

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Fr Graham's usual day off is Monday

The Parish Office is situated behind Holy Trinity Church and is closed at the current time

Please send all items for next week's News from the Pews to Sue on ssnhatten@gmail.com (or 661767) by the end of Wednesday

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

HT = Holy Trinity Church
ST = St Thomas's Church **AS** = All Saints Church
V = Vicarage **CH** = Community Hall **OL** = Online

Sunday 19th September – Sixteenth Sunday After Trinity

0845	Sung Eucharist	AS
1045	Sung Eucharist with baptism	HT
1830	Evensong	OL

Monday 20th September

Tuesday 21st September – Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

1000-1200 Online drop-in coffee morning

Wednesday 22nd September

1000-1200	Private Prayer	AS
2000	Service of compline	OL

Thursday 23rd September

1000	Private Prayer	ST
1030	Sung Eucharist	ST
1000-1200	Drop-in coffee morning	OL
1900-2000	Prayer Group Meeting	AS

Friday 24th September

Saturday 25th September

Sunday 26th September – Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity

0845	Sung Eucharist	AS
1045	Sung Eucharist	HT
1500	Baptism	ST
1830	Evensong	OL

Daily Bible Readings

Monday	Psalm 34 Isaiah 33.13-17 Matthew 6.19-34
Tuesday	Ecclesiastes 5.4-12 Matthew 19.16-30 Psalm 119.33-40, 89-96
Wed	Psalms 59, 60 1 Kings 17 Acts 20.1-16
Thursday	Psalms 61, 62, 64 1 Kings 18.1-20 Acts 20.17-end
Friday	Psalm 38 1 Kings 18.21-end Acts 21.1-16
Saturday	Psalms 65, 66 1 Kings 19 Acts 21.17-36

Welcome!

Welcome to you all as we continue to try and meet at this unusual time in the history of our nation and world. We hope that you will join with us in prayer and worship via Zoom, Facebook or YouTube (details <http://www.berkswich.org.uk/coronavirus.html>)

Sign up for our weekly email newsletter, or see older issues here <https://us17.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=5991be44ea1b9738d6262c1e2&id=a28b74cddb>

If you wish to make a donation towards the life and work of the Parish, there is an opportunity to do so during the service. Please consider joining the Giving Direct scheme (<https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/finance/financegiftaid/financegivingdirect/>) or make a one-off donation via JustGiving (<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/berkswichparish>)

You can follow us on Facebook! To sign up for our weekly email newsletter, please email **Fr Graham** (graham.adamson@berkswich.org.uk)

Points for Prayer

For the world... In a world where much suffering does not make the news, let us pray for an end to civil war across the world. We remember before God the conflicts in Yemen, Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Azerbaijan, and pray for peaceful resolutions to these situations.

For the church... Elections for Clergy and Lay representatives to General Synod are underway. Pray for all who have been called to stand and for those who will be voting within this diocese, and more widely across the Church of England. As the Church faces a particularly challenging period let us pray for wise counsellors and leaders to be elected.

For our community... Loving God, who in your son Jesus, went about among the vulnerable, the outcasts and those on the edges of society; bless and sustain those who minister at House of Bread as they offer care, support and friendship to any who are in need. We thank you and pray for all who donate food, clothing and financial help.

For those known to us, near and far...

... who suffer in body, mind or spirit:

Jim, Phyllis, Alistair, Ann, Sally, Wendy, Brenda, Oscar, Terry, Justine, Carolyn, Ruth, Pauline, Alan, Marion, Euan

.... for the recently departed: David Peeler;
Robina Stewart; Graham Sturgess; Eleanore Anna Lever;
Roy Follows; Percy White

+ *May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

It has been a delight to hear from some different voices leading intercessions and reading our lessons during our online services. Thank you to everyone who has done so during either our live or pre-recorded services. We'd like to be able to keep hearing from those voices, and so will be starting afresh with our lists of readers and intercessors and drawing up new rotas from those lists. To help us continue to worship closely together, once a month our readers/intercessors will be 'moving around' to one of our other three buildings – so please be aware of that before you sign up. Sign up sheets are available in the back of church.

Grand Draw – Thank you all for supporting the Grand Draw at the Fete. A list of prize winners is displayed in all three churches. Well done to all who won!

News & Events

Prayer requests - please send to david.clark@berkswich.org.uk or call 07999 596590

Leaving a legacy – Another way of leaving a lasting gift to the Parish is to consider leaving a legacy in your will. Information about why and how you can do that can be found at <https://www.churchlegacy.org.uk/>

Prayer Group - As part of the parish's new patterns of worship, and seeking to develop prayer ministry, the prayer group will be meeting on Thursday 23rd September at All Saints, Brocton, starting at 7:00 pm and finishing at 8:00 pm.

The time of prayer will be set within the context of a simple service of Prayer during the Day. All are welcome to join us.

Parish Summer Fete 2021 – Sunday 12th

September. Many, many thanks to all who supported our Fete as visitors, helpers, donors etc. and produced such an enjoyable occasion. Your efforts have resulted in a profit of at least £8000. VERY WELL DONE!!

We rejoice that, after the help and encouragement of you all, **Henry** has completed his Lay Reader training with The Queens Foundation and yesterday was licensed by Bishop Michael. Please pray for him as today he begins a new chapter of his connection with our Parish.