

The Parish of Berkswich

in the Church of England Diocese of Lichfield

Sung Eucharist for 19th Sunday after 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



Eternal life is available to all of us, but achieving it involves cost. Today we rejoice that Jesus came to bring life to all, and to consider how we can receive his gift.

**Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour
first-begotten from the dead,
thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia, alleluia,
Jesu, true and living bread.**

**Here our humblest homage pay we,
here in loving reverence bow;
here for faith's discernment pray we,
lest we fail to know thee now.
Alleluia, alleluia,
thou art here, we ask not how.**

**Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
as of old in Bethlehem,
here as there thine angels hail thee,
branch and flower of Jesse's stem.
Alleluia, alleluia,
we in worship join with them.**

**Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished
once for all when thou wast slain,
in its fullness undiminished
shall for evermore remain,
Alleluia, alleluia,
cleansing souls from every stain.**

**Life-imparting heavenly manna,
stricken rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship thee, the Lamb who died,
Alleluia, alleluia,
risen, ascended, glorified!
*George Hugh Bourne (1840-1925)***

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

God longs for us to live in eternal life but we often have other priorities, failing to demonstrate God's love to all.

When we fail to put God at the centre of our lives.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

When we do not show compassion to those around us
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

When we compromise, going along with the values of the world rather than those of God.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**



Words of forgiveness

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon^x 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 God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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

Hebrews 4:12-end

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

The writer describes how powerful the word of God is – sharper than a two-edged sword. It is able to judge, which is a difficult thought, but we have a great high priest in Jesus and we can approach God to receive mercy and help.



Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect

has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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 ^x

Glory to you, O Lord.

10:17-31

A man asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life and is shocked when Jesus tells him he must sell all his possessions. Jesus tells the disciples that it is hard for those with wealth to enter the kingdom of God, but explains that everything is possible with God.

As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother." ' He said to him, 'Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.' Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!' And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who

is rich to enter the kingdom of God.’ They were greatly astounded and said to one another, ‘Then who can be saved?’ Jesus looked at them and said, ‘For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.’ Peter began to say to him, ‘Look, we have left everything and followed you.’ Jesus said, ‘Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily



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

We bring our prayers to God, who loves us and desires the best for us and all the people who inhabit the world.

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

Be gracious Lord we pray, to each of us. Show us your ways and grant us the courage to leave behind those things that prevent us from living out your kingdom. 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



We live in God’s eternity where peace and justice reign

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, we 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, 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

**God of mercy, God of grace,
show the brightness of thy face;
shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
fill thy church with light divine;
and thy saving health extend
unto earth's remotest end.**

**Let the people praise thee, Lord;
be by all that live adored;
let the nations shout and sing
glory to their Saviour King;
at thy feet their tribute pay,
and thy holy will obey.**

**Let the people praise thee, Lord;
earth shall then her fruits afford;
God to man his blessing give,
man to God devoted live;
all below, and all above,
one in joy and light and love.**

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

Prayer after communion

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The dismissal



**Can we by searching find out God
or formulate his ways?**

**Can numbers measure what he is
or words contain his praise?**

**Although his being is too bright
for human eyes to scan,
his meaning lights our shadowed world
through Christ, the Son of Man.**

**Our boastfulness is turned to shame,
our profit counts as loss,
when earthly values stand beside
the manger and the cross.**

**We there may recognise his light,
may kindle in its rays,
find there the source of penitence,
the starting-point for praise.**

**There God breaks in upon our search,
makes birth and death his own:
He speaks to us in human terms
to make his glory known.**

Elizabeth J Cosnett (1936-)

The Blessing

The Lord of glory be with you.

And also with you

God grant grace to you and all you love,
that love and joy may prevail in your lives
as you enjoy the rich gifts of eternity.

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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Sunday 10th October: (World Mental Health Day / Homeless Sunday) “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10b) Christians have a big part to play in supporting people to have good mental health and a safe place to call home, with a community that can build up those around them. Please join with Transforming Communities Together (<https://tctogether.org.uk/>), the social action and social justice arm of the Diocese of Lichfield, in being people of hope.

Monday 11th: (Ethelburga, Abbess of Barking, 675) We pray for Wulfrun Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Sue Boyce, Assistant, Revd Ian Poole, Lay Chair, Mike Hotchkiss; giving thanks for the sense of unity and fellowship felt amongst the Clergy of the Deanery. Pray for the high number of Clergy vacancies across the Deanery, for those congregations without incumbents.

Tuesday 12th: (Edith Cavell, Nurse, 1915) Gracious God, we thank you for the National Health Service; for the imagination and purpose of those who, in the 1940s, saw the need for health provision free at the point of need, and paid for by all. With the roots of such a vision deep in Christian compassion, and a belief in the dignity of all, it means that today those who seek healing and help from the health service do so without anxiety about paying medical bills; and at a time when so many are anxious, it becomes a means of your gracious provision. Protect all who work in the NHS, we pray, and grant them the stamina to endure these days of unprecedented challenge. Amen (Paul Goodliffe, General Secretary of Churches Together in England)

Wednesday 13th: We remember the Bishop’s Council which meets today. We pray for Cheadle Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Michael Follin and Lay Chair, Sylvia Bainbridge; giving thanks for a willingness to move forward together in mission and discipleship. Pray that a God inspired vision will create a sustainable and spirit-led future for the Deanery. May God’s wisdom guide clergy, readers and laity in future decisions and may congregations be blessed to serve the lonely and those who are living in fear so that they can experience the hope we have in the Lord.

Thursday 14th: As we pray for children and young people across the Diocese, we remember, especially, Fi Iddon, chaplain at the University Centre Shrewsbury; giving thanks for past opportunities for conversations about faith, and praying that these opportunities will continue. Give thanks, too, that students are able to return to campus; bringing the building alive again! Pray that both returning and new students will quickly feel at home, and for staff who may feel nervous about this return to some face-to-face teaching.

Friday 15th: (Teresa of Avila, Teacher of the Faith, 1582) We pray for Stoke-on-Trent Deanery, for Area Dean, Revd Shaun Morris, Assistants, Revd Dave Street & Tommy Merry and Lay Chair, Mike Whittaker; giving thanks for the good relationships and support that clergy are enjoying with, and from, each other within the Deanery. Pray for wisdom and sensitivity as we encourage people back to church.

Saturday 16th: (Nicholas Ridley, Bishop of London, and Hugh Latimer, Bishop of Worcester, Reformation Martyrs, 1555) Give thanks for the World Health Organisation’s plans to roll out a malaria vaccination programme which could save tens of thousands of young lives every year, the majority of them in sub-Saharan Africa. Pray that political leaders will make responsible decisions and investments to ensure there is sufficient vaccine, as well as enough health care workers to deliver it; to make the programme a success

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 10th October - Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity

0845	Sung Eucharist	AS
1045	Sung Eucharist	HT
1830	Evening Prayer	OL

Monday 11th October

Tuesday 12th October

1000-1200	Drop-in coffee morning	OL
1900	Prayer Meeting	OL

Wednesday 13th October

1000-1200	Private Prayer	AS
2000	Service of compline	OL

Thursday 14th October

1000	Private Prayer	ST
1030	Sung Eucharist	ST

Friday 15th October

Saturday 16th October

Sunday 17th October - Twentieth Sunday After Trinity

0845	Sung Eucharist	AS
1045	Sung Eucharist	HT
1830	Love Stafford prayer and praise	OL

Daily Bible Readings

Monday	Psalm 105 2 Kings 17.24-end Philippians 1.1-11
Tuesday	Psalm 107 2 Kings 18.1-12 Philippians 1.12-end
Wed	Psalm 119.129-152 2 Kings 18.13-end Philippians 2.1-13
Thursday	Psalms 114, 116, 117 2 Kings 19.1-19 Philippians 2.14-end
Friday	Psalms 130, 131, 137 2 Kings 19.20-36 Philippians 3.1-4.1
Saturday	Psalm 118 2 Kings 20 Philippians 4.2-end

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, either in church, or 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=5991be44ealb9738d6262c1e2&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... “We have inherited a garden: we must not leave a desert to our children”. Let us join our prayers with those of Christians and people of other faiths, holding before God COP26. We pray that world leaders will unite in taking action to reduce temperature increase and to address the existing consequences of climate change for the poorest nations.

For the church... Lord God you have called your Church to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom. Protect, we pray, Christians in those areas of China where cash rewards are offered to citizens who report on “illegal” religious activities. May the power of your love sustain Your children as they obey Your call in the face of increasing opposition from the Chinese Communist Party.

For our community... Sunday 10th October is World mental Health Awareness Day. Let us ask God to help us to be conscious that people suffering poor mental health are likely to be close to us in our community. Pray that when we ask someone “How are you?” we will be sincere in our concern and listen attentively to the response.

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, Amelie

.... for the recently departed: Graham Sturgess; Eleanore Anna Lever; Roy Follows; Percy White; Frank Peter Wilks; Unie Riley; Leslie Moore; Christopher Challinor; Bill White; Beryl Miller

+ May they rest in peace and rise in glory

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/>

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 will be available in the back of church for this week only

A very big thank you to everyone for your generous Harvest donations last week which have now been taken to Staffordshire Women's Aid. It was glorious to see all the donations, together with the Harvest flowers, in front of our Parish altar before we dropped them off – a photograph will appear in the magazine shortly. A big thank you also to those who decorated our churches so beautifully for harvest. We are looking forward to other ways in which we can partner with this important local charity in the future – watch this space.

Prayer Meeting - Please join us on Tuesday at 7 p.m. for a Prayer Meeting on Zoom to pray for Shaping for Mission in the Stafford Deanery.
Meeting id: 892 5329 5644
Passcode: 585376
Also available on the Stafford Deanery Facebook page.

Red Cross Coffee Morning. Very many thanks to everyone who supported the recent coffee morning at Radford Rise so generously. Over £520 was raised during a very enjoyable morning!

Next Sunday evening we will be joining with other churches in Stafford for a service of prayer and praise – 6.30-7.30 via zoom (898-4941-8740).

As is our custom, we will be celebrating a Requiem Mass in Holy Trinity Church for our dearly departed on Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021 at 7:00pm. This is a special service where prayers are said for family members and friends who have died. During the service there will be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of loved ones.

If you would like special ones to be remembered by name during this service, please add their names to the lists available in church, by contacting us, or by visiting <https://www.berkswich.org.uk/all-souls.html>, or through scanning the QR code below. You are welcome and encouraged to include the names of your loved ones even if you cannot attend the Requiem Eucharist.

