

# The Churches of the Parish of Berkswich

*in the Church of England Diocese of Lichfield*

## Live-streamed Eucharist with hymns sung at home for 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity



*Please note that current guidance does not permit the singing in the church building – please could those at home sing loudly for those in the church building who can't (you will still be muted!)*

### The gathering

As we start August, which for many is a month to pause for refreshment, we spend time with Jesus, who promises to satisfy all our hunger and thirst. We offer ourselves to him, the bread of life, in response to his call to do the work of God by believing in him.

**Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
he whose word cannot be broken  
formed thee for his own abode.  
On the Rock of ages founded,  
what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.**

**See, the streams of living waters,  
springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters,  
and all fear of want remove.**

**Who can faint while such a river  
ever flows their thirst to assuage:  
grace which, like the Lord the giver,  
never fails from age to age?**

**Round each habitation hovering,  
see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a covering,  
showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus they march, the pillar leading,  
light by night and shade by day;  
daily on the manna feeding  
which he gives them when they pray.**

**Saviour, if of Zion's city  
I through grace a member am,  
let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in thy name.  
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,  
all his boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasure,  
none but Zion's children know.**

*John Newton (1725-1807)*

### 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 has given us eternal life in Jesus Christ, but we have turned away from that gift, failing to open our hearts and lives to God's love.

We confess that we have not believed in the one whom God has sent.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

We confess that we have laboured for food which does not lead to eternal life.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

We confess that we have kept to ourselves the bread of life.  
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. Often referred to as "the angelic hymn," the gloria was first intoned by the angels from heaven for the birth of Christ on earth. The Gloria is a true hymn. Its opening burst of praise overflows into a series of joyful cries addressed to the Father: "we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory."*

*The hymn goes on to implore the mercy of the Son, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. In singing the Gloria, the church relives the experience of Saint Stephen who, "full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God" (Acts 7:55).*

*Gazing on Christ, the Church praises him: "You alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High." The final lines of the Gloria soar into the blinding mystery of the Trinity: "Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father." The hymn ends where it began: in the heavens.*

## The Collect for the day

Let us pray

*Silence is kept*

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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** 2 Samuel 11:26 – 12:13a

**A reading from the book of Samuel**

*This challenging and shocking reading reminds us that even God's greatest heroes are immensely fallible – yet with repentance, God can still use them.*

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, 'There were two men in a certain city, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meagre fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveller to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.' Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, 'As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.' Nathan said to David, 'You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the

Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbour, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.' David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the Lord.' Nathan said to David, 'Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die.

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 John ✠

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

6:24-35

*Jesus explains the deeper significance of the miraculous feeding of the five thousand, as a sign of his gift of the bread of eternal life to those who believe.*

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.'

28Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." ' Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from

heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Homily**

### **Affirmation of faith**

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

**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.**

**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 Intercession

We thank God for the gift of eternal life through Jesus and pray that we may have grace to share that gift with a hungry 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*

Loving God, receive the prayers we offer through your Son, the one who satisfies our hunger and thirst and who sustains us in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The liturgy of the sacrament

### The Peace

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

Jesus is the bread of life, who invites us in peace to share the heavenly banquet.  
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 Holy, Holy, Holy, an integral part of the Eucharistic Prayer in both the Eastern and Western churches from before the year 400 A.D, and the conclusion of the Preface.*

*Its text is composed of two parts, both inspired in Scripture and highlighting two juxtaposing aspects of God – the first part focuses on the awe and surpassing wonder before the divine majesty, and in the second, the humility of Jesus, God made man.*

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.

*Our Virtual Choir will sing our Memorial Acclamation – a response to what has been proclaimed in the Eucharistic prayer*

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, with all the faithful departed, and in the company of Mary, Blessed Mother of Jesus, Saint James, Saint Thomas, Saint Chad, 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. **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, underlining the reality of Jesus the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world.*

## **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.**

*Those in church are invited to receive communion in one kind only. When you remove your mask, please ensure you wash your hands before and after receiving. Please do not say Amen when the host is given to you. As those in church receive, the following hymn is sung for those at home.*

**O food to pilgrims given,  
O bread of life from heaven,  
O manna from on high!  
We hunger; Lord, supply us,  
nor thy delights deny us,  
whose hearts to thee draw nigh.**

**O stream of love past telling,  
O purest fountain, welling  
from out the Savior's side!  
We faint with thirst; revive us,  
of thine abundance give us,  
and all we need provide.**

**O Jesus, by thee bidden,  
we here adore thee, hidden  
in forms of bread and wine.  
Grant when the veil is risen,  
we may behold, in heaven,  
thy countenance divine.**

*O esca viatorum  
Trans: John Athelstan Riley (1858-1945)*

## Prayer after communion

Holy Father,  
who gathered us here around the table of your  
Son to share this meal with the whole household  
of God:  
in that new world where you reveal the fullness  
of your peace,  
gather people of every race and language to  
share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our  
Lord.  
**Amen**

### The dismissal

**God is working his purpose out,  
as year succeeds to year,  
God is working his purpose out,  
and the time is drawing near;  
nearer and nearer draws the time,  
the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of  
God  
as the waters cover the sea.**

**What can we do to work God's work,  
to prosper and increase  
the love of God in all mankind,  
the reign of the Prince of peace?  
What can we do to hasten the time,  
the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of  
God  
as the waters cover the sea?**

**March we forth in the strength of God,  
with the banner of Christ unfurled,  
that the light of the glorious gospel of truth  
may shine throughout the world;  
fight we the fight with sorrow and sin,  
to set their captives free,  
that the earth may be filled with the glory of  
God  
as the waters cover the sea.**

**All we can do is nothing worth  
unless God blesses the deed;  
vainly we hope for the harvest-tide  
till God gives life to the seed;  
yet nearer and nearer draws the time,  
the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of  
God  
as the waters cover the sea.**

*Arthur Campbell Ainger (1841-1919)*

## The Blessing

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

May the God who nourishes you with eternal life  
give you grace to live that life in the service of the  
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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