

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

Sung Eucharist for Sunday after Ascension Day



Welcome to our worship this morning. Sections in each of our buildings are reserved for those who wish to maintain strict social distancing.

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Come and celebrate with us as we worship the One who is light and life. Come to the One who offers more than the fruits of hard work, restful leisure and good luck. Come to the One who offers transformation and renewal through faith.

The gathering



Hymn 137:
Crown him with many crowns

The greeting

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

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The Act of Penitence

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world and knows our every word and deed. Let us then open ourselves to the Lord and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus, you suffered a cruel death on the cross for our redemption, yet we have forgotten your pain and stayed in the realm of the evil you defeated.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy

Lord Jesus, you were raised from death to bring us new life, yet we have preferred the comfort of the familiar, and the empty promises of a sinful world. Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you have ascended to your Father and our Father, your God and our God; plead there at the right hand of God for our forgiveness and entry into the fullness of his presence.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of forgiveness

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins, and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Gloria



**Glory, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest heav'ns.
Peace, peace, peace on the earth;
peace to God's people, all people on
earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

**Glory, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest heav'ns.
Peace, peace, peace on the earth;
peace to God's people, all people on earth.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy, mercy on us.
Have mercy, mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand,
at the right hand of the Father:
receive, Lord, receive our prayer.
Receive, Lord, receive our prayer.

5 bar organ interlude

**Glory, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest heav'ns.
Peace, peace, peace on the earth;
peace to God's people, all people on earth.**

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, glory of God, the Glory of God the
Father.

**Glory, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest heav'ns.
Peace, peace, peace on the earth;
peace to God's people, all people on earth.**

Amen,
Amen!

The Collect for the day

Let us pray that our risen and ascended Lord will
lead us to eternal life.

Silence is kept

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your
only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your
kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not
comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to
strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our
Saviour Christ is gone before, 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 Acts 16.16-34

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*An act of mercy results in harsh treatment
and imprisonment for the Christian missionaries,
but their rescue leads to a household's
conversion.*



One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, 'These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.' She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, 'I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market-place before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, 'These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.' The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, 'Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.' The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then

he brought them outside and said, 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' They answered, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.' They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 97

**God the Lord is King for ever
Let the isles and earth rejoice
Cloudy darkness for a cover
Sing together with one voice
Righteousness eternal justice
Firm supports beneath the throne
Blazing fire before and after
His defeated foes will groan**

**Lightning flashes through creation
Melting ancient hills in fear
Shaking earth to its foundation
As the Lord of all draws near
Heaven tells his righteous story
Praise the Lord of all the earth
Every people sees the glory
All as one proclaim his worth**

**All who worship molten fetish
Worthless gods of human hands
They will be ashamed and perish
When the Lord Most High commands
May their gods bow down to praise you
Zion heard may Judah sing
Sing your justice Lord to raise you
Far above their gods as King**

**Lord you hate the evildoer
Keeping all whose souls are just
Freeing them from wicked power
As they offer you their trust
Light is sown for all the righteous
Joy for every noble face
Praise the Lord rejoice you righteous
For a token of his grace**

Second reading Revelation 22.12-14,16, 17, 20-end

A reading from the Revelation of John

We have the glorious assurance that Jesus will come, and all his followers' desires will be fulfilled.

'See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.' Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. 'It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.' The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' And let everyone who hears say, 'Come.' And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. The one who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading



Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Go, and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord, and remember I am with you always to the end of the age.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

17.20-end

Jesus prays about the relationships that will enable the world to know the truth about the Father's love.

'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. 'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily



Affirmation of faith



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

Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles: this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.

cf 1 Corinthians 15.3-7

Prayers of Intercession



We pray for God to fill us with his Spirit.

At the end of each bidding the following response is used

Lord, come to bless us

and fill us with your Spirit.

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

Generous God, you sent your Holy Spirit upon your Messiah at the river Jordan, and upon the disciples in the upper room: in your mercy fill us with your Spirit,

hear our prayer, and make us one in heart and mind to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.

The commissioning of the Pastoral Visitors Team

Introduction

The pastoral visitors team support the whole ministry of God's people. It supports both the baptized and ordained ministry of the Church in the proclamation of the Good News, and in the care of all God's people. We gather here today to commission these people, that their ministries may be both recognised and blessed, in order that the work of the Church in this place may be both strengthened and advanced.

The Charge

N.... will you be faithful in the ministry of pastoral care in this place, that the work of the Church may be strengthened and advanced?

Those being commissioned respond: I will

Will you, through worship, prayer, study and witness, seek to reflect the Good News of Jesus Christ, to the praise of the Father and through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit?

Those being commissioned respond: I will

Will you, the people of God gathered in this place, support these people by your prayers and with your friendship?

We will

The Commission



This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Give to your servant N the gifts of faith, hope and love that they may execute their role in the Pastoral Visitors Team, to your praise and honour.

May their hands be ready to do your work.

May their eyes be open to recognise those in need.

May their ears hear soft-spoken words of pain or sorrow.

May their voice speak of healing and peace.

May their feet walk the extra mile with those who falter

And may they always be aware of your presence guiding them and your loving protection around them in all that they do.

Amen

The Peace

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.
cf 2 Corinthians 1.22

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.

[Hymn 12:](#)
[Alleluia, sing to Jesus](#)

Offertory Prayer

Father, by your Holy Spirit you keep the Church in unity and truth. As we break bread together, may we be one with Christ in faith and hope and love, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For he is our great high priest who has entered once for all into the heavenly sanctuary, evermore to pour upon your Church the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit. He is the one who has gone before us, who calls us to be united in prayer as were his disciples in the upper room while they awaited his promised gift, the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost. Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing as angels and archangels sing the endless hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and God of might:
heaven and earth, heaven and earth
are full of your glory,
your pow'r and might.
Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest heavn's.
Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest heavn's.**

**Blessed, blessed is he who comes,
Blessed, blessed is he who comes;
blessed is he, blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest heavn's.
Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest heavn's.**

The priest then continues the prayer, recalling the words and actions of Jesus at the Last Supper during which we sing the Memorial Acclamation – a response to what has been proclaimed in the Eucharistic prayer

Praise to you Lord Jesus.
**Dying you destroyed our death,
Rising you restored our life,
Lord Jesus come in glory.
Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest heav'ns!**

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

Amen!

The Lord's Prayer

Looking for the coming of his kingdom, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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 we sing the Agnus Dei.

**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 your peace
Lamb of God you take away
the sin of the world grant us your peace.**

I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, Alleluia. The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.

Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb. Alleluia.

As those in church receive, we sing this hymn

Hymn 408:

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour

Prayer after communion

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The dismissal



Hymn 476:

O Breath of life, come sweeping through us

The Blessing

May the Spirit, who hovered over the waters when the world was created, breathe into you the life he gives.

Amen.

May the Spirit, who overshadowed the Virgin when the eternal Son came among us, make you joyful in the service of the Lord.

Amen.

May the Spirit, who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost, bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.

Amen.

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

Acclamation

Christ has gone up on high.

Alleluia.

God raised Christ from the dead
and enthroned him at his right hand in the heavenly realms.

God put all things in subjection beneath his feet
and gave him as head over all things to the Church.

We died, and our life lies hidden with Christ in God.

We set our minds on things above.

When Christ, who is our life, is revealed,
we too will be revealed with him in glory.

cf Ephesians 1.20,23; Colossians 3.1-4

Christ has gone up on high.

Alleluia.

*Equipped
to go out into our world, we leave in silence.*

IN CELEBRATION OF THE PLATINUM JUBILEE
70 YEARS



CHORAL EVENSONG

SUNDAY 5TH JUNE 6.30PM

ST THOMAS, WALTON & FACEBOOK

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 sshatton@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 29th May – The Seventh Sunday of Easter

1045 Parish Eucharist HT & OL

Monday 30th May

1500 Funeral of Pauline Aston RIP HT/Crem

Tuesday 31st May

1000 Drop-In HT

Wednesday 1st June

1000 Private Prayer AS

1200 Said Eucharist AS

2000 Compline OL

Thursday 2nd June

1000 Private Prayer ST

1030 MU Eucharist ST

Friday 3rd June

1000 Crafty Café HT

Saturday 4th June

Sunday 5th June – Pentecost

0845 Sung Eucharist AS

1045 Family Eucharist HT & OL

1830 Jubilee Choral Evensong
ST & OL

Daily Bible Readings

Monday	Psalm 18 Deuteronomy 31.1-13 I John 2.18-end
Tuesday	Zechariah 2.10-13 John 3.25-30 Psalms 122, 127, 128
Wed	Psalms 36, 46 Deuteronomy 31.30-32.14 I John 3.11-end
Thursday	Psalm 139 Deuteronomy 32.15-47 I John 4.1-6
Friday	Psalm 147 Deuteronomy 33 I John 4.7-end
Saturday	Psalm 48 Deuteronomy 16.9-15 John 7.37-39

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=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 2012 The United Nations designated 1st June as the Global Day of Parents. Let us pray for all who undertake the great responsibility of parenthood for their biological children or as carers for other children. May they receive the support they need from Church and State as they seek to provide a healthy and happy environment. Pray for the people of Laguna Woods, Buffalo, and Uvalde as they continue to recover from the recent mass-shootings in all three communities; pray for those in authority as they consider ways to reduce the risk of these events from reoccurring.

For the church... Last month in China Christian entrepreneur Lai Jinqiang was tried behind closed doors for making audio Bible players available. It's believed he has since been sentenced to five years in prison. Pray that the simple act of sharing scripture would not be a crime.

For our community... As we celebrate at this time let us pray;
Gracious God, we give you thanks for the reign of your servant Elizabeth our Queen, and for the example of loving and faithful service which she has shown among us.
Help us to follow her example of dedication and to commit our lives to you and to one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

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

Phyllis, Alistair, Ann, Sally, Brenda, Olivia, Carolyn, Amelie, Martin, M, Clive, J, C, Mark, Steve, Vicky, Roger, Hannah, Richard, Julie, Russell, Janet, Eileen, Heidi, Sarah, Charlie, Justine, Jonathan, Robert, Colin, Remi and family, Liz, Sheila

.... for the recently departed: Patricia Boyles;
Dianne Rayson; David Ricketts; Jim Miller;
Monica Mudway; Pauline Aston; Revd. Wendy Bray;
Margaret Deakin; Jane Homfray

+ May they rest in peace and rise in glory

In thanksgiving to God for...

... the dedication and strong Christian faith of Her Majesty the Queen as we prepare to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee

Is there any news you'd like to join with the congregation in giving thanks to God for? Let us know and we'll add it.

News & Events

Are you puzzling over how issues of ethics and politics impact on your faith? Digging Deeper takes place at 5pm on the Second Sunday of the Month, so the next one is Sunday 12th June, in Holy Trinity. Hope to see you there.

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

Summer Fete, Sunday 19th June – Grand Draw Tickets – are now available in all 3 Churches. Please take some for yourself/family/friends/ neighbours – there are many superb prizes. The 'List of Stalls' is also displayed in our Churches – please see if there is anything you can spare and, if so, please deposit in the FETE DONATION BOXES or ring the stall organiser for collection. We also need help in setting up and manning stalls/games throughout the actual day – please ring Bob Moore if you can help. Thank you in advance for any support you can give.

Remember, your Lenten pledges for the Generous Hope appeal Bishop Michael asked you to support can be paid into the special justgiving page:- <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/matlosane>
Whether you have been setting aside 50p per day or £2 per day, any amount will help.

Our Faithful Queen - In celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee the Bible Society has produced a colourful book, 'Our Faithful Queen – 70 years of Faith and Service', by Catherine Butchers.

If you wish to have a copy they will be available at the back of all three churches. We are not allowed to resell but we can accept a donation, if you wish. Bought individually the cost is £5 but these are purchased for £2. If you know of anyone who may like a copy and are not able to collect please take and deliver, or let Mary Moss know. A similar book was published for Her Majesty's 90th birthday.

NSPCC Coffee Morning – in the garden of 13 Baswich Lane, at 10.30 am on Friday 10th June. There will be a plant stall, cake stall, raffle and coffee. Entry £2. Hope you will be able to support us.