



St Mary  
the  
Virgin



Sixth Sunday after Trinity

**The Eucharist**

Sunday July 12th 2026

10.45am

## **Welcome to Saint Mary's Church in the Parish of Witney.**

We are an inclusive church embracing a hospitable Christianity.

Everyone is welcome at this service. If you usually receive communion please join us – or please come forward to receive a blessing.

**If you are interested in becoming a part of what is happening through the church please speak to one of the welcomers afterwards. We also have Welcome Packs available with more information – please ask!**

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a simple and secure way for churches to receive regular donations. It is an established service for managing Direct Debit donations, designed to support churches to fund their mission and ministry. Talk to one of the church wardens to find out more or for help signing up, or pick up a leaflet at the North door.

*This service is live-streamed. If you do not want to appear on the stream please speak to the Welcomers or Duty Wardens.*

*As the sacristy bell sounds all stand*

## **The Procession**

Love Divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
All thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
Pure unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation,  
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,  
Let us all thy grace receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Never more thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve thee as thy hosts above,  
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see thy great salvation,  
Perfectly restored in thee.

Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Words: Charles Wesley  
Music: LOVE DIVINE, John Stainer

## The Greeting

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**All Amen.**

The Lord be with you

**All and also with you.**

*The service is introduced.*

## Prayers of Penitence

*The priest invites us to confession in these or similar words.*

God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ  
to save us from our sins,  
to be our advocate in heaven,  
and to bring us to eternal life.  
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments  
and to live in love and peace with all.

*Silence is kept.*

**All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

May the God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

*We sing together:*

**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 Collect

Let us pray:

Merciful God,  
you have prepared for those who love you  
such good things as pass our understanding:  
pour into our hearts such love toward you  
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,  
may obtain your promises,  
which exceed all that we can desire;  
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.

**All Amen**

## The Liturgy of the Word

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah (*Isaiah 55.10-13*)

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

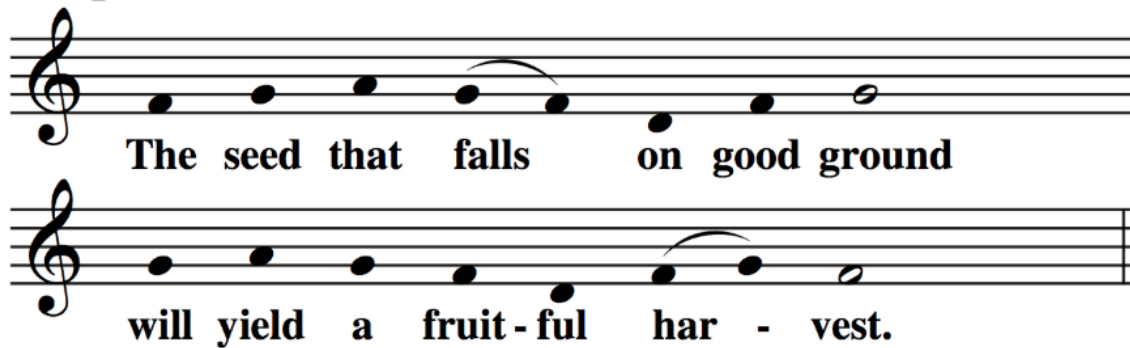
This is the word of the Lord.  
**All Thanks be to God.**

## The Gradual Psalm

*The choir sings and we repeat, also between verses*

### Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 65: 10, 11, 12-13, 14*



The seed that falls on good ground  
will yield a fruit-ful har - vest.

Music: © 2015 Royce Nickel. Licensed in the Creative Commons by-nc-nd 3.0

You have visited the land and watered it;  
greatly have you enriched it.  
God's watercourses are filled;  
you have prepared the grain /R

Thus have you prepared the land: drenching its furrows,  
breaking up its clods,  
softening it with showers, blessing its yield.  
/R

You have crowned the year with your bounty,  
and your paths overflow with a rich harvest;  
the untilled meadows overflow with it,  
and rejoicing clothes the hills. /R.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans, (*Romans 8.1-11*).

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel

*We stand for the Gospel Alleluia:*

### Alleluia

*Tone II*



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The Lord be with you  
**All and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!' 'Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

*Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit*

**The Sermon**

## The Creed

Let us declare before God the faith of the Church:

**All 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.

## Intercessions

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ  
let us pray to the Father.

*The Intercessor may use the response*

Lord in your mercy  
**All Hear our prayer.**

*And at the end:*

Merciful Father,  
**All Accept these prayers  
For the sake of your Son  
Our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

*All stand*

## The Peace

Blessed are the peacemakers:  
they shall be called children of God.  
We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**All and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## The Offertory Hymn

*We stand as the Offertory Hymn is sung and the gifts of bread and wine are placed upon the Altar.*

**You can give to the work of the Church by signing up to the Parish Giving Scheme, or by using these bank details** - Witney PCC, Sort Code 20-97-48, Account Number 00971626.

There is also a card reader by the North Door,

All that we bring to the altar is a gift from God, and our offering back to God is a sign of the offering of our lives in the Lord's service.

Hail to the Lord's Anointed,  
great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed,  
his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
to set the captive free,  
to take away transgression,  
and rule in equity.

He comes, with succour speedy,  
to those who suffer wrong;  
to help the poor and needy,  
and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sighing,  
their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying,  
were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers  
upon the fruitful earth;  
love, joy, and hope, like flowers,  
spring in his path to birth;  
before him, on the mountains,

shall peace the herald go;  
and righteousness, in fountains,  
from hill to valley flow.

O'er every foe victorious,  
he on his throne shall rest;  
from age to age more glorious,  
all-blessing and all-blest.  
the tide of time shall never  
his covenant remove;  
his name shall stand for ever,  
his changeless Name of love.

Words: Psalm 72  
Music: CRÜGER, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you  
**All And also with you**  
Lift up your hearts  
**All We lift them to the Lord**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
**All It is right to give thanks and praise**

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,  
through whom you have created all things;  
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;  
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,  
he lived on earth and went about among us;  
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;  
he put an end to death by dying for us;  
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;  
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and singing:

**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.**

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.

Great is the mystery of faith  
**All Christ has died:**  
**Christ is risen:**  
**Christ will come again.**

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, in the company of Mary the Mother of God,  
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.

**All Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour taught us, so  
we pray:

**All Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Priest breaks the consecrated host*

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**All Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

### **Agnus Dei**

**All 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 peace.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word  
and I shall be healed.**

*All who are used to receiving Communion are welcome to do so here  
– please make your way to the altar as directed by the Sidesperson.*

*If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are warmly invited to  
come forward for a blessing – please approach the president carrying  
this booklet. Gluten free wafers are available on request.*

## **The Communion Hymn**

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought by day and by night;  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my great Father, I thy dear child;  
Thou in me dwelling, with thee reconciled.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;  
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight.  
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r;  
Raise thou me Heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always.  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'ns Sun!  
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Words: Eleanor Hull, tr. Mary Byrne  
Music: SLANE, Irish folk melody

## Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray:

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.

**All Amen**

**All Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out  
in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work  
to your praise and glory.  
Amen.**

*We sit for the notices*

**The Notices**

**The Blessing**

*Please stand for the Blessing*

The Lord be with you.  
**All And also with you.**

The peace of God,  
which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God,

and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

### **The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All In the name of Christ, Amen.**

### **The Recessional Hymn**

Sing of the Lord's goodness,  
Father of all wisdom,  
come to him and bless his name.  
Mercy he has shown us,  
his love is forever,  
faithful to the end of days.

*Come then all you nations,  
sing of your Lord's goodness,  
melodies of praise and thanks to God.  
Ring out the Lord's glory,  
praise him with your music,  
worship him and bless his name.*

Power he has wielded,  
honour is his garment,  
risen from the snares of death.  
His word he has spoken,  
one bread he has broken,  
new life he now gives to all. *Refrain.*

Courage in our darkness,  
comfort in our sorrow,  
Spirit of our God most high;

solace for the weary,  
pardon for the sinner,  
splendour of the living God. *Refrain.*

Praise him with your singing,  
praise him with the trumpet,  
praise God with the lute and harp;  
praise him with the cymbals,  
praise him with your dancing,  
praise God till the end of days. *Refrain.*

Words and Music: Ernest Sands  
Laudate 713

Let us bless the Lord  
**All Thanks be to God.**

***Everyone is welcome to stay for coffee after the Eucharist.***



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