

**WELCOME TO
CHRIST CHURCH EATON!
A Virtual Service of Morning Prayer
Sunday 13 September
The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**

Please note that the Zoom hosts will mute people during responses to avoid interference, echoes and noises off. Once the service starts, please do not unmute yourself unless you know you have a speaking part.

Our service this morning is led by Patrick

Alistair Bolt, John Ladd and Ros Wright are co-hosting

Informal Welcome *Patrick*

Voluntary: Prrrelude (Cat Suite) - Denis Bédard

Played by Matt Wright ***(video)***

Five minutes chat in breakout groups to see how people are. The hosts will try to unmute everyone.

(response led by Catherine Jeffries)

O Lord, open our lips

All: and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Hymn: I cannot tell

sung by St Martin's Voices **(mp3)**

I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship,
should set his love upon the sons of men,
or why, as Shepherd, he should seek the wanderers,
to bring them back, they know not how or when.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary,
when Bethlehem's manger was his only home,
and that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,
and so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently he suffered,
as with his peace he graced this place of tears,
or how his heart upon the cross was broken,
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted,
and stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,
and lifts the burden from the heavy-laden,
for still the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is here.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
when, at his bidding, every storm is stilled,
or who can say how great the jubilation
when every heart with love and joy is filled.
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,
and myriad, myriad human voices sing,
and earth to heaven, and heaven to earth, will answer,
at last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King.

William Young Fullerton (1857-1932)

(responses led by Catherine Jeffries)

**All: May Christ, the true, the only light
 banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.**

O come, let us sing to the Lord;

**All: let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our
 salvation.**

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving

All: and be glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God

All: and a great king above all gods.

Come, let us worship and bow down

All: and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God;

**All: we are the people of his pasture
 and the sheep of his hand.**

**All: Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

(response led by Sarah Ping)

All: Amen.

Psalm 103.8-13

(responses led by Sarah Ping)

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,

All: slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us,

All: neither will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins,

All: nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,

All: so great is his mercy upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west,

All: so far has he set our sins from us.

As a father has compassion on his children,

All: so is the Lord merciful towards those who fear him.

**All: Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Reading: Romans 14.1-12 (read by Patrick Furniss)

St Paul warns against quarrels and condemning believers over differing opinions about food or holy days

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written,

‘As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.’

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

(response led by Ros Wright)

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Canticle: *(responses led by Ros Wright)*

Blessed are you, the God of our ancestors,

All: worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed is your holy and glorious name,

All: worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you, in your holy and glorious temple,

All: worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you who look into the depths,

All: worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you, enthroned on the cherubim,

All: worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom,

All: worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you in the heights of heaven,

All: worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

The Song of the Three 29-34

**All: Bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever**

**All: Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Reading: Matthew 18.21-35 *(read by Caragh Walsh)*

Jesus illustrates our need to forgive as God forgives us by the parable of the unforgiving servant

Then Peter came and said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?’ Jesus said to him, ‘Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

‘For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.” And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, “Pay what you owe.” Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you.” But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

Then his lord summoned him and said to him, “You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?” And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.’

(response led by Patrick)

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Homily: *Patrick*

Anthem: *Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace*

– John Rutter

sung by St Martin’s Voices **(mp3)**

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace,

where there is hatred, let me bring love.

where there is injury, pardon,

where there is doubt, faith,

where there is despair, hope,

where there is darkness, light,

where there is sadness, joy;

and all for thy mercy’s sake.

*O divine master, grant that I may not so much seek to be
consoled as to be console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned:
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

St Francis of Assisi

Prayers: *(prayers led by Rachel Taylor,
 responses by Julie Bolt)*

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy

All: **Hear our prayer.**

At the end:

Merciful Father,

All: **accept these prayers
 for the sake of your Son,
 our Saviour Jesus Christ.
 Amen.**

The Collect:

Merciful God, your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(response led by John & Kathy Ladd)

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

(led by John & Kathy Ladd)

**All: 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.**

Hymn: Be thou my guardian and my guide

sung by St Martin's Voices **(mp3)**

Be thou my guardian and my guide,
and hear me when I call;
let not my slippery footsteps slide,
and hold me lest I fall.

The world, the flesh, and Satan dwell
around the path I tread;
O save me from the snares of hell,
thou quickener of the dead.

And if I tempted am to sin,
and outward things are strong,
do thou, O Lord, keep watch within,
and save my soul from wrong.

Still let me ever watch and pray,
and feel that I am frail;
that if the tempter cross my way,
yet he may not prevail.

Isaac Williams (1802-1865)

Blessing: *(responses led by David & Dee Scott)*

Christ the good shepherd,
who laid down his life for the sheep,
draw you and all who hear his voice
to be one flock within one fold;
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Voluntary: Chorale Prelude on 'Abridge' ('Be thou my guardian') - C. S. Lang

Played by Matt Wright *(video)*

You are welcome to leave or to stay; after a minute we will divide into more small groups for some post-service conversation for 7 minutes.

The co-hosts will try to unmute everyone.

*If you are on a phone connection, dialling *6 should mute and unmute your phone.*

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