



Chet Valley Churches



Holy Communion
Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity
10th October 2021

The Greeting and Welcome

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you, **and also with you.**

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision

**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 or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;
I ever with thee, thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee, one.**

**Be thou my battle shield, 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 man's 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, after victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Prayers of Penitence

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.

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,**

**and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

Gloria

**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 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 Epistle: Hebrews 4:12-16

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.

For the Word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

🎵 **Hymn: What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

**What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh what peace we often forfeit,
Oh what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!**

**Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer!**

**Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge:
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee;
Thou wilt find a solace there.**



📖 **Gospel Reading: Mark: 10:17-31**

As he 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.’

For the Word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Exploring the Word [Rev David]

Recently I was able to visit the Orkney Islands with family and friends staying in a cottage overlooking Scapa Flow. As I looked out over the waters the surrounding countryside provided a measure of shelter and security. So much so that during the First and Second World Wars the British Naval fleet was based there. However, as you looked up and out you could see the force of the wind and its power. Now this has been harnessed to power wind turbines—both large and small but as one walked about you could feel it also had the potential to be disruptive and destructive too on land and sea. Wind is a wonderful force, wonderful in the sense that it brings wonder without in itself being seen. It is its effects that one glimpses. Watching the waves, the clouds and the trees (not that Orkney now has many areas of trees) being blown is mesmerising and scary. Yet the same wind is being harnessed and has been for generations to power industry and transport.

Listening to Jesus talk would be both comforting and challenging. It is clear that the writer to the Hebrews knew this when writing the passage we have heard today. The word of God is sharper than a two-edged sword it

says; it can judge the inner thoughts and intentions of the heart; nothing is hidden. It's as if the covering, the mask, which we have put on is blown away. And it's that which is underneath that God sees. It's also therefore what Jesus sees. In the story from Mark's gospel the rich man—Matthew tells us he was young and Luke tells us that he was a ruler, which is why he's often referred to compositely as the “rich young ruler”—comes to Jesus the Teacher and asks what he must do to inherit eternal life.

Now I wonder what he expected to hear. Possibly a deeply detailed regimen to follow, a call to join a particular party or sect—that may well have been what some Rabbis would have told him. But no. Jesus refers him back to scripture and a basic tenet of it at that. Yet, isn't it interesting that Jesus doesn't start with the first, nor second commandment; he starts in the middle and he makes no mention, at this stage, of giving attention to God.

But then comes the two-edged sword, the point goes in, and Jesus tells him to sell everything and give it to the poor, then come and follow. Surely he recognises that this man's idol, his possessions, are what need to be removed to enable him to follow the 'missing' commandments. The disciples struggle with how Jesus has once again blown their world view apart. Peter finds it a real issue only to be both comforted and challenged by Jesus's answer that in the kingdom the world order is reversed. The first will be last and the last will be first.

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Intercessions

In the power of the Spirit let us pray to our heavenly Father...

Jesus told the rich young ruler that it was his possessions that were standing between him and the Kingdom of God. As we pray, let's focus on that thought.

There are places in the world where there is plenty—and often plenty to spare. There are other places where there is little, and sometimes not enough. We pray for the willingness of both governments and individuals to work towards a fairer world. We pray that we might all be willing to give and to share, not just with people like ourselves, but with any who are in need.

Generous Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We have been thinking about things that can become so important that they prevent people from entering into the Kingdom of God, and so we pray for the church and for all who work to spread the good news of Jesus' love. We pray for all who are taking part in this service, and for all who are worshipping in their local churches. May we all know God's presence and the joy of Jesus' love.

Welcoming Lord, **hear our prayer.**

For some people, life is hard because of illness, disability or dependency. For some life is nearing its end. We pray for all who face these things, and all who care for them—maybe they are known to us, or maybe not.

Loving Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for others, but we also pray for ourselves. Sometimes it's hard to trust, but Jesus wants us to love him, trust him and be with him for eternity. We pray that God might take the little faith that we have, and let it grow stronger day by day.

Holy Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We draw our prayers together:

Merciful God, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn: Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see.

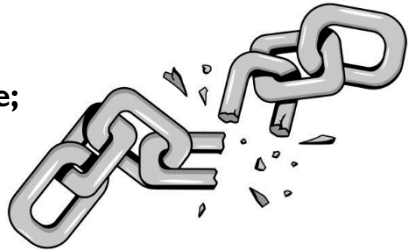
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

My chains are gone, I've been set free,
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me;
And like a flood his mercy reigns,
Unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

My chains are gone, I've been set free,
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me;
And like a flood his mercy reigns,
Unending love, amazing grace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine,
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.



The Eucharist

Wise and gracious God, you spread a table before us; nourish your people with the word of life and the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

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, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things from the beginning, and formed us in your own image. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross; you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high. Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord. Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your

divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world

Our Lord comes to us in bread and wine.

They are the gifts of God for the people of God.

The Communion



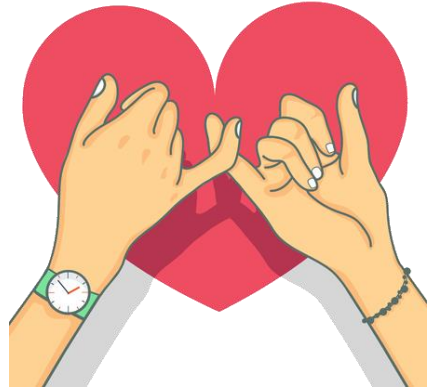
🎵 **Hymn: O Jesus, I Have Promised**

**O Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
Be thou for ever near me,
My master and my friend:
I shall not fear the battle
If thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If thou wilt be my guide.**

**O let me feel thee near me:
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But, Jesus, draw thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.**

**O let me hear thee speaking
In accents clear and still
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.**

**O Jesus, thou hast promised
To all who follow thee,
That where thou art in glory
There shall thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end:
O give me grace to follow,
My master and my friend.**



**O let me see thy foot-marks,
And in them plant mine own;
My hope to follow duly
Is in thy strength alone:
O guide me, call me, draw me,
Uphold me to the end;
And then in heaven receive me,
My saviour and my friend.**

The Blessing

The peace of God
which passes all our understanding
keep our hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be amongst you and remain with you,
and those whom you love,
now and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

