



**UNITED BENEFICE OF ST MICHAEL,
BETCHWORTH AND ST MARY THE
VIRGIN, BUCKLAND**



**SUNDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2022
THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
PARISH COMMUNION**

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:
grant that your people may be fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel
that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;
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.

Reading: Jeremiah 32.1-3a, 6-15 - *Jeremiah buys a field during a siege as a prophetic act*

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar. At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him.

Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me: Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.' Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself.' Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord.

And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy; and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

For the word of the Lord'
Thanks be to God.

Anthem: Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake - John Hilton (c1530-80)/Richard Farrant (c1560-1608)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVIDFFF0lFE>

(The Cambridge Singers directed by John Rutter)

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge,
but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives.
To decline from sin and incline to virtue,
that we may walk in a perfect heart before thee, now and evermore.
Amen

Words: Christian Prayers and Holy Meditations, 1568

Gospel: Luke 16.19-31 – The parable of the rich man and Lazarus

'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." '

'This is the Gospel of the Lord'
Praise to you O Christ.

Offertory

We hope you are enjoying the online services which aim to bring the church community together and keep the momentum of faith alive for all generations. As a rural parish church, we rely heavily on donations to help maintain our beautiful buildings. If you are worshipping with us online, we are not able to receive donations via the collection plate; however if you would still like to support the church, please use the QR codes:



St Michael's Church



St Mary's Church

or alternatively you can pay direct to

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We are incredibly grateful for any donations -thank you for your kind support and generosity

Prayers of Intercession

Praying for the people of Ukraine

*The Lord shall give strength to his people;
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.
(Psalm 29. 10)*

God of strength and peace,
send your blessing on the people of Ukraine.
Sustain them in their struggles,
hold them in their fear,
protect them from all danger
and be for them the hope they desire;
for Jesus Christ's sake.

Amen.



Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord

Lord in your mercy
hear our prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love

Lord in your mercy
hear our prayer

We pray for those in most need in our own families and neighbourhood, thinking of the elderly, the housebound and those in hospital or hospice. We pray for all carers and visitors whether family members, volunteers or health care professionals and especially for those who minister to people near the end of life's journey through the hospice movement – for they do your work and so we ask for them your gifts of patience, compassion and understanding.

We pray for those that we know who are sick, lonely or in some special need at this time as we share a brief moment of silence together as we name them in our hearts.

Lord in your mercy
hear our prayer

We also remember those we have loved but see no more and pray for those left behind to grieve. Let them know that nothing is more dependable in times of sorrow than your encircling love

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World, a light which no darkness can quench. We remember before God those we love but no longer see, in the silence we lift them before you... may the light of Christ which eternally shines bring hope for you turn our darkness into light; in your light shall we see light.

Merciful father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Post Communion

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord

Hymn: *For the healing of the nations*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RiloXrApr4U>

(Grenfell Tower National Memorial Service on 14 December 2017 at St Paul's Cathedral, to mark the 6 month anniversary of the Grenfell Tower Fire.)

For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord,
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word

Lead us forward into freedom,
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness,
fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.

You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.

Words: Fred Kaan (1929-2009)

Music: 'Alleluia Dulce Carmen' Melody and bass from *An Essay on the Church Plain-chant*, 1782

Blessing

The Lord bless us and watch over us;
The Lord make his face to shine upon us and be gracious to us;
The Lord look kindly upon us and give us peace.

Amen

Our worship has now ended, and our service now begins.....

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

Organ Voluntary

Choral Song & Fugue - S S Wesley (1810-76)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bb7VTBwLsMY>

(Organist: Herbert Sumsion on the Harrison & Harrison organ of Gloucester Cathedral)

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