



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



**SUNDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2022
THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
PARISH COMMUNION**

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Collect

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
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 8.18-9.1 - *Jeremiah laments for the people who have suffered so much*

My joy is gone, grief is upon me,
my heart is sick.
Hark, the cry of my poor people
from far and wide in the land:
'Is the Lord not in Zion?
Is her King not in her?'
(*'Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,
with their foreign idols?'*)
'The harvest is past, the summer is ended,
and we are not saved.'
For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt,
I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me
Is there no balm in Gilead?
Is there no physician there?
Why then has the health of my poor people
not been restored?'

O that my head were a spring of water,
and my eyes a fountain of tears,
so that I might weep day and night
for the slain of my poor people!

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

Anthem: Give almes of thy goods - Christopher Tye (c.1500-1573)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O_UzVhoQJ3M

(The Choir of Clare College, Conductor: Timothy Brown)

Give almes of thy goods, and turn never thy face from any poor man,
and then the face of the Lord shall not be turned away from thee.

Words: Offertory Sentence, Book of Common Prayer, from Tobit 4

Gospel: Luke 16.1-13 - *The rich man's dishonest manager makes friends by being generous with his master's wealth*

Then Jesus said to the disciples, 'There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer." Then the manager said to himself, "What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes." So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, "How much do you owe my master?" He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty." Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

'Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.'

'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

St Michaels Church; Sort Code 601727 A/c 27611272

St Mary's Church; Sort Code 601728 A/c 03428508

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



A prayer on the death of Her Majesty The Queen

Gracious God, we give thanks
for the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth,
for her faith and her dedication to duty.
Bless our nation as we mourn her death
and may her example continue to inspire us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.





A prayer for the new King

Everlasting God, we pray for our new King.
Bless his reign and the life of our nation.

Help us to work together
so that truth and justice, harmony and fairness
flourish among us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

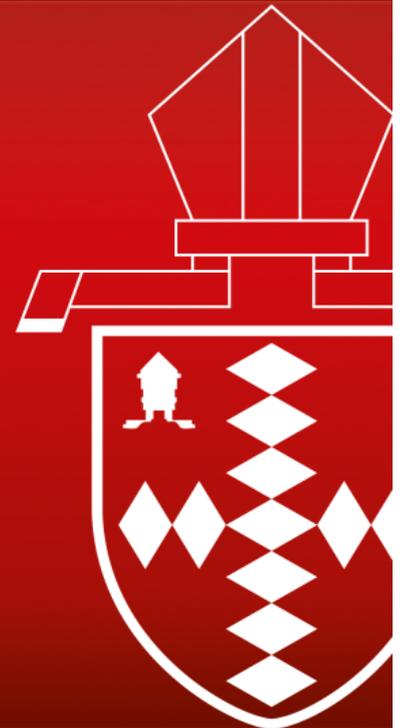


Praying for the people of Ukraine

*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

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymn: *Father, Lord of all creation*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oyquLv5A_b4

(Songs of Praise)

Father, Lord of all creation,
ground of being, life and love;
height and depth beyond description
only life in you can prove:
you are mortal life's dependence:
thought, speech, sight are ours by grace;
yours is every hour's existence,
sovereign Lord of time and space.

Jesus Christ, the Man for others
we, your people, make our prayer:
help us love - as sisters, brothers -
all whose burdens we can share.
Where your name binds us together
you, Lord Christ, will surely be;
where no selfishness can sever
there your love the world may see.

Holy Spirit, rushing, burning
wind and flame of Pentecost,
fire our hearts afresh with yearning
to regain what we have lost.
May your love unite our action,
never more to speak alone:
God, in us abolish faction,
God, through us, your love make known.

Words: Stewart Cross (11928-1989)

Music: *Abbot's Leigh*

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

Rouen Processional - Clifford Harker (1912-1999)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9DZobZudso>

(Organist: Michael Stoddart on the organ of Newcastle Cathedral)

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