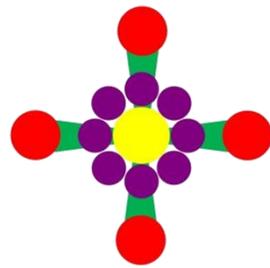


# The Benefice of Harden, Wilsden, Cullingworth, Denholme



**10.30am Sunday 26 July 2020 - Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

Welcome in the name of Christ!

God's grace, mercy and peace be with you  
**and also with you.**

*Opening hymn – Be thou my vision (Stuart Townend and Robin Mark)*

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Jesus said, 'Before you offer your gift, go and be reconciled.'  
As sisters and brothers in God's family,  
we come together to ask our Father for forgiveness.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
We are heartily sorry, and repent of all our sins.  
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
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 almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We worship with Christians near and far, living and departed, old and young.  
God's word is for all of us.

**May it be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.**

Lord speak to us,

**that we may hear your word.**

Move among us,

**that we may behold your glory.**

Receive our prayers,

**that we may learn to trust you.**

*The Collect for the day*

Generous God,

you give us gifts and make them grow:

though our faith is small as a mustard seed,

make it grow to your glory

and the flourishing of your kingdom;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Pamela will read our *First Reading: Romans 8:26-end***

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Short silence for reflection*

**Mavis will read our Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches."

He told them still another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

"Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked.

"Yes," they replied.

He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Ian leads us in our reflection*

We say the Apostles' Creed:-

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Second Hymn – What a friend we have in Jesus (Paul Baloche Amazing Grace:Timeless Hymns of Faith)*

**Judith** *leads us in our prayers*

We join now in prayer as the people of God.

Gracious God, you have created us, you have set us free and loved us into life. You have spoken your word and shown us your way. Trusting that you hold this world in your loving care, we bring to you our prayers for this day.

We thank you for the beauty and diversity of the created world we inhabit. We ask for wisdom to tend it carefully, respecting and sharing resources.

Lord of all creation: **teach us your ways**

We pray for your world in need, where poverty, conflict, political chaos, and destruction of the earth are overwhelming: we pray for those fleeing from conflict, refugees without a permanent home, the homeless and the hungry.

Lord of all creation: **teach us your ways**

We pray for the leaders of all nations and for all in positions of power and responsibility, we pray for God's guidance and strength in all that they do. May they act wisely and compassionately.

Lord of all creation: **teach us your ways**

We pray for the Church throughout the world, the leaders of the Church and all who minister within it. As our churches in the Benefice make plans to open again, we ask you be with anyone who is feeling unsure and uncertain. Help them if there is a need to make a decision they are finding difficult.

Lord of all creation: **teach us your ways**

Father we thank you for the advances in medical knowledge, the research that is going on to find a vaccine, and the renewed hope that advances have been made. We give thanks for health care workers in hospitals and in care homes, and pray for anyone who is anxious because of illness or health problems, either their own, or of others dear to them. Give them comfort and strength.

Lord of all creation: **teach us your ways**

We place into your loving keeping all those who have died, may they live in the peace and joy of heaven. And we think today of those who are suffering because of bereavement, and anyone who is remembering a painful anniversary.

Lord of all creation: **teach us your ways**

Lord Jesus, you took so much care to describe your kingdom in ways everyone could understand, including us. Help us to live as your people, and guard us from all the distractions that keep us from sharing the knowledge of your kingdom with others. May the spirit work through us to grow the kingdom on earth, until the day we dwell with you in your eternal home.

Merciful Father,

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

Let love be genuine. Never pay back evil for evil.

As far as it lies with you, live at peace with everyone.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

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.

And now we give you thanks  
that you have shown the greatness of your love for us  
by sending him to share our human nature  
and accomplish our forgiveness.

He embraces us in our weakness,  
he suffers with the sick and the rejected,  
and brings your healing to the world,  
he rescues us from every evil.

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 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.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

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.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

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 share in 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.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

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.**

***We join together in the Lord's Prayer***

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes.**

*The president receives communion on behalf of the people.*

**Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,  
may I know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.**

*(after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester)*

*Post-communion Prayer*

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,  
ever giving himself that the world may live:  
may we so receive within ourselves  
the power of his death and passion  
that, in his saving cup,  
we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

**Amen**

*Silence for reflection*

The love of the Lord Jesus  
draw you to himself,  
the power of the Lord Jesus  
strengthen you in his service,  
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

*Closing Hymn – Shine Jesus shine (Graham Kendrick)*

*Breakout groups for a chat before we end.*