

UNITED BENEFICE OF ST MICHAEL BETCHWORTH AND ST MARY BUCKLAND
THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
PROPER 7
SUNDAY 21 JUNE 2020

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Collect

Lord, you have taught us
that all our doings without love are nothing worth:
send your Holy Spirit
and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love,
the true bond of peace and of all virtues,
without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.
Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Hymn – *Lord for the years your love has kept and guided*



Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.

Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him:
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926)

Music: Michael Baughen (b.1930)

Genesis 21, 8 to 21 - Abraham sends Hagar and Ishmael away

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, 'Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.' The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, 'Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named after you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.' So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, 'Do not let me look on the death of the child.' And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, 'What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.' Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave
God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Anthem: God so love the world - Sir John Stainer (1840-1901)

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

(Choir of Clare College, Cambridge)

God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have ever-lasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.

(John 3: 16)

Gospel: Matthew 10, 24 to 39 - Christ has come to bring division

'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

'So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot

kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

‘Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

‘Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Sermon : By Revd David Eaton



Prayers.

Loving God,
We ask for the gift of your Holy Spirit
to help us pray in this difficult times.

Lord hear us: **Lord Graciously hear us**

We ask for the energy and vision of your Spirit
for those who are tiring in the battle against injustice and oppression:
for those exhausted by the struggle with poverty and hunger.
We pray for the Foodbanks, for the volunteers and those using the facility for the first time

Lord hear us: **Lord Graciously hear us**

We ask for the hope and comfort of your Spirit
for those whose lives are overshadowed by illness or pain;
for those whose lives are darkened by sorrow or bereavement.
In the silence we lift before you those on our hearts at this time Praying especially for Rosemary.

Lord hear us: **Lord Graciously hear us**

We ask for the love and courage of your Spirit
for those reaching out to comfort the distressed;
for those reaching out to others with the Good News of Christ through their words and actions which
emanate your love

Lord hear us: **Lord Graciously hear us**

Loving God,
We ask for the assurance of your Spirit
to know your presence with us in our daily lives:
in our relationships.
in our work and service.
in our worship.
in our times of joy and pain.

Merciful father accept these prayers through our Saviour Jesus Christ Amen.

Blessing

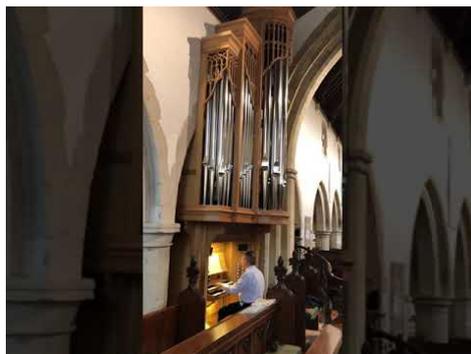
The Lord bless us and watch over us;
The Lord make his face to shine upon us and be gracious to us;
The Lord look kindly upon us and give us peace. Amen

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

Go in the light and peace of Christ

Thanks be to God.

Organ Voluntary by Melvin Hughes



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. With our churches closed 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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God Bless