

UNITED BENEFICE OF ST MICHAEL BETCHWORTH AND ST MARY BUCKLAND
THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
SUNDAY 19th July 2020

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Collect Merciful God,

you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
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.



Hymn – *Come, ye thankful people, come*

Come, ye thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home:
all is safely gathered in,
ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come;
raise the song of harvest home!

All the world is God's own field,
fruit as praise to God we yield;
wheat and tares together sown
are to joy or sorrow grown;
first the blade and then the ear,

then the full corn shall appear:
grant, O harvest Lord, that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come,
and shall take the harvest home;
from the field shall purge away
all that doth offend, that day;
giving angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in the garner evermore.

Then, thou Church Triumphant, come,
Raise the song of harvest-home;
All be safely gathered in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there for ever purified
in God's garner to abide:
come, ten thousand angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest-home!

Words: Henry Alford (1810-1871)
Music: George Job Elvey (1816-1893)

1st Reading

Isaiah 44, 6-8 - *God is the first and last; there is no god beside him*

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.
Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Anthem: *God be in my head* – Philip Wilby (b.1949)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vLt_E9Qiq98
(Choirs of St James, Haslingden & St Thomas, Musbury)
God be in my head,
and in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes,
and in my looking;

God be in my mouth,
and in my speaking;
God be in my heart,
and in my thinking;
God be at mine end,
and at my departing.

Words: *Horæ beatæ Mariæ Virginis* London, 1514

Gospel:

Matthew 13 24-30, 36-43 – *The Parable of weeds amongst the wheat told and explained*

He put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds amongst the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?” He answered, “An enemy has done this.” The slaves said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” But he replied, “No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”’

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, ‘Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.’ He answered, ‘The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Sermon : By Revd Anna Moore



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
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.

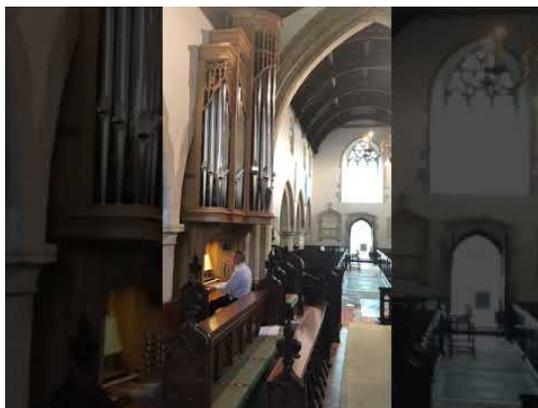
Merciful father accept these prayers through our Saviour Jesus Christ Amen.

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 On an old Irish melody Op 101, No 5 - C V Stanford (1852-1924)



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God Bless