

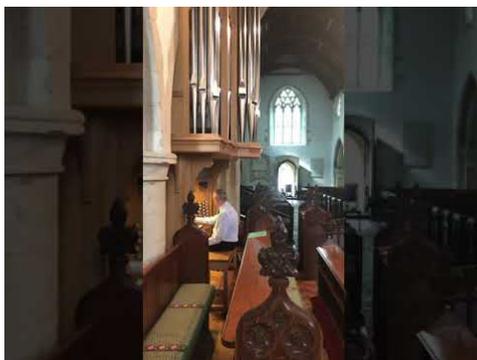
UNITED BENEFICE OF ST MICHAEL BETCHWORTH AND ST MARY BUCKLAND
THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
SUNDAY 13th September 2020

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.



Hymn: 'Forgive our sins as we forgive'

'Forgive our sins as we forgive,'
you taught us, Lord, to pray;
but you alone can grant us grace
to live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless
the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs, and will not let
old bitterness depart?

In blazing light your cross reveals
the truth we dimly knew:
what trivial debts are owed to us,
how great our debt to you!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls,
and bid resentment cease;
Then, bound to all in bonds of love,
our lives will spread your peace.

Words: Rosamond Eleanor Herklots (1905-1987)

Music: from *Christian Vespers*. 1832

1st Reading:

Psalm 114 - Israel fled from Egypt to Judah

Alleluia!

When Israel came out of Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

Judah became God's sanctuary
and Israel his dominion.

The sea beheld it and fled;
Jordan turned and went back.

The mountains skipped like rams,
and the little hills like young sheep.

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled?
O Jordan, that you turned back?

You mountains, that you skipped like rams?
you little hills like young sheep?

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

For the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Anthem: Turn thy face from my sins - Thomas Attwood (1765-1838)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FtqiY795sUM>

(The Canto di Lode Choir in the Grote of Sint-Michaëlskerk, Oudewater, Netherlands)

Turn thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds.

Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

Words: Psalm 51, vs 9-11

Gospel Matthew 18. 21-35 - Forgiveness and the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

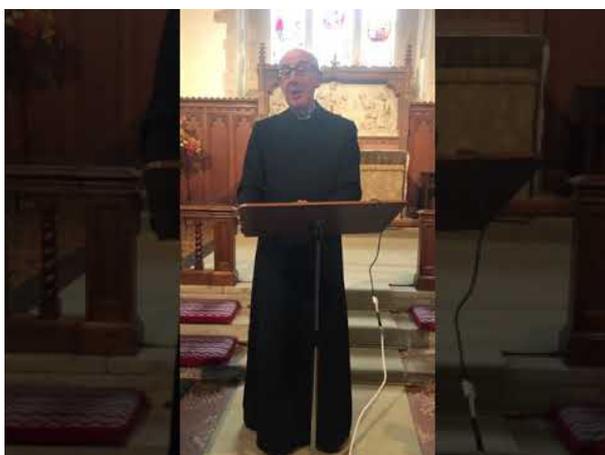
Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and

seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

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

Sermon : 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

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

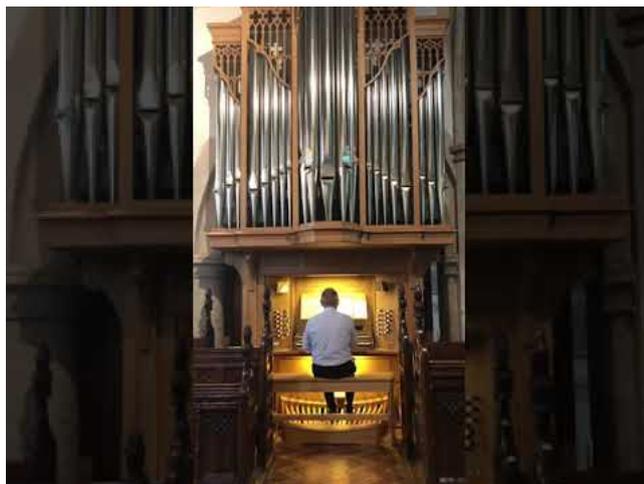
Our worship has now ended, and our service now begins...

Go in the light and peace of Christ

Thanks be to God.

Organ Voluntary

On a Theme of Orlando Gibbons (Song 34) Opus 101 - C V Stanford (1852-1924)



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God Bless