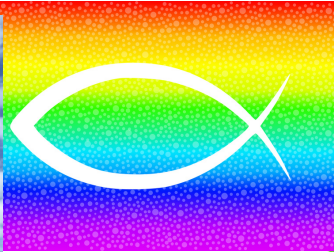




# St John's, Pevensey Road

[www.StJohnsPevenseyRoad.org.uk](http://www.StJohnsPevenseyRoad.org.uk)



## Pewsheet for Sunday 20th September: 15th Sunday after Trinity

### **People for whom our prayers are asked:**

Arlene, Ian, Amber, Mike, Sally, Tracy, Agatha, Shane, Clive, Henry, Marylyn, Fr Ken, Fr John, Alberta, Wendy, Tracey, Marion, and Jackie.

### **Please pray also for...**

...the repose of the souls of the recently departed,  
especially Paul Cabban, John Clifford McConnell, and Diane,

... those whose Years Minds fall around this time,  
especially Dinah Giddings, Rene Carter, Phyllis Simpson,  
Clive Frost, Louis, Jean Burgess, Rose & Jim Connor,  
and Brian Hanrahan,

...and all who mourn.

**The church is open for private prayer** weekday mornings 9:30 - 12:30.

**Our “Zoom” service** is at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays. Send Rev Jill or Deacon Michael an email and they will let you know how to join in.

**Harvest Thanksgiving Mass** is being held on Sunday 11th October, 10:30 a.m. As usual, donations of non-perishable food items for the Seaview Project will be welcome on the day, or may be dropped off at church on weekday mornings before then, if more convenient. The items most useful for Seaview are:

- Tinned meat items (e.g. Hot dogs, Chilli, Meatballs etc)
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned tuna
- Long life milk
- Cereal bars
- Baked beans

*Thank you!*

HARVEST  
THANKSGIVING



### Hymn of the week

If someone stopped you in the street and asked: “What is your favourite hymn?” what would your answer be. I know what I would say.

I miss being able to sing together in church just now. There is something uplifting about singing together and it is said to benefit our mental health.

I thought it would be encouraging to hear what hymns other people like and why. Please let us know your favourite hymn and why that is. Perhaps it reminds you of a place or a person, or you like the tune or have found the words helpful. Richard, our excellent organist, will play a verse or two of some of the chosen hymns during mass.

I have a few favourites but would pick “O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder”- also known as “How Great Thou Art”. This is a Swedish hymn which speaks of the wonders of nature and reminds us of the majesty and love of God. The tune fits the words so well and together they make a truly great hymn.

So let us know your choice by sending Rev Rosemary an email or drop her a note at the church office. **MC**

Pete’s Pun: The choir can’t do any singing at the moment because they’ve been in lockdown since March, and unfortunately they’ve lost the key.

Last week’s “Prayer for Healing” in the pewsheet seems to have been quite popular. So I have left some printed copies near the “Exit” door this morning, in case anyone would like to take an extra one as they leave. **RM**



# Mass for the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

## The Greeting

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**All Amen.**

The Lord be with you

**All and also with you.**

## Prayer of Confession

God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son  
Jesus Christ  
to save us from our sins,  
to be our advocate in heaven,  
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins  
in penitence and faith,  
firmly resolved to keep God's  
commandments, and to live  
in love and peace with all.

**All Almighty God,  
our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence,  
through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son  
Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

## The priest says the Absolution

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all good-  
ness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## The Gloria in Excelsis is said:

**All Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,  
only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of  
the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen**

## The Collect

Let us pray:

Lord God,  
defend your Church from all false  
teaching  
and give to your people knowledge  
of your truth,  
that we may enjoy eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## A reading from the Book of Jonah

*Jonah 3.10-4.11*

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, 'O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the LORD said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him

from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.'

But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the LORD said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

For the Word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God**

## A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Philippians

*Philippians 1.21-30*

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I

may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well – since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

For the Word of the Lord  
**All Thanks be to God**

### **Gospel Reading**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
I am the way, the truth, and the life,  
says the Lord.  
No one comes to the Father  
except through me.

**All Alleluia**

The Lord be with you  
**All And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus  
Christ according to Matthew  
**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

### *Matthew 20.1-16*

Jesus said to his disciples:  
‘The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you.

Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

## **The Creed**

Let us declare our faith in God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord,  
Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of  
the Father.**

**He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and  
the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the  
Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and  
apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the  
dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

In the power of the Spirit and in union  
with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

For the peace of the whole world,  
for the welfare of the Holy Church of  
God, and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For Martin our bishop,  
for the leaders of our sister Churches,  
and for all clergy and people,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For Elizabeth our Queen,  
for the leaders of the nations,  
and for all in authority,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For this community,  
for every city, town and village,  
and for all the people who live  
within them,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For good weather,  
and for abundant harvests for all to  
share,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel by land, air,  
or water,  
for the sick and the suffering,  
especially...

For prisoners and captives,  
and for their safety, health and  
salvation,

let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Remembering [ ... and]  
all who have gone before us in faith,  
and in communion with all the saints,  
we commit ourselves, one another,  
and our whole life to you, O Lord.

Merciful Father,

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

## **The Peace is introduced**

We are the body of Christ.  
In the one Spirit we were all  
baptized into one body.  
Let us then pursue all that makes  
for peace  
and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We may exchange a sign of peace*

## **Preparation of the Table**

*The table is prepared and bread and wine  
are placed upon it.*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all  
creation:  
through your goodness we have  
this bread to set before you,  
which earth has given  
and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.

**All Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have  
this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

**All Blessed be God for ever.**

*The priest takes the bread and wine.*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here

**All His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,  
through whom you have created all things;  
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;  
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,  
he lived on earth and went about among us;  
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;  
he put an end to death by dying for us;  
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;  
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

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:

**All 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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed,  
the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same 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.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**All Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**



And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of Saint John the Evangelist, Saint Peter, Saint Matthew, Mary the Mother of God, and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom,  
and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours,  
almighty Father, for ever and ever.

**All Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**All Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

**All Though we are many,  
we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## **Agnus Dei is said:**

**All Jesus, Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us  
Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
Have mercy on us  
Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
Grant us peace**

## **Giving of Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to  
his supper.

*All* Lord, I am not worthy to receive  
you,  
but only say the word,  
and I shall be healed.

*Communion is received*

### **Music during Communion:**

*O rest in the Lord from 'Elijah'*  
(Mendelssohn)

### **Prayer after Communion**

Keep, O Lord, your Church,  
with your perpetual mercy;  
and, because without you our human  
frailty cannot but fall,  
keep us ever by your help from all  
things hurtful,  
and lead us to all things profitable to  
our salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*All* Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off,  
you met us in your Son  
and brought us home.  
Dying and living,  
he declared your love,  
gave us grace,  
and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body

live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup  
bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights  
give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have  
set before us, so we and all your  
children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise  
your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **Notices**

### **The Blessing and Dismissal**

*Priest* The Lord be with you  
*All* And also with you

The peace of God,  
which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you  
always.

*All* Amen.

*Priest* Go in peace to love and serve  
the Lord.

*All* In the name of Christ. Amen.

### **Concluding voluntary:**

*Nun danket alle Gott, Op.65 No.59*  
(S. Karg-Elert)

**Tomorrow, 21<sup>st</sup> Sept, is the Festival day of Saint Matthew.** Matthew was one of the twelve apostles. But he began as a publican - a tax-collector of Jewish race who worked for the Romans - before he left all at the call of Christ. From earliest times, he was regarded as the author of the first of the four Gospels. The Gospel of Matthew is in correct, concise style, very suitable for public reading.

His usual emblem as an evangelist is a man, because his genealogy emphasised the family ties of Christ. In art, he has been represented as either an evangelist or as an apostle. As an evangelist, he has been depicted sitting at a desk, writing his gospel with an angel holding the inkwell. In the Middle Ages he was even given a pair of spectacles!

Matthew was martyred by a sword or a spear, some think in Ethiopia.



*St Matthew, as depicted in the Lindisfarne Gospels*

## **Psalm 23 – a Psalm for the Pandemic**

*by Canon Paul Hardingham*

There are few psalms as personal and real as Psalm 23. It records David's experience of God as his Shepherd going through dark times. In the midst of the effects of a global pandemic, this psalm speaks to the fears that can overwhelm us.

**He Knows Me:** 'The Lord is my shepherd...' Just as a good shepherd knows every sheep in his flock, so God know each one of us intimately.

**He Provides for Me:** 'He makes me lie down in green pastures...' Just as the shepherd knows the needs of his sheep, so God will provide what we need in our lives and circumstances.

**He Guides Me:** 'He guides me along the right paths...' Just as the shepherd leads the sheep to the best pastures, so God provides the best for us, as we listen and follow Him.

**He Protects Me:** 'Even though I walk through the darkest valley...' Just as the sheep have no need to fear danger when following the shepherd, so we live knowing God's presence and protection.

**He Comforts Me:** 'your rod and your staff, they comfort me.' As the shepherd's rod defends the sheep, and the staff enables him to control the sheep, so God comforts us through His Word and discipline.

The final verses of the psalm (vv 5-6) offer the security of knowing that our lives are in His hands, even through death, as He leads us to the home we've been looking for all our lives.

Some years ago, a great actor was asked to recite Psalm 23, but asked one of the other guests present to do the same. His remarkable rendition was followed by the other man, an older Christian speaking from the heart. Afterwards the actor said: 'The difference between us is that I know the psalm, but he knows the shepherd.'

**The Small Print** for today's service

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