



***A Service of Holy Communion***  
***The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity***

**Welcome to St James**, the parish Church of Bulkington. Thank you for joining us today whether you are in the building or worshipping from home. We are very glad to be with you.

**Holy Communion (or the Eucharist)** is the central act of Christian worship. Through our community celebration of the Eucharist, we tell the story of God with his people throughout history, and proclaim that this God, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, is real among us.

**This service is being livestreamed** so that as many as would like to can be part of our worship.

**As restrictions change**, we want to ensure that we have the safest possible experience of being with each other for our worship. These changes will be under constant review. We ask that you care for yourself and others by:

- Wearing a face covering, unless exempt from doing so.
- Be mindful of those who wish to maintain distance from others
- Using hand sanitiser provided
- Follow the directions of the ministers and stewards
- Continue giving your name for contact tracing

**Please give generously to support St James.** You can

- 
- Join the Parish Giving Scheme (please speak to Rev Charles about this)
- Online at <https://tinyurl.com/y5o6gncq> (the QR code will take you to this page)
- Make an electronic donation via bank transfer or standing order.
- Place a cash donation (white or brown envelope) in the plate on the way into out of Church.



or

## **The Gathering**

*As the organ plays, stewards will show us to our seats and we are welcomed to the service:*

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

**All: Amen.**

## **The Greeting**

The Lord be with you

**All: and also with you.**

## **Prayer of Preparation**

**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.**

## Confession and Absolution

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden,  
to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy  
forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly,  
love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.**

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 goodness,  
and keep *you* in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**All: Amen.**

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

**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**

*We spend a moment in quiet prayer and then the minister prays:*

Almighty God,  
you have made us for yourself,  
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:  
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,  
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city  
where we shall see you face to face;  
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.

**All: Amen.**

## ***The Liturgy of the Word***

### **Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22**

<sup>1</sup> So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. <sup>2</sup> On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, 'What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.' <sup>3</sup> Then Queen Esther answered, 'If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. <sup>4</sup> For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.'

<sup>5</sup> Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, 'Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?' <sup>6</sup> Esther said, 'A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!' Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

<sup>9</sup> Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, 'Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high.' And the king said, 'Hang him on that.' <sup>10</sup> So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

<sup>20</sup> Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, <sup>21</sup> enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, <sup>22</sup> as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## James 5:13-20

<sup>13</sup> Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup> Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup> Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. <sup>17</sup> Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup> Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

<sup>19</sup> My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, <sup>20</sup> you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn – Tell out, my soul

1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord:  
unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of his word;  
in God my saviour shall my heart rejoice.
2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name:  
make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.
3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might:  
pow'rs and dominions lay their glory by;  
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word:  
firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and forevermore.

*Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926), based on Luke 1:46-55*

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*From 'Enlarged Songs of Praise'. Used by permission.*

## **Gospel Reading – Mark 9:38-50**

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

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

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>38</sup> John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' <sup>39</sup> But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup> Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup> For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

<sup>42</sup> 'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup> If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. <sup>45</sup> And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. <sup>47</sup> And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup> where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

<sup>49</sup> 'For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup> Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*After the sermon, we share a time of quiet.*

## **The Creed**

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

**We 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.**

**We 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.**

## Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy

**All: hear our prayer**

*At the end:*

Merciful Father,

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

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

## **The Peace**

Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God

in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

*cf Ephesians 2.15,16*

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

## **Hymn – All people that on earth do dwell**

- 1 All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with fear his praise forth tell,  
come ye before him and rejoice.
- 2 The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,  
without our aid he did us make;  
we are his folk, he doth us feed  
and for his sheep he soth us take.
- 3 O enter then his gates with praise,  
approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud and bless his name always,  
for it is seemly so to do.

- 4 For why? the Lord our God is good:  
his mercy is forever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.
- 5 To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
the God whom heav'n and earth adore,  
from us and from the angel-host  
be praise and glory evermore.

*William Kethe (d.1594)*

*There will not be a collection plate passed around today, but please give generously to support St James (details on p.2).*

## **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.**

Redeeming God, we delight to praise you  
for the triumphs of your grace  
and to thank you for the wonders of your love.  
You created all things to fulfil your longing  
to be covenant relationship with us.

When that trust was broken,  
you visited your children in the exile of Babylon  
and upheld them in a foreign place.

Again in Christ you came closer to your people through suffering  
Than they had been to you in times of plenty.

Because his resurrection was for us and for our salvation,  
we call upon your holy name in the hope that never disappoints us:  
and we celebrate your glory,  
joining with the host of heaven in the never-ending song.

**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.**

Renewing God, in Christ you reveal to us the heart of your life  
and show us how to live the life of your heart.

He is the wonder of you, standing before us;  
and reality of us, standing before you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon your children,

That they may be shaped by your love and joy and peace.

Bless this bread and wine by the power of that same Spirit  
that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, and gave you thanks,  
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,  
'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it  
to his disciples, 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.**

Restoring God, visit today all who are sick:  
send them companions to abide with them,  
faithful friends to pray with them,  
forgiving disciples to be close to them in their suffering  
and prophets to raise them from sadness and pain.

As your servant Elijah prayed fervently for rain  
and found his answer in you,  
look with mercy on all who live in distress or scarcity or doubt or  
despair,  
and hear the cry of all who have found a stumbling block  
in those they had cause to trust.

Turn sorrow into dancing and our grief into hope,  
until your kingdom comes, your will is finally done  
and you are all in all, God the three in one.

**All: Amen**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

**All: Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

## **Giving of Communion**

*We are invited to receive the bread or a blessing*

Come to this table, not because you must but because you may; not because you are strong but because you are weak; not because you have arrived but because you are still on a journey; come because you love the Lord a little and want to love him more. Above all, come because he loves you and gave himself for you.

*If you are joining the service online, you might like to use this prayer:*

### **Prayer of Spiritual Communion**

**Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits you have given me,  
for all the pain 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.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out  
in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work  
to your praise and glory. Amen.**

## **The Dismissal**

We share any **notices**.

## **The Blessing**

## **The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**All: In the name of Christ. Amen**

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