

# Holsworthy Benefice

## July News Sheet

**Bridgerule, Hollacombe, Holsworthy, Pyworthy with Pancrasweek**

	<b>Bridgerule</b>	<b>Hollacombe</b>	<b>Holsworthy</b>	<b>Pancrasweek</b>	<b>Pyworthy</b>
<b>28th June</b>	11am All Age Eucharist		11am Cafe style Church	9.30am All Age Service	9.30am Morning Prayer
<b>5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	11am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Mass	9.30am Sung Eucharist 6pm Civic Service		9.30am Family Service
<b>12<sup>th</sup> July</b>	11am Morning Prayer	3pm Evensong	10.30am Refreshments 11am start. In the Square		9.30am Sung Eucharist
<b>19<sup>th</sup> July</b>	11am Joint Service at Methodist Chapel	9.30am Mass	11am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Sung Eucharist with Songs of Praise
<b>26<sup>th</sup> July</b>	11am All Age Eucharist		11am Cafe style Church	9.30am All Age Service	9.30am Morning Prayer
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Aug</b>	11am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Mass	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Family Service
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Aug</b>	11am Morning Prayer	3pm Evensong	11am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Sung Eucharist
<b>16<sup>th</sup> Aug</b>	11am Joint Service at Methodist Chapel	9.30am Mass	11am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Sung Eucharist
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Aug</b>	11am All Age Eucharist		11am Cafe style Church	9.30am All Age Service	9.30am Morning Prayer
<b>30<sup>th</sup> Aug</b>	10am Benefice Service at Hollacombe				

**[WWW.holsworthybenefice.org.uk](http://www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk)**

**Find us on Facebook at Holsworthy Churches**

**[www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)**

**Revd Alison Hardy - Alison Hardy – [reverendalisonhardy@gmail.com](mailto:reverendalisonhardy@gmail.com), 07780 295752**

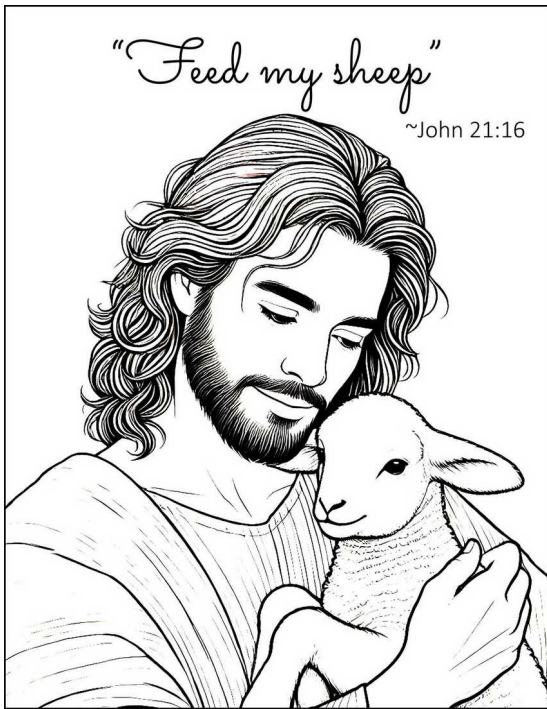
**Reader – Mary Aicheler – [maryaicheler@btinternet.com](mailto:maryaicheler@btinternet.com), 01409 478019**

**Administrator – Libby Cullimore - [holsworthybenefice@icloud.com](mailto:holsworthybenefice@icloud.com) - 07717 750198**

Dear friends,

Thank you to all who asked about my time at the clergy conference in June. It was an experience to be together with the 260 diocesan clergy and discover the full breadth of the richness of our village and town churches. I felt privileged to be able to speak of the blessings of this benefice and our deanery area, and, of course, of your active support in both church and community.

Your active support will be seen in July during St Peter's Fair, as the town groups and organisations – and those from the wider area – join together as one to joyfully observe the annual historical celebrations. I am thoroughly looking forward to the many events!



The fair is named after an interesting saint. St Peter was called by Jesus to lead his church. Peter didn't feel worthy as he made many mistakes, including denying Jesus when he was arrested and on trial. He was overwhelmed with guilt at letting down Jesus, but Jesus forgave him and encouraged him to step up to be the first church leader, saying to him: 'Feed my sheep.' I can only imagine Peter's relief to be forgiven; he took his vocation seriously and diligently led the early church. When he died as a martyr, he did so by refusing to deny Jesus ever again.

This summer the church of St Peter & Paul's are exploring the life of St Peter in their family Creative Church sessions. On Tuesday & Thursday mornings in August, St Peter will come 'alive' through story, games and craft. 10am – 12 noon, for all the family.

Yours in Christ,  
Rev. Alison

## Notices for July

### Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July Well-being event

10am-1pm Holsworthy Leisure Centre – come and support the Christians' Together table, share your church news and join in

2-4pm Pyworthy Children's Crafts in Village Hall

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July Fair Service

6pm St Peter & Paul's: Fair Civic Service

### Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July Pretty Maid Announcement

12noon St Peter & Paul's Church Tower Door

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July Open Air Service

11am Holsworthy Square: Christians' Together Service with drama, games, craft & refreshments from 10.30am

### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July Rota Meeting

7pm The Rectory for Church Wardens & Local Worship Leaders

### Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July Christians' Together

7.15pm Bodmin Street Methodist Church Blue Room, all welcome

### Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July Pyworthy Patronal Weekend

All day in St Swithun's exhibition & refreshments

### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July Holsworthy Primary School end of year service

9.15am St Peter & Paul

## August

Creative Church Holiday Club Tuesday & Thursday 10am-12noon

## September

Ark – church youth group for years 5 – 8 (ages 9-13) at the Rectory, Mondays 3.30pm during autumn & spring terms

Holsworthy History Society  
Simon Dell will be giving a talk on  
Sermons in Stone  
7.00pm Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July  
in the Manor Suite behind the Memorial Hall  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**CALLING ALL CODE-BREAKERS!**

**Open Air Fair Service  
in the Square  
Sunday 12th July  
10.30 for 11am**

**Family Fun Worship**

**De-coding Games**

**Sketch: 'The Riddle of the Missing Boy'  
What do the Enigma Machine, the Sphinx and a  
Bridge have in common?  
*Led by Christians' Together***



**ST SWITHIN'S  
CHURCH**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July - 10am - 4pm**

**and**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2pm - 4pm**

**FLOWER FESTIVAL**

**Floral displays -a VINTAGE theme**

**ART EXHIBITION**

**Paintings by the Art Group**

**PYWORTHY'S HISTORY**

**A display of Photographs and  
Memorabilia of all things  
PYWORTHY**

**Teas and coffees  
Homemade cakes  
and savouries**

**DONATIONS  
FOR THE  
CHURCH**

The theme is the seaside!

# Children's Craft & Sensory Session



Making paper chain Octopus

## Free Craft & Sensory play session

with Amanda on  
Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> July  
2pm until 4pm, in  
Pyworthy Village Hall.  
Refreshments Available  
(for small fee)



Making pool noodle boats!

Making Play-Doh mermaid tails!



Lots of exciting craft activities





# Creative Church Summertime

August 2026 every Tuesday and  
Thursday

10am - 12pm

Free

St Peter's and Paul's Church  
Holsworthy  
(Thursday 27th we will be at the  
showground)

Refreshments

## Activities

Storytime, crafts, games



All children must be accompanied by an adult  
For more information please contact  
[holsworthybenefice@icloud.com](mailto:holsworthybenefice@icloud.com)



Christians Together  
in Holsworthy  
& District

St Peter's Fair

Open-air



service

Worship  
in words  
and  
music

Sunday, July 12th,  
2026 **10.30am for 11**

Holsworthy Square

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

Free refreshments



Plus... **FREE** all-age craft  
activities from 10.30am

\* If wet. the service will be held in the Parish Church

# Readings for July and Aug

## 5<sup>th</sup> July – Green–Fifth Sunday after Trinity -

Zechariah 9: 9-12, Psalm 145 :1-4 1-18, Romans 7: 15-25a, , Matthew 11:16. 23-end.

## 12<sup>th</sup> July – Green–Sixth Sunday after Trinity -

Isaiah 55: 10-13, Psalm 65, Romans 8: 1-11, Matthew 13:1-9. 18-23.

## 19<sup>th</sup> July – Green–Seventh Sunday after Trinity -

Wisdom of Solomon 12:13. 16-19., Psalm 86 :11-end, Romans 8: 12-25, Matthew 10:40-end.

## 26<sup>th</sup> July – Green–Eighth Sunday after Trinity -

1 Kings 3:5-12, Psalm 119: 129-136, Romans 8: 26-end, Matthew 13: 24-30. 36-43.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Green–Ninth Sunday after Trinity -

Isaiah 55: 1-5, Psalm 145: 8-9. 15-end, Romans 9: 1-5, Matthew 14: 13-21

## 9<sup>nd</sup> Aug – Green–Tenth Sunday after Trinity -

1 Kings 19:9-18, Psalm 85: 8-13, Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14: 22-23

## 16<sup>th</sup> - Green–Eleventh Sunday after Trinity -

Isaiah 56: 1. 6-8, Psalm 67, Romans 11: 1-2a 29-32, Matthew 15: (10-20) 21-28

## 23<sup>rd</sup> - Green–Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 51: 1-6, Psalm 138, Romans 12: 1-8, Matthew 16: 13-20

## 30<sup>th</sup> - Green–Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 15: 15-21, Psalm 26: 1-6, Romans 12: 9-end, Matthew 16: 21-end

# Contacts

## **Bridgerule Church Wardens**

Trevor Bowden – 01288 381247

Peter Harris – 01288 381 149

## **Bridgerule Safeguarding Lead**

Val Harris -01409 259192

## **Holsworthy Church Warden**

Helen Flaherty – 07790 380119

Samantha Hatter -07808 889489

## **Holsworthy Deputy Church Warden**

Roger Young – 01409 259345

## **Holsworthy Safeguarding Lead**

Libby Cullimore – 07717750198

## **Hollacombe Church Warden**

Paul Dymond – 01288 381309

## **Hollacombe Safeguarding Lead**

Libby Cullimore - 07717 750198

## **Pyworthy Church Wardens**

Liffy Lowes - 01409 254423

Janet Grant - 01409 259356

## **Pyworthy Safeguarding Lead**

Alison Davies – 01409 251281

## **Pancrasweek Church Wardens**

Adam Rivett – 07941 940524

Libby Cullimore - 07717 750198

## **Pancrasweek Safeguarding Lead**

Libby Cullimore – 07717750198

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**Holsworthy Foodbank**

**01271 377077**

**Samaritans**

**116 123**

**Age UK -**

**0808 055 6112**

**Domesic Abuse – Womens Aid**

**0808 2000 247**

# Sunday 5 July 2026 Fifth Sunday after Trinity

## COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the  
Church is governed and sanctified:  
hear our prayer which we offer for all  
your faithful people,  
that in their vocation and ministry  
they may serve you in holiness and  
truth  
to the glory of your name;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus  
Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING Zechariah 9:9-12

*A reading from the book of the prophet Zechariah.*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
Lo, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey, on  
a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will  
cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the war horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle-bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall command peace to the  
nations; his dominion shall be from  
sea to sea, and from the River to the  
ends of the earth. As for you also,  
because of the blood of my covenant  
with you, I will set your prisoners free  
from the waterless pit. Return to your  
stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
today I declare that I will restore to  
you double.

Or **Genesis 24:34-38. 42-49. 58-end**

## PSALM Psalm 145:8-15

**R** *Great is the Lord and highly to  
be praised.*

The Lord is gracious and merciful,  
long-suffering and of great goodness.  
The Lord is loving to everyone  
and his mercy is over all his creatures. **R**

All your works praise you, O Lord,  
and your faithful servants bless you.  
They tell of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your mighty power, **R**

To make known to all peoples your  
mighty acts  
and the glorious splendour of your  
kingdom.  
Your kingdom is an everlasting  
kingdom;  
your dominion endures throughout all  
ages. **R**

The Lord is sure in all his words  
and faithful in all his deeds.  
The Lord upholds all those who fall  
and lifts up all those who are bowed  
down. **R**

## SECOND READING

### Romans 7:15-25a

*A reading from the letter of Paul to  
the Romans.*

I do not understand my own actions.  
For I do not do what I want, but I do  
the very thing I hate. Now if I do what  
I do not want, I agree that the law is  
good. But in fact it is no longer I that  
do it, but sin that dwells within me.  
For I know that nothing good dwells  
within me, that is, in my flesh. I can  
will what is right, but I cannot do it.  
For I do not do the good I want, but  
the evil I do not want is what I do.  
Now if I do what I do not want, it is no  
longer I that do it, but sin that dwells  
within me. So I find it to be a law that  
when I want to do what is good, evil  
lies close at hand. For I delight in the  
law of God in my inmost self, but I see  
in my members another law at war  
with the law of my mind, making me  
captive to the law of sin that dwells  
in my members. Wretched man that  
I am! Who will rescue me from this  
body of death? Thanks be to God  
through Jesus Christ our Lord!

## GOSPEL

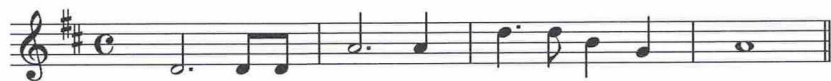
### Matthew 11:16-19. 25-end

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus  
Christ according to Matthew.*

At that time Jesus said, "To what will I  
compare this generation?  
It is like children sitting in the market-  
places and calling to one another,  
'We played the flute for you, and you  
did not dance; we wailed, and you did  
not mourn.' For John came neither  
eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He  
has a demon'; the Son of Man came  
eating and drinking, and they say,  
'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a  
friend of tax-collectors and sinners!' Yet  
wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.  
I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven  
and earth, because you have hidden  
these things from the wise and the  
intelligent and have revealed them to  
infants; yes, Father, for such was your  
gracious will. All things have been  
handed over to me by my Father;  
and no one knows the Son except the  
Father, and no one knows the Father  
except the Son and anyone to whom  
the Son chooses to reveal him. Come  
to me, all you that are weary and are  
carrying heavy burdens, and I will give  
you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and  
learn from me; for I am gentle and  
humble in heart, and you will find rest  
for your souls. For my yoke is easy,  
and my burden is light."

## POST COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you,  
that the course of this world may be  
so peaceably ordered by  
your governance,  
that your Church may joyfully serve  
you in all godly quietness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Great is the Lord and high - ly to be praised

# Sunday 12 July 2026 Sixth Sunday after Trinity

## 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.

## FIRST READING Isaiah 55:10-13

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

Thus says the LORD: As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Or **Genesis 25:19-end**

## PSALM Psalm 65 [or 65:8-end]

**R** *Be joyful in God, all the earth.*

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;  
to you that answer prayer shall vows be  
paid.

To you shall all flesh come to confess their  
sins;  
when our misdeeds prevail against us,  
you will purge them away. **R**

Happy are they whom you choose  
and draw to your courts to dwell there.  
We shall be satisfied with the blessings of  
your house, even of your holy temple.  
With wonders you will answer us in your  
righteousness, O God of our salvation,  
O hope of all the ends of the earth  
and of the farthest seas. **R**

In your strength you set fast the mountains  
and are girded about with might.  
You still the raging of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves  
and the clamour of the peoples.  
Those who dwell at the ends of the earth  
tremble at your marvels;  
the gates of the morning and evening sing  
your praise. **R**

[You visit the earth and water it;  
you make it very plenteous.  
The river of God is full of water;  
you prepare grain for your people,  
for so you provide for the earth.  
You drench the furrows and smooth out  
the ridges;  
you soften the ground with showers and  
bless its increase. **R**

You crown the year with your goodness,  
and your paths overflow with plenty.  
May the pastures of the wilderness flow  
with goodness  
and the hills be girded with joy.  
May the meadows be clothed with flocks  
of sheep  
and the valleys stand so thick with corn  
that they shall laugh and sing.] **R**

## SECOND READING Romans 8:1-11

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.*

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you,

though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

## GOSPEL Matthew 13:1-9. 18-23

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.*

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen! Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

## POST COMMUNION

God of our pilgrimage,  
you have led us to the living water:  
refresh and sustain us  
as we go forward on our journey,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.



### COLLECT

Lord of all power and might,  
the author and giver of all good things:  
graft in our hearts the love of your name,  
increase in us true religion,  
nourish us with all goodness,  
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;  
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.

### FIRST READING

Either **Wisdom of Solomon 12:13. 16-19**  
A reading from the book of Wisdom.

There is not any god besides you, Lord,  
whose care is for all people, to whom you  
should prove that you have not judged  
unjustly; for your strength is the source  
of righteousness, and your sovereignty  
over all causes you to spare all. For you  
show your strength when people doubt  
the completeness of your power, and you  
rebuke any insolence among those who  
know it. Although you are sovereign in  
strength, you judge with mildness, and with  
great forbearance you govern us; for you  
have power to act whenever you choose.  
Through such works you have taught your  
people that the righteous must be kind,  
and you have filled your children with good  
hope, because you give repentance for sins.

### Or Isaiah 44:6-8

A reading from the book of the prophet  
Isaiah.

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.

### Or Genesis 28:10-19a

### PSALM Psalm 86:11-end

**R** All nations you have made shall  
come and worship you, O Lord.

Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will  
walk in your truth;  
knit my heart to you, that I may fear your  
name.  
I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all  
my heart,  
and glorify your name for evermore; **R**

For great is your steadfast love towards  
me,  
for you have delivered my soul from the  
depths of the grave.  
O God, the proud rise up against me  
and a ruthless horde seek after my life;  
they have not set you before their eyes. **R**

But you, Lord, are gracious and full of  
compassion,  
slow to anger and full of kindness and  
truth.  
Turn to me and have mercy upon me;  
give your strength to your servant  
and save the child of your handmaid.  
Show me a token of your favour,  
that those who hate me may see it and  
be ashamed;  
because you, O Lord, have helped and  
comforted me. **R**

### SECOND READING Romans 8:12-25

A reading from the letter of Paul to the  
Romans.

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors,  
not to the flesh, to live according to the  
flesh – for if you live according to the  
flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you  
put to death the deeds of the body, you  
will live. For all who are led by the Spirit  
of God are children of God. For you did  
not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back  
into fear, but you have received a spirit of  
adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it  
is that very Spirit bearing witness with our  
spirit that we are children of God, and if  
children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint  
heirs with Christ – if, in fact, we suffer with  
him so that we may also be glorified with  
him. I consider that the sufferings of this  
present time are not worth comparing with  
the glory about to be revealed to us. For  
the creation waits with eager longing for  
the revealing of the children of God; for  
the creation was subjected to futility, not  
of its own will but by the will of the one  
who subjected it, in hope that the creation  
itself will be set free from its bondage  
to decay and will obtain the freedom  
of the glory of the children of God. We  
know that the whole creation has been  
groaning in labour pains until now; and  
not only the creation, but we ourselves,  
who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan  
inwardly while we wait for adoption, the  
redemption of our bodies. For in hope we  
were saved. Now hope that is seen is not  
hope. For who hopes for what is seen?  
But if we hope for what we do not see, we  
wait for it with patience.

### GOSPEL Matthew 13:24-30. 36-43

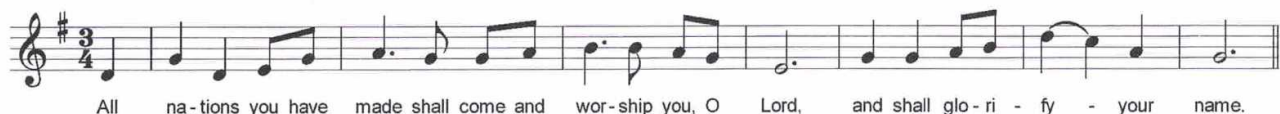
Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.

Jesus put before the crowd 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  
among 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; 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 Jesus 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!”

### POST COMMUNION

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and  
the source of life,  
ever giving himself that the world may  
live:

may we so receive within ourselves the  
power of his death and passion  
that, in his saving cup, we may share his  
glory and be made perfect in his love;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for  
ever.



**COLLECT**

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,  
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and  
govern both our hearts and bodies  
in the ways of our laws and the works of  
your commandments;  
that through your most mighty protection,  
both here and ever,  
we may be preserved in body and soul;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING 1 Kings 3:5-12**

*A reading from the first book of Kings.*

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Or **Genesis 29:15-28**

**PSALM Psalm 119:129-136**

**R** *The opening of your word gives light.*

Your testimonies are wonderful;  
therefore my soul keeps them.  
The opening of your word gives light;  
it gives understanding to the simple. **R**

I open my mouth and draw in my breath,  
as I long for your commandments.  
Turn to me and be gracious to me,  
as is your way with those who love  
your name. **R**

Order my steps by your word,  
and let no wickedness have dominion  
over me.  
Redeem me from earthly oppressors  
so that I may keep your commandments. **R**

Show the light of your countenance upon  
your servant  
and teach me your statutes.  
My eyes run down with streams of water,  
because the wicked do not keep your  
law. **R**

**SECOND READING Romans 8:26-end**

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.*

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present,

nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**GOSPEL Matthew 13:31-33. 44-52**

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.*

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened. The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

**POST COMMUNION**

Strengthen for service, Lord,  
the hands that have taken holy things;  
may the ears which have heard your word  
be deaf to clamour and dispute;  
may the tongues which have sung your  
praise be free from deceit;  
may the eyes which have seen the tokens  
of your love shine with the light of hope;  
and may the bodies which have been fed  
with your body be refreshed with the  
fullness of your life;  
glory to you for ever.

