

13<sup>th</sup> September 2020  
Service of Holy  
Communion



14<sup>th</sup> Sunday After  
Trinity

### The Greeting

The Lord be with you  
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:  
cleans 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.

### Prayer of Penitence

Jesus said: Before you offer your gift, go and be  
reconciled. As brothers and sisters in God's  
family, we come together to ask our Father for  
forgiveness.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have  
sinned against you, through our own fault, in  
thought, and word, and deed, and in what we  
have left undone.

We are heartily sorry, and repent of all our  
sins. For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past; and grant that we  
may serve you in newness of life to the glory of  
your name. Amen.

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from  
your sins, and restore you in his image to the  
praise and glory of his name, through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen.

### The 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

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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.

Amen.

### Old Testament Reading 1 Samuel 24: 1-22

When Saul came back after dealing with the  
Philistines, he was told, "David is now in the  
wilderness of En Gedi." Saul took three  
companies—the best he could find in all  
Israel—and set out in search of David and his  
men in the region of Wild Goat Rocks. He came  
to some sheep pens along the road. There was  
a cave there and Saul went in to relieve  
himself. David and his men were huddled far  
back in the same cave. David's men whispered  
to him, "Can you believe it? This is the day  
GOD was talking about when he said, 'I'll put  
your enemy in your hands. You can do whatever  
you want with him.'" Quiet as a cat, David  
crept up and cut off a piece of Saul's royal  
robe.

Immediately, he felt guilty. He said to his  
men, "GOD forbid that I should have done this  
to my master, GOD's anointed, that I should  
so much as raise a finger against him. He's  
GOD's anointed!" David held his men in check  
with these words and wouldn't let them pounce  
on Saul. Saul got up, left the cave, and went  
on down the road.

Then David stood at the mouth of the cave and  
called to Saul, "My master! My king!" Saul  
looked back. David fell to his knees and bowed  
in reverence. He called out, "Why do you listen  
to those who say 'David is out to get you'? This  
very day with your very own eyes you have  
seen that just now in the cave GOD put you in  
my hands. My men wanted me to kill you, but  
I wouldn't do it. I told them that I won't lift a  
finger against my master—he's GOD's anointed.  
Oh, my father, look at this, look at this piece  
that I cut from your robe. I could have cut  
you—killed you!—but I didn't. Look at the  
evidence! I'm not against you. I'm no rebel. I  
haven't sinned against you, and yet you're  
hunting me down to kill me. Let's decide which  
of us is in the right. GOD may avenge me, but  
it is in his hands, not mine. An old proverb says,

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‘Evil deeds come from evil people.’ So be assured that my hand won’t touch you.

“What does the king of Israel think he’s doing? Who do you think you’re chasing? A dead dog? A flea? GOD is our judge. He’ll decide who is right. Oh, that he would look down right now, decide right now—and set me free of you!”

When David had finished saying all this, Saul said, “Can this be the voice of my son David?” and he wept in loud sobs. “You’re the one in the right, not me,” he continued. “You’ve heaped good on me; I’ve dumped evil on you. And now you’ve done it again—treated me generously. GOD put me in your hands and you didn’t kill me. Why? When a man meets his enemy, does he send him down the road with a blessing? May GOD give you a bonus of blessings for what you’ve done for me today! I know now beyond doubt that you will rule as king. The kingdom of Israel is already in your grasp! Now promise me under GOD that you will not kill off my family or wipe my name off the books.”

David promised Saul. Then Saul went home and David and his men went up to their wilderness refuge.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Reading**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Matthew 18: 21-35**

Then Peter came and said to Jesus, “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,

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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 would 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 would 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**

**Creed**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I 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.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the**

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**forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### Prayers of Intercession

*The response is*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*And, at the end,*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

### The Peace

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,  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

Look upon us in mercy, not in judgement; draw us from hatred to love; make the frailty of our praise a dwelling place for your glory. **Amen.**

### Preparation of the Table

#### The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**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

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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:

**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:

**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

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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 Cuthbert 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. 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.

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.

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

### 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.

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

*When directed, please move forward in silence to receive the bread. The priest will receive the wine on behalf of us all.*

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### Prayers after Communion

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**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 Blackburn Diocesan Vision Prayer for Vision 2026

Heavenly Father, we embrace your call for us to make disciples, to be witnesses and to grow leaders. Give us the eyes to see your vision, ears to hear the prompting of your Spirit and courage to follow in the footsteps of your Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

### The Blessing

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
In the name of Christ. Amen.

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