

Communion Service: 17 September 2023
15th Sunday After Trinity

Notices

- 2-5pm Hethel Mowing
- Community Hub, 11am-2:30pm, Monday, Mulbarton Social Club
 - TearFund Big Quiz, 2:30pm, Sun 1st October

Collect for 15th After Trinity

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.

Amen.

Song: Over All The Earth

Over all the earth
You reign on high,
Every mountain stream,
Every sunset sky.
But my one request,
Lord, my only aim
Is that You'd reign in me again.

Lord, reign in me,
Reign in Your power;
Over all my dreams,
In my darkest hour.
You are the Lord of all I am,
So won't You reign in me again?

Over every thought,
Over every word,
May my life reflect
the beauty of my Lord;
'Cause You mean more to me
Than any earthly thing,
So won't You reign in me again?

Lord, reign in me,
Reign in Your power;
Over all my dreams,
In my darkest hour.
You are the Lord of all I am,

So won't You reign in me again?

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Song: The Splendour of the King

The splendour of the King,
Clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice,
All the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light,
And darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at His voice,
And trembles at His voice.

How great is our God, sing with me,
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God.

And age to age He stands,
And time is in His hands;
Beginning and the end,
Beginning and the end.
The Godhead, three in One,
Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb,
The Lion and the Lamb.

How great is our God, sing with me,
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God.

Name above all names,
Worthy of all praise;
My heart will sing:
How great is our God.

How great is our God, sing with me,
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God.

Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves & Ed Cash
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Receiving God's Forgiveness

Human sin disfigures the whole creation,
which groans with eager longing for God's redemption.

We confess our sin in penitence and faith.

We confess to you our lack of care for the world you have given us.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

We confess to you our failure to protect resources for others.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

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.

Genesis 1: 26-31 (NIV)

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

²⁹ Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.

³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Matthew 25:14-30 (NIV)

¹⁴ "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more.

¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

¹⁹ "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.'

²¹ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a

few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!

²² "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.'

²³ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²⁴ "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

²⁶ "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.'

²⁸ "'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness,
O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not,
Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

Summer and winter
and springtime and harvest
Sun, moon and stars
in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence
to cheer and to guide
Strength for today
and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine
with ten thousand beside

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

“The Seeds We Have”

Blessing Our Churchyard

Contemplating Seeds

The Profession of Faith:

We say together in faith

**All: Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father,
who created all things:

**All: for by his will they were created
and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:

**All: for with his blood,
he purchased us for God,
from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

**All: the Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come!’
Even so come, Lord Jesus!
Amen.**

Creation Commitment

Please take a seed or seeds and hold in your hand, as we contemplate the abundant potential contained within.

Knowing that God has blessed us with abundant riches, let us commit ourselves to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Take a moment to think of a practical action which you could make: maybe turning the heating down, turning off unused lights, avoiding stand-by mode

Will you order your life to protect and preserve the earth's resources, living simply so that others may simply live?

All We will.

Take a moment to think of a practical action which you can take: maybe recommitting to choosing Fairtrade goods, avoiding palm oil in your food, shopping more efficiently to cut down the amount of food thrown away

Will you pray for all who sow in the hope of an abundant harvest, for those who will grow and be fed by it?

All We will.

Take a moment to think of a way you and your church might better provide for the hungry, e.g. through food banks, allotment projects, community cafes or by raising political awareness

Will you preach the good news of God's new creation that others may learn to tend and nurture it; and will you welcome others to feast on bread and wine at His table?

All We will.

Merciful God, you have blessed us richly, yet we offer to you our fears that what we sow may not grow to fruition. Sustain and nurture us as we make known your work in creation, and give us compassion as we look with wonder at even the smallest of seeds.

We pray that the good news rooted within us will feed the world around us, and knowing that you planted us in the garden of your delight, we pray that we may be counted in the harvest of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ the first fruits.

All Amen.

Our Prayers

Holy Communion

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
for your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
He is the image of the unseen God,
the firstborn of all creation.

He created all things in heaven and on earth:
everything visible and everything invisible,
thrones, dominions, sovereignties, powers,
all things were created through him and for him.
Lord of all creation

All we worship and adore you.

He is the radiant light of your glory:
he holds all creation together by his word of power.
Lord of all creation

All we worship and adore you.

He is first to be born from the dead.
All perfection is found in him,
and all things were reconciled through him and for him,
everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the
cross.
Lord of all creation

All we worship and adore you.

The Church is his body, he is its head. He takes his place in heaven at your right hand, where
we worship you with all of your creation, singing:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full
of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

All **Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ,
and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name.**

**Your Kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Amen.

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup.
**We proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink
in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

Song: He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Saviour loves me so
He will hold me fast

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Saviour loves me so
He will hold me fast

For my life He bled and died

Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When he comes at last

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Saviour loves me so
He will hold me fast

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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.**

Song: O Lord My God

O Lord, my God,
when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works
thy hands hath made,
I see the stars,
I hear the mighty thunder,
thy pow'r throughout
the universe displayed

Then sings my soul,
my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art!
How great thou art!
Then sings my soul,
my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art!
How great thou art!

When through the woods
and forest glades I wander,
and hear the birds
sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down

from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook
and feel the gentle breeze;

Then sings my soul,
my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art!
How great thou art!
Then sings my soul,
my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art!
How great thou art!

And when I think that God,
his Son not sparing,
sent him to die,
I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross
my burden gladly bearing
he bled and died
to take away my sin;

Then sings my soul,
my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art!
How great thou art!
Then sings my soul,
my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art!
How great thou art!

When Christ shall come
with shout of acclamation
and take me home,
what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow
in humble adoration
and there proclaim:
"My God, how great thou art!"

Then sings my soul,
my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art!
How great thou art!
Then sings my soul,
my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art!

How great thou art!

Closing Blessing

The love of the Lord Jesus
draw *you* to himself,
the power of the Lord Jesus
strengthen *you* in his service,
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill *your* hearts;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among *you* and remain with *you* always.

Amen.