

ARCH Group's aim: "To show love for God and You"

Weekly Notice – 17th August 2025

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Today's Collect

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the spirit in love and joy and peace; 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 forever.

Today's Post Communion

Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week's Services: Sunday 24th August

10:00am	Harvington	Morning Service
10:00am	Church Lench	Benefice Communion

*Please remember **Caring Hands** (charity supporting local poverty), whilst shopping to add an extra item or two to your basket. They need toiletries, toilet rolls, tins, dried goods, and items that can be cooked via a kettle, single ring hob or microwave.*

Prayer

Lord, we come together today from different homes, different situations, different jobs and hobbies, yet with one uniting feature: we are here together to worship and be transformed by you. We come together to learn more of you and then be sent out to live your way in our world. Sometimes we find living your way to be easy, sometimes it's a challenge, sometimes it is very, very hard. Thank you that we have each other to run a race with, without being alone. We thank you for the privilege of being able to support each other on the journey.

Lord, help us to run your race **Supporting each other as we go**

We think particularly of those who are finding the journey very hard at the moment. We pray for the sick, the sorrowful, the bereaved, those who have received difficult news, those whose exam results were not what they had hoped for. Lord, we pray for our communities. We thank you that you have placed us where you want us to be. Help us to run the race of bringing in your kingdom to our community this week.

Lord, help us to run your race **Supporting each other as we go.**

We think of any particular issues that are in the news in our community. Help us to see where you are at work in these situations and to run alongside you. Give us the wisdom to say the right words, to challenge where we see injustice, to encourage the good and creative.

Lord, help us to run your race **Supporting each other as we go.**

We offer ourselves to you during this coming week. Maybe we need to face something hard, maybe we are expecting some fun things to happen. Maybe we don't know if anything different will take place at all. Lord, whatever happens, help us to run each day alongside you and help us to run the race of faith with our families and friends. Run before us into every situation and help us to follow faithfully. **Amen**

This Week's First Reading: *Isaiah 5.1-7*

I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. ² He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit. ³ “Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad?

⁵ Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard, I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it.” ⁷ The vineyard of the Lord Almighty is the nation of Israel, and the people of Judah are the vines he delighted in. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

This Week's Psalm: *Psalm 80.9-End*

⁹ You cleared the ground for it, and it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰ The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.

¹¹ Its branches reached as far as the Sea, its shoots as far as the River.

¹² Why have you broken down its walls so that all who pass by pick its grapes?

¹³ Boars from the forest ravage it, and insects from the fields feed on it.

¹⁴ Return to us, God Almighty! Look down from heaven and see! Watch over this vine,

continued: Psalm 80.9-End

¹⁵ the root your right hand has planted, the son you have raised up for yourself.

¹⁶ Your vine is cut down, it is burned with fire; at your rebuke your people perish.

¹⁷ Let your hand rest on the man at your right hand, the son of man you have raised up for yourself.

¹⁸ Then we will not turn away from you; revive us, and we will call on your name.

¹⁹ Restore us, Lord God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

This Week's Second Reading: *Hebrews 11.29-12.2*

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days. ³¹ By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient. ³² And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. ³⁵ Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection.

Continued: Hebrews 11.29-12.2

³⁶ Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— ³⁸ the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground. ³⁹ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, ⁴⁰ since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

¹² Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Luke 12.49-56*

⁴⁹ "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ But I have a baptism to undergo, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. ⁵² From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three.

Continued: Luke 12.49-56

⁵³ They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴ He said to the crowd: “When you see a cloud rising in the west, immediately you say, ‘It’s going to rain,’ and it does. ⁵⁵ And when the south wind blows, you say, ‘It’s going to be hot,’ and it is. ⁵⁶ Hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky.

How is it that you don’t know how to interpret this present time?

Next Week’s First Reading: *Jeremiah 1.4-10*

⁴ The word of the Lord came to me, saying, ⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.” ⁶ “Alas, Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.” ⁷ But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. ⁸ Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.

⁹ Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

Next Week's Psalm: *Psalm 71.1-6*

¹ In you, Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.

² In your righteousness, rescue me and deliver me; turn your ear to me and save me.

³ Be my rock of refuge, to which I can always go; give the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

⁴ Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of those who are evil and cruel.

⁵ For you have been my hope, Sovereign Lord, my confidence since my youth.

⁶ From birth I have relied on you; you brought me forth from my mother's womb. I will ever praise you.

Next Week's Second Reading: *Hebrews 12.18-End*

¹⁸ You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; ¹⁹ to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, ²⁰ because they could not bear what was commanded: "Even if an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death." ²¹ The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear." ²² But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, ²³ to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. ²⁵ See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks.

Continued: Hebrews 12.18-End

If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven?²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.”²⁷ The words “once more” indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,²⁹ for our “God is a consuming fire.”

Next Week’s Gospel Reading: *Luke 12.10-17*

¹⁰ And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.¹¹ “When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say,¹² for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say.”¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”¹⁴ Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?”¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”¹⁶ And he told them the parable of the Rich fool: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest.¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’