

<u>Weekly Notice – 7th September 2025</u> Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Today's Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of 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

God of all mercy, in this eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing: grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week's services: Sunday 14th September

9:30 am Harvington Holy Communion11:00 am Church Lench Lay-Led Service11:00 am Abbots Morton Holy Communion

18:00 am Harvington Taizé Service With Refreshments

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.

Prayers of Intercession

God of all joy, look with mercy on this your family remembering that Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross for us. Grant wisdom to all who minister in your name, strength to all who are being persecuted for your sake, and perseverance to us all on the journey of faith. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of all power, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to understand your hand in creation and your likeness in all your children. May you bring us together in your name to overcome all that divides, all that is unjust and false and supports all that nourishes and heals bringing peace and reconciliation over violence and fear. Especially we think of Gaza and Ukraine. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of all comfort, our help in trouble, look with kindness and mercy on all those who suffer, in body, mind or spirit; console them with a sense of your presence; preserve them from the enemy; and shelter and surround them with love. Guide the hands of healers and the hearts of aid workers; bless all caregivers and advocates; and watch over all who are dying, and over those who watch and wait with them. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of all, 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, that we may dwell in your presence and come to see you face to face. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

This Week's First Reading: Jeremiah 18.1 - 11.

This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: 2 "Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message." 3 So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. 4 But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. ⁵ Then the word of the LORD came to me. ⁶ He said, "Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?" declares the LORD. "Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel. ⁷ If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, 8 and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. 9 And if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, 10 and if it does evil in my sight and does not obey me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it.

¹¹ "Now therefore say to the people of Judah and those living in Jerusalem, 'This is what the LORD says: Look! I am preparing a disaster for you and devising a plan against you. So turn from your evil ways, each one of you, and reform your ways and your actions.'

This Week's Psalm: Psalm 139.1-5, 12-18.

- 1. You have searched me, LORD, and you know me.
- 2. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.
- 3. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.
- 4. Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely.
- 5. You hem me in behind and before,
- 12. even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

(continuing: Psalm 139.1-5, 12-18)

- 14. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well.
- 15. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
- 16. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.
- 17. How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them!
- 18. Was I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand— when I awake, I am still with you.

This Week's Second Reading: Philemon 1-21.

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker— ² also to Aphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier—and to the church that meets in your home: ³ Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear about your love for all his holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. ⁷ Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people. ⁸ Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, ⁹ yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is as none other than Paul—an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus—

(Continuing Philemon 1-21)

- ¹⁰ that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me. ¹² I am sending him—who is my very heart—back to you.
- ¹³ I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. ¹⁴ But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favour you do would not seem forced but would be voluntary. ¹⁵ Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back forever— ¹⁶ no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord.
- ¹⁷ So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back—not to mention that you owe me your very self. ²⁰ I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

This week's Gospel Reading: Luke 14.25-33.

²⁵ Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said:²⁶ "If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple.

(Continuing: Luke 14.25-33.)

²⁷ And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.²⁸ "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it?

²⁹ For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, ³⁰ saying, 'This person began to build and wasn't able to finish.' ³¹ "Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won't he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. ³³ In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

Next Week's First Reading: Numbers 21.4-9

⁴They travelled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵ they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!"

⁶The Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

(Continuing: Numbers 21.4-9)

⁸The Lord said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

Next Week's Psalm: Psalm 22.23-28

²³ You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, honor him! Revere him, all you descendants of Israel! ²⁴ For he has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.

- ²⁵ From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you, I will fulfil my vows.
- ²⁶ The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord will praise him— may your hearts live forever!
- ²⁷ All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him,
- ²⁸ for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.

Next week's Second Reading: Philippians 2.6-11

⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, glory of God the Father.

Next week's Gospel Reading: John 3.13-17

¹³ No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.