

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

Weekly Notices

22nd September 2024

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Today's Collect

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today's Post Communion Prayer

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us,
and make us continually to be given to all good works;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week's Services: Sunday 29th September 2024

10.00 am

Harvington

Benefice Communion+

Harvest Thanksgiving Gifts

Next month we will have our Harvest Thanksgiving services where we take the opportunity to bring gifts to support our Food Banks – and it will be no different this year. Caring Hands will enjoy our generosity. Do check their Facebook Page to keep up to date as to what they require.

Tinned goods, including meals in a tin, tinned fruit and toiletries for all ages are a safe bet. Demand is not diminishing...

Tickets for the Harvest Suppers at Abbots Morton and Rous Lench, and the Harvest Lunch at Church Lench are available through PCC members

For Prayer

Loving Lord, we commend to you those who are striving to make peace in Ukraine and in Israel-Palestine. Give them wisdom in their thinking; mercy in their action; and fairness in all that they do. We remember all those who live in regions where there is conflict and unrest; those who have been injured; those who have lost loved ones. Grant to them comfort and strength. Help us to be peacemakers

Give us wisdom, mercy and righteousness

Gracious Saviour we pray for those making political and economic policy in our own country. Give them wisdom in their thinking; mercy in their action; and fairness in all that they do. We pray for the health service; for those who fear fuel poverty; for all who are dependent on foodbanks. Embrace each one with your comforting love.

Help us to be peacemakers

Give us wisdom, mercy and righteousness

Life-giving Spirit, we pray for our church and the church throughout the world; for all religious leaders and followers. Give them wisdom in their thinking; mercy in their action; and fairness in all that they do. We pray for all congregations and communities of Christians. Give them a desire for unity; a passion for mission and a yearning to make more followers of Christ.

Help us to be peacemakers

Give us wisdom, mercy and righteousness

Trinity of love, joy and peace we pray for all with particular needs at this time; for those who are sick; for those who grieve; for those who are lonely; for those who are despondent. Give them wisdom in their thinking; mercy in their action; and fairness in all that they do. We pray for those who offer counselling, medical care, pastoral support and love. Give them strength, comfort and compassion in all that they are and do.

Help us to be peacemakers

Give us wisdom, mercy and righteousness

May we show the wisdom that comes from heaven – pure, peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Make us peacemakers who sow in peace and reap a harvest of righteousness. In the name of Jesus

Amen

This Week's First Reading: *Jeremiah 11:18-20*

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. ¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, 'Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!' ²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

This Week's Psalm: *Psalms 54:1-7*

- 1 Save me, O God, by your name and vindicate me by your power.
- 2 Hear my prayer, O God; give heed to the words of my mouth.
- 3 For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless seek after my life; they have not set God before them.
- 4 Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who upholds my life.
- 5 May evil rebound on those who lie in wait for me; destroy them in your faithfulness.
- 6 An offering of a free heart will I give you and praise your name, O Lord, for it is gracious.
- 7 For he has delivered me out of all my trouble, and my eye has seen the downfall of my enemies.

This Week's Second Reading: *James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a*

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. ¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Mark 9:30-37*

After leaving the mountain ³⁰Jesus and his disciples went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will

Mark 9:30-37 continued

rise again.’ ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, ‘What were you arguing about on the way?’ ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, ‘Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.’ ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷‘Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.’

Next Week’s First Reading:

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

⁴The rabble among the people had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, ‘If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.’

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, ‘Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favour in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, “Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,” to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, “Give us meat to eat!” ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 continued

for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once – if I have found favour in your sight – and do not let me see my misery.’

¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, ‘Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.’

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, ‘Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.’ ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, ‘My lord Moses, stop them!’ ²⁹But Moses said to him, ‘Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!’

Next Week’s Psalm: *Psalm 19:7-14*

- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
- 8 The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter also than honey, dripping from the honeycomb.

Psalm 19:7-14 continued

- 11 By them also is your servant taught and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often they offend? O cleanse me from my secret faults!
- 13 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins lest they get dominion over me; so shall I be undefiled, and innocent of great offence.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Next Week's Second Reading: *James 5:13-20*

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. ¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Next Week's Gospel Reading: *Mark 9:38-50*

³⁸John said to Jesus, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' ³⁹But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever

Mark 9:38-50 continued

is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire.

⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'