



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

Weekly Notice – 10th August 2025

Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Today's Collect

Almighty God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Today's Post Communion Prayer

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever.

Next Week's Services: Sunday 17th August

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| 10:00am | Rous Lench | Benefice Communion |
| 10:00am | Harvington | Joint Service at Baptist Chapel |
| 12:00pm | Harvington | Baptism |

*Please remember **Caring Hands** (charity supporting local poverty) whilst shopping. They accept tinned food or toiletries.*

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we pray for those who are struggling with poverty. Grant them strength and resilience. Help us to be a source of support and generosity, sharing our resources and extending a helping hand. We think of those who are strangers in a foreign country, for whom home is a tent and happiness is a dream from the past. Give them hope of a better future and a goal of great happiness they can see to be true.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our Prayer.**

Lord, we lift up those who are experiencing conflict and violence. Soften hearts, inspire reconciliation, and guide us to be peacemakers in our own lives and communities. Give strength to those in power to make decisions based on the greater good not just the gain of those closest to them.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our Prayer.**

Gracious God, we pray for those who are marginalized and forgotten. Open our eyes to see their needs and move us to action, that we might be your love and compassion in the world. Let us never forget that Jesus is watching and will appear when we least expect it. Help us to be your vessels.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our Prayer.**

God of love and compassion we bring to you those who suffer in mind, body or soul. Let them feel your encompassing love and gentle hand in the path to wellness and for those who have walked the great journey of life may they rest in your shadow, forever loved and cherished as your children.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our Prayer.**

This Week's First Reading: *Isaiah 1.1,10-20*

¹The vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem that Isaiah son of Amoz saw during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the instruction of our God, you people of Gomorrah! ¹¹What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the LORD; I have more than enough burnt-offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, lambs, or goats.

¹²When you come to appear before me, who asked you to trample my courts? ¹³bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation – I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity. ¹⁴Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates; they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them. ¹⁵When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. ¹⁶Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, ¹⁷learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.

¹⁸Come now, let us argue it out, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. ¹⁹If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; ²⁰but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

This Week's Psalm: *Psalm 50.1-8, 23-end*

1. The Lord, the most mighty God, has spoken and called the world from the rising of the sun to its setting.
2. Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth; our God comes and will not keep silence.
3. Consuming fire goes out before him and a mighty tempest stirs about him.
4. He calls the heaven above, and the earth, that he may judge his people:
5. 'Gather to me my faithful, who have sealed my covenant with sacrifice.'
6. Let the heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.
7. Hear, O my people, and I will speak: 'I will testify against you, O Israel; for I am God, your God.
8. 'I will not reprove you for your sacrifices, for your burnt offerings are always before me.
1. 'You that forget God, consider this well, lest I tear you apart and there is none to deliver you.
2. 'Whoever offers me the sacrifice of thanksgiving honours me and to those who keep my way will I show the salvation of God.'

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Luke 12:32-40*

Jesus said to his disciples, ³²'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Continued: Luke 12:32-40

³⁵Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

Next 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.

Next 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,

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 11.1-3, 8-16*

¹Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

Continued: Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16.

¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’ ¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Next 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. 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.

continuing: *Hebrews 11.29- 12.2*

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.

Next Week's Third Reading: *Luke 12.32-40*

³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ "Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶ like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks, they can immediately open the door for him. ³⁷ It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. ³⁸ It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. ³⁹ But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."