

Sunday 12th July
Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Today's Collect

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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 for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

God of our pilgrimage, you have led us to the living water: refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week Services: Sunday 19th July

11:00am	Church Lench	Holy Com. BCP
11:00am	Abbots Morton	Holy Communion
10:00am	Harvington	Church @10
3:00pm	<i>Norton & Lenchwick</i>	<i>Service for Creation</i>

Notices

- Wednesday Communions at St James' will start again after the holidays on Wednesday 2nd September at 11am.
- Bingo and Coffee mornings in Norton & Lenchwick VH are *temporarily* cancelled due to car accident.

What's On

- Norton & Lenchwick coffee morning at 10am on 18th July
- Messy Church at Church Lench at 3:30-5:30pm on 26th July
- Bimble Car Drive out on 8th August – contact Tina Hill, tinahill18@hotmail.com for tickets!
- Kington Flower Festival – 24th, 25th, 26th July

This Week's First Reading: *Isaiah 55.10-13.*

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹² For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

This Weeks Psalm: *Psalms 65*

This Week's Second Reading: *Romans 8.1-11.*

⁸ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot,⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23.*

¹³ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake.² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach.

³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow.⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up.⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil.⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away.⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.⁹ Let anyone with ears listen!'

¹⁸ 'Hear then the parable of the sower.¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;²¹ yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.

²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

Next Weeks Readings: *Isaiah 44.6-8, Psalm 86.11-end, Romans 8.12-25, Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43.*

Prayer of Intercession

Life is made up of choices large and small, many of which carry consequences. We pray for those having to make difficult decisions. Mothers, fathers, carers and children. We pray for all the life choices put before us and ask for your guidance to make us honest in our truth and strong in our faith knowing that you will always be there with us.

Lord, we pray today for all who have important choices to make. May they be aware of all consequences.

We pray for all those holding political power in this country. We pray for the person expected to soon move into the position of Prime Minister. Days will be filled with a great many choices to be made. Choices that will affect us all. Choices that will affect the health of this country. We pray for our country's defences, that they be fortified.

Lord, we pray today for all who have important choices to make. May they be aware of all consequences.

We pray for those choosing to help others, often at risk to their own lives. We think of the International Search and Rescue teams helping in Venezuela. We pray for your church, Lord and all who commit to ministry. May we, your people, reach out to all in need, showing your love in action. We pray for all in need, overseas and at home, and particularly those within our own communities.

Lord, guide us, your church, as we shine your light amid the dark.

As this country endures a third heatwave we pray for the young, old and all who are vulnerable and susceptible to heat. We pray for those who have lost loved ones and help us to remember that they now rest in your warm and loving embrace, safe from harm. We pray for all those who are suffering in mind body or soul and hope that your love will find and support the, in the week ahead.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.