

Sunday 7th June

First Sunday After Trinity

Today's Collect

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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.

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week Services: Sunday 14th June

10:00am	Harvington	Holy Communion
10:00am	Norton & Lenchwick	Church @10
11:00am	Church Lench	LayLed Church @11
8:30am	Rous Lench	Holy Communion
Mid-week Eucharist: 11:00am Wednesdays at St James', Harvington		

Events

- **Arch Messenger Deadline:** Monday 8th June.
- Coach & Horses **Men's Night** is Wednesday 10th June.
- Church Lench School **Summer Fete** -13th June, 12-2pm.
- Rous Lench **Annual Pig Roast**– 27th June. Willing helpers can contact Fran on Herdmanfrances@gmail.com.
- **Annual Flower Festival** – If you'd like to take part please contact pippa@p1g.co.uk or look at the website for more information.

This Week's First Reading: *Hosea 5.15- 6.6.*

¹⁵ I will return again to my place until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face. In their distress they will beg my favour: 6 'Come, let us return to the Lord; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. ² After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. ³ Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.'

⁴ What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. ⁵ Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgement goes forth as the light. ⁶ For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt-offerings.

This weeks Psalm: *Psalm 50.7-15,*

This Week's Second Reading: *Romans 4.13-end.*

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶ For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')- in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸ Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.'

¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.

Romans 4.13-end continued:

²⁰ No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,²¹ being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.'²³ Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone,²⁴ but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,²⁵ who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Matthew 9.9-13, 18-26.*

⁹ As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. ¹⁰ While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

¹² On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.¹³ But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

¹⁸ While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live."

¹⁹ Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples.

²⁰ Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak.

²¹ She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed."

²² Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed at that moment.

²³ When Jesus entered the synagogue leader's house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, ²⁴ he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him. ²⁵ After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up.

²⁶ News of this spread through all that region.

Next Weeks Readings: *Exodus 19. 2-8, Psalm 100, Romans 5.1-8, Matthew 9.35- 10.8, 9-23.*

Prayer of Intercession

O Most High, your appearing is as sure as the dawn;
You come to us like refreshing spring showers that
nourish the earth. We meet you here, seeking your
wisdom.

We praise you, seeking your blessing.

We listen to you, Seeking your direction for our lives.

O Risen Lord, We meet you here aware that your love
is steadfast, whilst ours fades like a morning cloud, or
dew that evaporates quickly. We bring you our
worship, poetic prayers, and hymns, yet you ask for
steadfast love.

We give you our time hoping you'll be pleased with us,
yet you ask for knowledge of God and Your ways.

We worship you on Sundays but all too often ignore you
during the weekdays; yet you demand mercy, and
lives lived with a sacrifice of praise. Forgive us, Risen
Lord, and give us time to change.

We gather in your presence, Most Holy Spirit,
knowing our faith makes us whole, longing for your
power within us, yearning to follow your lead as we
worship, evangelise, witness, and serve, showing the
Church's mission in our world.

Give us the grace to accept the forgiveness you bring,
forgive ourselves, and forgive those who may have
hurt us. **Amen.**