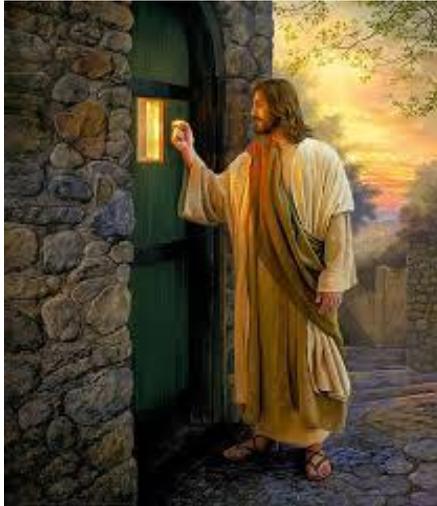


The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Proper 14 Year C



*'You also must be ready,
for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'*

The Parish Mass

Sunday 7th August 2022

10.15 am

Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church

This morning's First Reading is about faith in God's promises. It extols various figures in the history of Israel, but especially Abraham, as examples of faith.

The emphasis of the Gospel is on our readiness for the return of the Lord. Even though the disciples are only a 'little flock' in a hostile world, they must not be discouraged, but must look with confidence to the Father who has chosen them for his kingdom. They are like bridesmaids waiting for the bridegroom (Jesus) to return from the wedding feast. Since they do not know the exact hour of his return, they must maintain a constant watchfulness and faithfulness.

Though these words have relevance for all Christians, Luke was thinking especially of leaders in the community, and calling them to a selfless service of their Lord and of their fellow Christians.

Reflection

Beatitudes of life

Blessed are the faithful:

they are like safe anchors in a world of broken moorings.

Blessed are the just:

they are to society what leaven is to bread.

Blessed are the generous:

they keep alive our faith is the essential goodness of people.

Blessed are the caring:

they shine like beacons in a world darkened by indifference.

Blessed are the genuine:

they glow like gems in a world of falseness.

Blessed are those who are not afraid of sacrifice:

on the day of the harvest they will sing for joy.

And blessed are those who refuse to look back:

they will be found worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven.



Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

§ *Please stand at the sound of the bell*

Hymn

The procession enters

All

**Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.**

**Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
Speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.**

**Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
Spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
For young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.**

**Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
Loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.**

**Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,
Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
Past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.**

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926)

Music: Lord of the years
Michael Baughen (b. 1930)
arranged by David Lidd (b. 1939)

All † In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Greeting

Welcome in the name of Christ.
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you.
All **and also with you.**

The service is introduced

Invitation to Confession

We are servants of God and of one another.
But what kind of servants are we?
Let us ask forgiveness for our sins and carelessness
in our service of God and of one another.

Silence is kept

Confession

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry,
and repent of all our sins.
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Kyries

Lord, remember not our past sins;
let your compassion be swift to meet us:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Help us, O God our Saviour, for we have been brought very low:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Deliver us and forgive us our sins for the glory of your name:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

Priest May almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive † you your sins,
and bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

All **Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

The Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty Lord and everlasting 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,
both here and ever,
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 for ever.

All **Amen.**

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
now that we have prepared for this encounter with God
in the holy scriptures,
let us be seated to receive into our hearts and minds
the living word of the Lord as it is proclaimed to us.

§ *Please be seated*

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Reader A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By 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.

By 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. By 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. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By 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. Therefore 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.’

All 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, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But 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.

Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Response

Christopher Tambling



Cantor Happy the nation whose God is the Lord
and the people he has chosen for his own. **Response**

The Lord looks down from heaven
and beholds all the children of earth.
From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze
on all who dwell on the earth.
He fashions all the hearts of them
and understands all their works. **Response**

No king is saved by the might of his host;
no warrior delivered by his great strength.
A horse is a vain hope for deliverance;
for all its strength it cannot save. **Response**

Behold, the eye of the Lord
is upon those who fear him,
on those who wait in hope for his steadfast love,
To deliver their soul from death
and to feed them in time of famine. **Response**

Our soul waits longingly for the Lord;
he is our help and our shield.
Indeed, our heart rejoices in him;
in his holy name have we put our trust.
Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us,
as we have set our hope on you. **Response**

Psalm 33.12-22

§ *Please stand*

The Homily

The Nicene Creed

§ Please stand

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

*All may
bow* ***For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.***

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the Faithful

God has made us stewards over the earth.
Let us pray that we may be good stewards of his creation.

§ *Please kneel or sit*

After each petition

Intercessor

All

Powerful God
protect us and give us your peace.

Merciful God,
give us a love for what you command
and a longing for what you promise,
so that amidst the changes and uncertainties of this world,
our hearts may be set on the world of lasting joy.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All

Amen.

§ *Please stand*

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

All

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

Please respect the needs of those who prefer to do so without physical contact

The Offertory

The bread and wine are brought forward and given to the presiding priest.

The altar is prepared.

Hymn

All

**Jerusalem the golden,
With milk and honey blest,
Beneath thy contemplation
Sink heart and voice opprest.
I know not, O I know not,
What social joys are there,
What radiancy of glory,
What bliss beyond compare.**

**They stand, those halls of Sion,
Conjubilant with song,
And bright with many an angel
And all the martyr throng;
The Prince is ever in them,
The daylight is serene,
The pastures of the blessed
Are decked in glorious sheen.**

**There is the throne of David;
And there, from care released,
The song of them that triumph,
The shout of them that feast;
And they who, with their Leader,
Have conquered in the fight,
For ever and for ever
Are clad in robes of white.**

**O sweet and blessed country,
Shall I ever see thy face?
O sweet and blessed country,
Shall I ever win thy grace?
Exult, O dust and ashes!
The Lord shall be thy part:
His only, his for ever,
Thou shalt be, and thou art!**

Words: *De contemptu mundi* (poem)
w 1-3 Bernard of Cluny (fl c 1140), Trans John Mason Neale (1818-66),
V 4 Hymns Ancient and Modern (1861),
Stoford Augustus Brooke (1832-1916)

Music: Ewing

Invitation to Prayer

Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

All **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Prayer over the Gifts

O Lord, graciously sanctify these gifts,
and make us with them an eternal offering to you.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

From sunrise to sunset this day is holy,
for Christ has risen from the tomb
and scattered the darkness of death with light that will not fade.
This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people,
unfolds for us your word,
and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread.
And though the night will overtake this day
you summon us to live in endless light,
the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord.

And so, with choirs of angels and with all the heavenly host,
we proclaim your glory and join their unending song of praise:

All

**Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of power and might.
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

All



Dy-ing you de-stroyed our death, ris-ing you re-stored our life: Lord Jes-us, come in glo-ry.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world,
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Mary the Virgin Mother of God,
Saint Matthew and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All



A- men.

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and bells are rung

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Saviour taught us:

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

All We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

All **Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

Giving of Communion

I am the bread of life, says the Lord; whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Baptised persons who are communicant members of other Churches are warmly invited to receive Holy Communion.

*The Blessed Sacrament is available in both kinds (bread and wine).
If you prefer to receive the consecrated bread only, please feel free to do so.*

Alternatively, if you wish to receive a blessing, please bring this booklet with you as a sign.

Spiritual Communion – for those at home

Act of Reception

All In union, blessed Jesus,
with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church
where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,

(and remembering particularly my own parish ...)

I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,
for creation and all the blessings of this life,
for the redemption won for us by your life, death,
and resurrection,
for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,
I pray you to come into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart,
my soul, and my mind.
Let nothing separate me from you;
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.
Amen.

Hymn

All

**Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands
That holy things have taken;
Let ears that now have heard thy songs
To clamour never waken.**

**Lord, may the tongues which 'Holy' sang
Keep free from all deceiving;
The eyes which saw thy love be bright,
Thy blessed hope perceiving.**

**The feet that tread thy holy courts
From light do thou not banish;
The bodies by thy Body fed
With thy new life replenish.**

Syrian (Ephrem of Edessa) (c 307-373) Music: Ach Gott und herr
trans Charles William Humphreys (1840-1921) J S Bach (1685-1750)
and Percy Dearmer (1867-1936)

A period of silent reflection and thanksgiving is observed

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

§ *Please stand*

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 which have been fed with your body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.

All

Amen.

**God of truth,
we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands the bread of life:
strengthen our faith
that we may grow in love for you
and for each other;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Hymn

All

**Ye servants of the Lord,
Each for your Master wait,
Observant of his heavenly word,
And watchful at his gate.**

**Let all your lamps be bright,
And trim the golden flame;
Gird up your loins as in his sight,
For awful is his name.**

**Watch! 'tis your Lord's command,
And while we speak, he's near;
Mark the first signal of his hand,
And ready all appear.**

**O happy servant he,
In such a posture found!
He shall his Lord with rapture see,
And be with honour crowned.**

**Christ shall the banquet spread
With his own royal hand,
And raise that favoured servant's head
Amid the angelic band.**

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751) Music: Narenza

Notices for the Community

§ *Please be seated*

¶ Sending Out

§ *Please stand*

All The Lord be with you.
and also with you.

Solemn Blessing

All May the Father,
who fed his children with bread and honey in the wilderness,
strength you in your pilgrimage to the Promised Land.
Amen.

All May the Son,
who gave his flesh for food and his blood for drink,
keep you in eternal life and raise you up on the last day.
Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
who lead us into all truth,
help you discern the Lord's body
and empower you to proclaim his death until he comes.

All

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, † the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All

Amen.

The Dismissal

The mass in ended, go in peace.

All

Thanks be to God.

Organ Voluntary

Prelude & Fughetta in C major

Henry Thomas Smart (1813 – 1879)

Those leaving immediately are asked to be aware of those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary

Refreshments are being served in the parish centre, please do join us

If you are a newcomer to the parish, please introduce yourself to the clergy or speak to a member of our Welcome Team.

**This evening at 5.30 pm
Evening Prayer is said in Quire**

Collection – responding to God’s generosity

We invite you to make a monetary offering towards the ministry and mission of St Matthew’s Church. You may do so using any of the following methods:

Cash, cheques, stewardship envelopes - using the receptacle provided at the back of church. If you are a taxpayer please use the envelopes in the chairs, and fill out the details in order that our parish may also benefit from the Gift Aid (an extra 25p for every pound given) associated with your giving.

Contactless giving - using the terminal provided. Just press the button for the amount you wish to give - £3, £5, or £10, and then hold your bank card over the reader.

Giving on your smart phone - using the QR code printed below. It gives you the option of any amount, Gift Aid, and making a regular payment.

Giving online - click the donate button on the parish website or Facebook page and follow the instructions.

Your generosity is gratefully received. Thank you



*Our thanks are due to Anonymous Donor 7
who has generously financed
the production of this week’s service booklet.*

**Please take this booklet home
as an aid to prayer and reflection during the week,
and then re-cycle it.**

Copyright © The Archbishops’ Council of the Church of England.
All of the official *Common Worship* publications are being published by Church House Publishing.
Church Copyright Licence No. 248548. Streaming Licence No. 93626.

St Matthew’s Parish Church, The Parish Office, 27A The Drive, Kingsley, Northampton NN1 4LB
Tel: 01604 791451 www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk office@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk