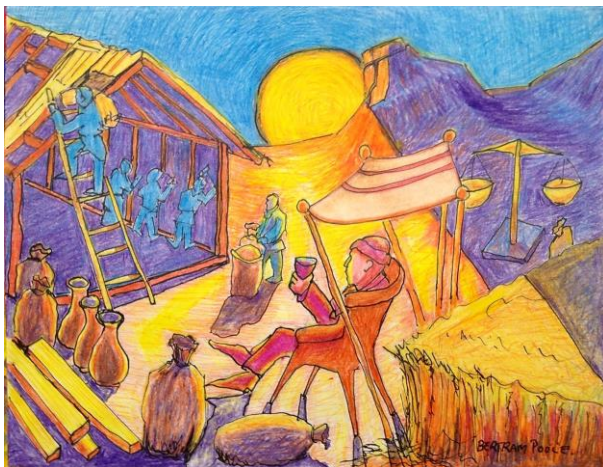


The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Proper 13 Year C



The Parable of the Rich Fool

The Parish Mass

Sunday 31st July 2022

10.15 am

Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church

This morning's First Reading casts a cold eye on the vanity of human life. One example of this 'vanity' is all the toil people put into acquiring wealth, only to have to leave it all to their heirs. The author is making the point that the things that are supposed to satisfy human beings do not satisfy them. Only faith in God and in an afterlife can provide a light in the darkness.

The Gospel is part of a longer section which deals with the difficulties that possessions can cause for the disciples of Jesus. Here Jesus refuses to get involved in a family dispute. Instead, he focuses on the cause of the dispute – greed for possessions. His parable stresses the foolishness of depending on material things for one's security rather than on God. In his search for security and happiness in this life, the rich man forgets God, forgets eternal life, and forgets his obligations to the poor. He is truly a 'fool' because he has not known how to use wisely the wealth which he had.

Reflection

Heavenly glory

While out for an evening walk
I emerged from an area where the streets were lit by bright lamps,
and came into an open, dark area.
It was only then I discovered that the sky was full of stars.
And I thought to myself:
how easily and how effectively the earthly lights
extinguish the heavenly ones.
Lord, help us to seek the things that make us rich in your sight,
and grant that the glitter of this world
may not dim our hopes of heavenly glory.



Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

§ *Please stand at the sound of the bell*

Hymn

The procession enters

All

**God is Love: let heav'n adore him;
God is Love: let earth rejoice;
Let creation sing before him,
And exalt him with one voice.
He who laid the earth's foundation,
He who spread the heav'ns above,
He who breathes through all creation,
He is Love, eternal Love.**

**God is Love: and he enfoldeth
All the world in one embrace;
With unfailing grasp he holdeth
Every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking
Under sorrow's iron rod,
Then they find that selfsame aching
Deep within the heart of God.**

**God is Love, and though with blindness
Sin afflicts the souls of all,
God's eternal loving-kindness
Holds and guides us when we fall.
Sin and death and hell shall never
O'er us final triumph gain;
God is Love, so Love for ever
O'er the universe must reign.**

Words: Timothy Rees (1874-1939)

Music: Abbot's Leigh
Cyril Taylor (1907-1991)

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

Worldly possessions are dear to our hearts
with the result is that we forget the more important things in life.
Jesus says, 'make yourselves rich in the sight of God.'
In truth, all of us are poor before God
and so we come before him seeking his forgiveness.

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, we are rich when we place all our trust in you:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

We are rich when we place all our hope in you:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

We are rich when we love others as you love us:
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.

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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.

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 book Ecclesiastes.

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labours under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Ecclesiastes 1.2,12-14; 2.18-23

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Response



Rosalie Bonighton

God shall ran - som my soul from the grasp of death.

Cantor Hear this, all you peoples;
listen, all you that dwell in the world,
You of low or high degree,
both rich and poor together. **Response**

My mouth shall speak of wisdom
 and my heart shall meditate on understanding.
 I will incline my ear to a parable;
 I will unfold my riddle with the lyre. **Response**

Why should I fear in evil days,
 when the malice of my foes surrounds me,
 Such as trust in their goods
 and glory in the abundance of their riches? **Response**

For no one can indeed ransom another
 or pay to God the price of deliverance.
 To ransom a soul is too costly;
 there is no price one could pay for it,
 So that they might live for ever,
 and never see the grave. **Response**

Psalm 49,1-9

§ Please stand

Holy Gospel

Acclamation

1. *Choir only*
 2. *Choir and Congregation*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

All Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Alleluia.

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

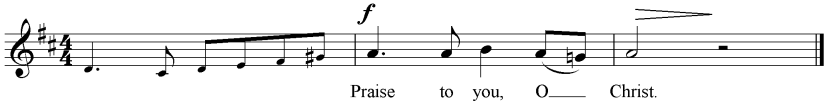
Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.' But he said to him, 'Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?' And he said to them, 'Take care! Be on your guard against all

kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.' Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'" But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

Luke 12.13-21

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All



The Homily

§ *Please be seated*

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

Let us pray that we may get our priorities in tune with those of the Gospel.

§ *Please kneel or sit*

After each petition

Intercessor **Giver of all**
All **teach us to share.**

Almighty God,
cleanse our hearts of greed for material things
and from envy of others,
and clothe us in gentleness and humility.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

§ *Please stand*

Sign of Peace

The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking,
but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

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 **Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art,
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word
Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord,
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son,
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.**

**Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight,
Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might,
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower,
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.**

**Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Be thou mine inheritance now and always,
Be thou and thou only the first in my heart,
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won,
Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Words: Irish, c. 8th century tr Mary Byrne (1880-1931)
versified, Eleanor Hull (1860-1935)

Music: Slane

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.

Christ is the bread of life:

All

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 5/4 time. The first staff begins with a *mf* dynamic marking. The lyrics under the first staff are: "When we eat this bread and drink this cup,". The second staff begins with a *cresc.* marking and ends with a *f* marking. The lyrics under the second staff are: "we pro-claim your death, Lord Je - sus, un - til you 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

§ *Please kneel or sit*

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

My flesh is food indeed,
and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

All **Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood
dwell in me and I in them.**

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

**Faithful Shepherd, feed me
In the pastures green;
Faithful Shepherd, lead me
Where thy steps are seen.**

**Hold me fast, and guide me
In the narrow way;
So, with thee beside me,
I shall never stray.**

**Daily bring me nearer
To the heavenly shore;
Make my faith grow clearer,
May I love thee more.**

**Hallow every pleasure,
Every gift and pain;
Be thyself my treasure,
Though none else I gain.**

**Day by day prepare me
As thou seest best,
Then let angels bear me
To thy promised rest.**

Words: Thomas Pollock (1836-1896) Music: Pastor: Pastorum

A period of silent reflection and thanksgiving is observed

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

§ *Please stand*

Lord God,
whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may live:
may we so receive within ourselves
the power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup,
we may share his glory
and be made perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

**Fill us, good Lord,
with your Spirit of love;
and as you have fed us with the one bread of heaven,
so make us one in heart and mind,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Hymn

All **Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee.**

**Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from thee.**

Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine;
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart: it is thine own;
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure-store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.

Words: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879)

Music: Nottingham

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,
strengthen you in your pilgrimage to the Promised Land.
Amen.

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.
All **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 *Sir John Stainer (1840 – 1901)*

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 2
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.**

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