

The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Proper 10 Year B



The death of John the Baptist

The Parish Mass with the Healing Ministries

Sunday 14th July 2024

10.15 am



Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church

Safeguarding *St Matthew's is committed to providing a safe environment for all who come. If you have any concerns, please speak with one of our welcomers or a churchwarden who may be identified by their lanyard. They will be happy to help you.*

Live Streaming *Please note that this service is being streamed. You may sit where you wish, If, however, you prefer not to be seen online, please sit in a side aisle. The administration of Holy Communion will not be shown.*

Toilet and changing facilities *may be found at the base of the church tower. There is also a small servery.*

For younger children *In the north aisle a carpeted area equipped with Christian resources is provided. Please feel free to use it.*

* * * * *

This morning's readings The Gospel contains a description of the circumstances and motivations leading to the gruesome martyrdom of John the Baptist. Herod Antipas was the puppet ruler of Galilee. If anyone opposed him, he had them imprisoned or even put to death. John the Baptist had two faults in the eyes of Herod. First, John was popular with the people. Herod was afraid he might lead a rebellion. Second, he saw John as dangerous because he spoke out against him and told the truth. Herod did not want to know the truth. To keep himself secure in power he had John imprisoned in the Castle of Machaerus on the east side of the Dead Sea. You can still see the dungeons where John the Baptist was imprisoned.

It is our custom to spend some time in quiet preparation before the liturgy begins, and save further conversation until we meet socially for refreshments afterwards. The following reflection, based on today's themes, may be found helpful:

Reflection

The Lord depended on the apostles.
Now he depends on us.
Lord, make us instruments of your healing power.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love.
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.

Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

§ *At the sound of the bell, all stand*

Hymn

§ *The procession enters*

All **WHEN** morning gilds the skies,
My heart awaking cries,
 May Jesus Christ be praised:
Alike at work and prayer
To Jesus I repair;
 May Jesus Christ be praised.

My tongue shall never tire
Of chanting in the choir,
 May Jesus Christ be praised:
The fairest graces spring,
In hearts that ever sing,
 May Jesus Christ be praised.

Does sadness fill my mind?
A solace here I find,
 May Jesus Christ be praised:
Or fades my earthly bliss?
My comfort still is this,
 May Jesus Christ be praised.

The night becomes as day,
When from the heart we say,
 May Jesus Christ be praised:
The powers of darkness fear,
When this sweet chant they hear,
 May Jesus Christ be praised.

In heaven's eternal bliss
The loveliest strain is this,
May Jesus Christ be praised:
Let air, and sea, and sky
From depth to height reply,
May Jesus Christ be praised.

Be this, while life is mine,
My canticle divine,
May Jesus Christ be praised:
Be this the eternal song
Through all the ages on,
May Jesus Christ be praised.

Words German, 19 cent
translated by Edward Caswall (1814-1878)

Music Laudes Domini
Joseph Barnby (1838-1896)

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

The Greeting

All Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The service is introduced

Invitation to Confession

We come to the Lord to receive from him.
Here he forgives our sins, speaks his word to us,
and nourishes us with the food of the Eucharist.
And by bringing us together,
he makes it possible for us to support one another in the journey of faith.

Silence is kept

Confession

All **God our Father,
long-suffering, full of grace and truth,
you create us from nothing and give us life.
You give your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.
You do not turn your face from us,
nor cast us aside.
We confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbour.
We have wounded your love and marred your image in us.
Restore us for the sake of your Son,
and bring us to heavenly joy,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Kyries

We are often slow to follow the example of Christ:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

We often fail to be known as Christ's disciples:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

We often fail to walk the way of the cross:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive † you your sins,
open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will
and give you the joy of his kingdom,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

Gloria in excelsis Deo
et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.

Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.

Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.

Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,

Deus Pater omnipotens,

Domine Filii unigenite, Jesu Christe.

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.

Qui tollis peccata mundi,

miserere nobis.

Qui tollis peccata mundi,

suscipe deprecationem nostram.

Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,

miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus sanctus. Tu solus Dominus.

Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe.

Cum Sancto Spiritu

in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to men of goodwill.*

We praise you. We bless you.

We worship you. We glorify you.

We give thanks to you for your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly King,

almighty God the Father,

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.

You take away the sins of the world,

have mercy on us.

You take away the sins of the world,

receive our prayer.

You sit at the right hand of the Father,

have mercy on us.

For you only are holy. You only are the Lord.

You only 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.

§ Sit

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Blessèd be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1.3-14

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Response Stephen Moore

Show us O Lord, your mer - - - cy.

Choir I will listen to what the Lord God will say,
for he shall speak peace to his people and to the faithful,
that they turn not again to folly.
Truly, his salvation is near to those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.
Mercy and truth are met together,
righteousness and peace have kissed each other; **Response**

Truth shall spring up from the earth
 and righteousness look down from heaven.
 The Lord will indeed give all that is good,
 and our land will yield its increase.
 Righteousness shall go before him
 and direct his steps in the way. **Response**

Psalm 85.8-13

Holy Gospel

§ Stand

Acclamation

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

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

Choir Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
 for theirs in the kingdom of heaven.

All **Alleluia ...**

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

King Herod heard of Jesus' disciples casting our demons and anointing with oil many who were sick and curing them, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, 'John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.' But others said, 'It is Elijah.' And others said, 'It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.' But when Herod heard of it, he said, 'John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.'

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.' And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to

him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, 'Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.' And he solemnly swore to her, 'Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.' She went out and said to her mother, 'What should I ask for?' She replied, 'The head of John the baptizer.' Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, 'I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.' The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

Mark 6, 14-29

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All



The musical notation is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The melody begins with a quarter note on G4, followed by quarter notes on A4, B4, C5, and D5. The next measure contains a quarter note on E5, a quarter note on F#5, and a quarter note on G5. The final measure consists of a half note on A5, a quarter note on G5, and a quarter note on F#5. A dynamic marking of *f* is placed above the first measure of the final phrase. The lyrics 'Praise to you, O Christ.' are written below the notes, with a long horizontal line under the 'O' to indicate a sustained note.

Homily

§ Sit

The Nicene Creed

§ *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

Priest Let us now bring our needs before God,
whose help is near to those who turn to him in humility and trust.

§ *Kneel*

The response to each petition

Intercessor Show us your loving kindness, O Lord,
All **and grant us your salvation.**

After the final petition

Priest God of power and love,
grant us in all our tasks your help,
in all our doubts your guidance,
in all our weaknesses your strength,
in all our sorrows your consolation,
and in all our dangers your protection.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

§ *Stand*

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

Once we were far off,
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near
through the shedding of Christ's blood,
for he is our peace.

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.

Hymn

All

GOD'S glory fills the universe,
The heavens proclaim his power;
But small and weak the **Word** made flesh,
And dark and brief his hour!
The myst'ry sought through ages past
Is born with human face;
The treasure of eternal love
Dwells with the human race.

His words and signs of healing power
Are wonders to the poor;
Blind eyes, cold hearts, protest and scheme
Till love stands judged by law.
Let peace and mercy weep apart,
And justice, truth, take flight
When God's own **Word** to silence falls
And darkness veils the light.

Uplifted on the Cross, Christ bears
Our shame in his disgrace,
His outstretched arms enfold us all,
And heaven and earth embrace.
For Love will know the darkest depths,
And taste our bitterest pain
To prove himself their vanquisher,
And spring from buried grain.

The Lord ascends, and death bows down
To his triumphant name.
The Spirit stirs our sleeping faith
The wind and tongue of flame.
Christ strengthens us, calls us to live
As children of the day,
To shine where shadows still oppress,
To walk his risen way.

Words Colin Peter Thompson (born 1945)

Music St Matthew
William Croft (1678-1727)

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, through these offerings
grant that we may make straight your paths,
as taught by that voice crying in the wilderness,
Saint John the Baptist,
who powerfully sealed his teaching by the shedding of his blood.
We ask this through 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:

<i>Choir</i>	Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Osanna in excelsis.	<i>Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might. heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.</i>
	Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domine. Osanna in excelsis	<i>Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.</i>

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.

The Lord's Prayer

God has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of Christ.
Let us pray to the God of love with confidence as Christ 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.**

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

John answered, 'He must increase, but I must decrease.'

Healing ministries

§ *If you would like to receive the laying on of hands, for yourself or for someone else, and the sacrament of anointing, please make your way to the Lady Chapel having been to the communion rail.*

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.

Agnus Dei

Choir Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*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.*

Motet

Choir A Gaelic Blessing

John Rutter (born 1945)

§ *All sit for a period of silent reflection and thanksgiving*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

§ *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

**GO forth for God; go forth to the world in peace;
Be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,
In God's good Spirit daily to increase,
Till in his kingdom we behold his face.**

**Go forth for God; go forth to the world in strength;
Hold fast the good, be urgent for the right,
Render to no one evil; Christ at length
Shall overcome all darkness with his light.**

**Go forth for God; go forth to the world in love;
Strengthen the faith, give courage to the weak,
Help the afflicted; richly from above
His love supplies the grace and power we seek.**

**Go forth for God; go forth to the world in joy,
To serve his people every day and hour,
And serving Christ, his every gift employ,
Rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power.**

**Sing praise to him who brought us on our way;
Sing praise to him who bought us with his blood;
Sing praise to him who sanctifies each day;
Sing praise to him who reigns one Lord and God.**

Words John Raphael Peacey (1896-1971)
and the Editors of *The New English Hymnal*, 1986

Music Magda
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Notices for the Community

§ Sit

¶ Sending Out

§ 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.

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.

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

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

The Dismissal

All Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Voluntary

Concert Fantasia Op 91

Edwin Lemare (1865-1934)

On The Sailor's Hornpipe, The British Grenadiers and Rule Britannia

Please remain standing until the procession has departed

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

Collection – our response 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 - £5, £10, or £20, 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 Christine Bentley
who has generously financed
the production of this week’s service booklet.*

This evening at 5.30 pm

Choral Evensong

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

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