

The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Second Sunday after Trinity

Proper 6 Year A



'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few'

The Parish Mass on RSCM Music Sunday

Sunday 14 June 2026

10.15 am

Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church



Safeguarding St Matthew's is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for everyone. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

If you have any safeguarding concern, or are worried about the safety or wellbeing of a child, young person, or adult, please speak to the Parish Safeguarding Officer, a member of the clergy, or a churchwarden.

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Ben Drouet safeguarding@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk 01604 791251

Diocese of Peterborough Safeguarding Team

safeguarding@peterborough-diocese.org.uk 01733 887040

If someone is in immediate danger or needs urgent medical attention, please call 999.

Live Streaming and Recording Please note that some services are live-streamed or recorded. Filming is limited as far as reasonably possible to those leading or assisting with the service, including clergy, readers/intercessors, musicians, choir members, and servers. Holy Communion is not filmed.

If you would prefer not to appear online, please sit in one of the side aisles or speak to a welcomer or churchwarden, who will be happy to help you find seating outside the filmed area.

Where appropriate, consent is obtained for individuals who are intentionally featured in livestreams, recordings, photographs, or other church media. Please speak to a churchwarden or welcomer if you would like further information about livestreaming arrangements.

Toilet and Baby Changing Facilities Toilet and baby changing facilities are available at the base of the church tower. A small servery is also available.

For Younger Children In the north aisle (nearest to Collingwood Road), a carpeted children's area with age-appropriate Christian resources is available. Please feel free to make use of these facilities during the service.



Collection – ‘Building a Generous Church’



Our response to God’s generosity

We believe in a generous God, who longs for us to share his generosity with others. A generous life is therefore a hallmark of our faith and a testament to it, as the more generous we are, the more we reflect the generous God we believe in. Generosity is, therefore, at the heart of our faith, and our own generosity is a sure sign of our faith in action. Generosity is a spiritual gift, and we need to encourage people to seek this gift as they grow in their faith. The ministry and mission of St Matthew’s is largely funded through the incredible generosity of those who give to it.

* * * * *

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.



Good morning, and welcome to St Matthew's as we gather to celebrate the Parish Mass on this Second Sunday after Trinity.

Whether you are a regular member of our congregation, a visitor, or are joining us for the first time, we are glad that you are here. Together we come into the presence of God, bringing with us the joys and blessings of the past week, as well as our cares, concerns, and prayers.

In our readings today, Saint Paul reminds us that we are justified by faith and have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Even more wonderfully, he tells us that God's love has been poured into our hearts, and that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. We are loved not because we deserve it, but because God is gracious and merciful.

In the Gospel, we see Jesus looking upon the crowds with compassion. He sees their need and sends out his disciples to share in his work of healing, teaching, and proclaiming the kingdom of heaven. That same call continues in every generation. As Christ gathers us around his altar today, he renews us in his love and sends us out to be signs of his compassion in the world.

As we prepare to celebrate these holy mysteries, let us quieten our hearts, call to mind God's presence among us, and ready ourselves to worship him in spirit and in truth.

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:

Prayer/Reflection

The person in misery does not need a look that judges and criticises, but a comforting presence. Jesus looked at the ordinary people, and seeing how needy they were, he had compassion on them, and began to minister to them. Lord, give us warm and generous hearts, so that we who have experienced your compassion may become agents of your compassion to others.

Setting

Missa brevis Sancti Johannis de Deo

Joseph Haydn 1732-1809

Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

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

Introit

Choir *Aspire to God my soul, in soaring music,
in art, and words fantastical;
that saints may have true coin for heavens praise.
Cantate domino, cantate domino in excelsis.*

Words Canon John William Dilnot 1936-2020
from The Walter Hussey Centenary Mass
2009 commission

Music David Bednall b.1979

Hymn

The procession enters

All **WITH Christ we share a mystic grave,
With Christ we buried lie;
But not within the darksome cave
By mournful Calvary.**

**The pure and bright baptismal flood
Entombs our nature's stain;
New creatures from the cleansing wave
In Christ we rise again.**

**Thrice blest, if through this world of sin
And lust and selfish care
Our resurrection mantle white
And undefiled we wear.**

**Thrice blest, if through the gate of death,
Glorious at last and free,
We to our joyful rising pass,
O risen Lord with thee.**

**And now to thy thrice-holy Name,
The God whom we adore,
To Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
Be glory evermore. Amen.**

Words attributed to John Mason Neale 1818-1866

Music St Stephen
William Jones 1726-1800

† 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

Jesus had compassion on the ordinary people of his day
because he saw that they were like sheep without a shepherd.
Jesus, the good shepherd, has compassion on us too.

To prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries,
let us call to mind and confess our sins.

Silence is kept

Confession

All **God of mercy,
we acknowledge that we are all sinners.
We turn from the wrong that we have thought
and said and done,
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.**

**For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past,
and help us to live each day
in the light of Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Kyries

Lord Jesus, you show the path to those who stray:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

You bind up hearts that are broken:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

You lead us to the green pastures of eternal life:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

May the Father of all mercies cleanse † you from your sins,
and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name,
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.

*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.*

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.

*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, you have taught us
that all our doings without love are nothing worth:
send your Holy Spirit
and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love,
the true bond of peace and of all virtues,
without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.
Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake,
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 Romans.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person

someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Romans 5.1-8

All This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm



Choir O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth;
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song. **Response**

Know that the Lord is God;
it is he that has made us and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. **Response**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and bless his name. **Response**

For the Lord is gracious; his steadfast love is everlasting,
and his faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Response**

Psalm 100

Holy Gospel

§ *Stand*

Acclamation

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



Choir Jesus said, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near;
repent, and believe in the good news.'

All **Alleluia.**

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 Jesus had compassion for the poor and the powerless,
the sick and the sinner.
Therefore, let us turn to him with confidence,
laying our needs before him.

§ *Kneel*

The response to each petition

Intercessor Lord, as you have called us,
All **hear us and help us.**

After the final petition

Priest God of compassion,
grant that we may never doubt the love of Christ, the Good Shepherd,
and help us to love others as he has loved us.
We ask this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

§ *Stand*

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of 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

§ *A monetary collection is taken and placed under the nave altar.
For alternative ways of giving please refer to the front of this booklet.
Your generosity is much appreciated. Thank you.*

*The Gifts of bread and wine are presented to the presiding priest
and the altar is prepared*

All

**ALL praise to thee, for thou, O King divine,
Didst yield the glory that of right was thine,
That in our darkened hearts thy grace might shine:
*Alleluya!***

**Thou cam'st to us in lowliness of thought;
By thee the outcast and the poor were sought,
And by thy death was God's salvation wrought:
*Alleluya!***

**Let this mind be in us which was in thee,
Who wast a servant that we might be free,
Humbling thyself to death on Calvary:
*Alleluya!***

**Wherefore, by God's eternal purpose, thou
Art high exalted o'er all creatures now,
And giv'n the Name to which all knees shall bow:
*Alleluya!***

**Let every tongue confess with one accord
In heav'n and earth that Jesus Christ is Lord;
And God the Father be by all adored:
*Alleluya!***

Words Francis Bland Tucker 1895-1984
based on Philippians 2.5-11

Music Engelberg
Charles Villiers Stanford 1852-1924
arranged by the Compilers of *The BBC Hymn Book*, 1951

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 God, who in the offerings presented here
provide for the twofold needs of human nature,
nourishing us with food and renewing us with your Sacrament,
grant, we pray, that the sustenance they provide
may not fail us in body or in spirit.
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:

Choir

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Osanna in excelsis.

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

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domine.
Osanna in excelsis

*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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All

The musical notation is a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes and half notes. The lyrics are: 'Christ has died: Christ is ris-en: Christ will come a-gain.' The dynamics are marked as *mf* (mezzo-forte) for the first two phrases, *cresc.* (crescendo) for the third, and *f* (forte) for the final phrase.

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,
St 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

Amen.

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and bells are rung

§ Kneel

The Lord's Prayer

Seeking the salvation of the world
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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

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.*

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

One thing have I asked of the Lord and that alone I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

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

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

Choir O WORD immortal of eternal God,
Only-begotten of the only source,
For our salvation stooping to the course
Of human life, and born of Mary's blood;
Sprung from the ever-virgin womanhood
Of her who bare thee, God immutable,
Incarnate, made as man with man to dwell,
And condescending to the bitter rood;

Save us, O Christ our God, for thou hast died
To save thy people to the uttermost,
And dying tramplest death in victory;
One of the ever-blessèd Trinity,
In equal honour with the Holy Ghost,
And with the eternal Father glorified.

Words Greek, 6th cent
tr Thomas Alexander Lacey 1853-1931 Music Song 24
Melody and bass by Orlando Gibbons 1583-1625

Motet

Cantate Domino

Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni 1657-1743

§ *We sit for a time of personal reflection and thanksgiving*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

§ *Stand*

Loving Father,
we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your Son:
sustain us with your Spirit,
that we may serve you here on earth
until our joy is complete in heaven,
and we share in the eternal banquet
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

**Merciful God,
you have called us to your table
and fed us with the bread of life.
Draw us and all people to serve your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Hymn

All

**KING of glory, King of peace,
I will love thee;
And that love may never cease,
I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request,
Thou hast heard me;
Thou didst note my working breast,
Thou hast spared me.**

**Wherefore with my utmost art
I will sing thee,
And the cream of all my heart
I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
Thou didst clear me;
And alone, when they replied,
Thou didst hear me.**

**Seven whole days, not one in seven,
I will praise thee;
In my heart, though not in heaven,
I can raise thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
To enrol thee:
E'en eternity's too short
To extol thee.**

Words George Herbert 1593-1633

Music Gwalchmai
John David Jones 1827-1870

Notices for the Community

§ Sit

¶ Sending Out

§ Stand

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

Solemn Blessing

All May you live a life worthy of God,
who is calling you to share the glory of his kingdom.
Amen.

All May you treat each other in the same friendly way Christ has treated you.
Amen.

All May the Lord watch over you, keep you in his care,
and bless you with his peace.
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

At the end of Mass we are not simply dismissed.
We are sent out in the Lord's name and with the Lord's power,
to help build up his kingdom in the world.

All Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Organ Voluntary

Paeon [Six Pieces for Organ, No 6]

Herbert Howells 1892-1983

- § *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*
- § *Refreshments are served in church, please do join us*
- § *If you are a newcomer to the parish or area, please introduce yourself to one of the clergy or speak to a member of our Welcome Team.*

This evening at 5.30 pm

Congregational Evensong

Our thanks are due to Anonymous Donor 10
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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