

An open door between heaven and earth, showing God's love to all



Eleventh Sunday After Trinity

31st August 2025

Please stand

Hymn 545

Morning has broken, like the first morning, blackbird has spoken, like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass, Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation, praise every morning, God's re-creation of the new day!

Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)

The president says

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

Amen

The Greeting

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

Prayers of Penitence

A minister says

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

Silence is kept.

Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The president says

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 God's kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God in heaven, peace to those who love him well; on the earth let all his people speak his grace, his wonders tell: Lord, we praise you for your glory, mighty Father, heaven's king; hear our joyful adoration and accept the thanks we bring.

Only Son of God the Father, Lamb who takes our sin away, now with God in triumph seated for your mercy, Lord, we pray: Jesus Christ, most high and holy, Saviour, you are God alone in the glory of the Father with the Spirit: Three-in-One!

Tune: Ode to Joy.

The Collect

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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.

Amen.

Please be seated

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Hebrews 13.1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.' So we can say with confidence,

'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?'

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

Gospel Reading

Please stand. We repeat the refrain.



'Pilgrim's Alleluia': Hymn 377

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel reading: Luke 14.1,7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place", and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'

He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Revd Prof Rob Gilbert

Please stand

Let us declare our faith in God. 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.

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 Intercession

Please sit or kneel. The following response may be used:

Lord, hear us.

Gillian Winman.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who are sick or in particular need:
Grace, Kitty Datta, Atmadeep Novo Datta, Bob Southgate, Benjie,
Madeline Tarrant, Hunter Merritt, Elizabeth Knight, Maureen,
Christine, Janet Lever, Len Farrar, Barbara Farrar, Art Boylston,

Those who have died recently:

Joan Brady, John Kirby, Judy Lindley, Barbara Fruin

Those whose anniversary of death falls at this time: Albert Arnold, Patrick Martineau.

And at the end

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

Please stand

To crown all things there must be love to bind all together and complete the whole. Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts. The peace of the Lord be always with you and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

All may exchange a sign of Peace

Hymn 453

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour first-begotten from the dead, thou alone, our strong defender,

liftest up thy people's head. Alleluia, alleluia, Jesu, true and living bread.

Here our humblest homage pay we, here in loving reverence bow; here for faith's discernment pray we, lest we fail to know thee now. Alleluia, alleluia, thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee as of old in Bethlehem, here as there thine angels hail thee, branch and flower of Jesse's stem. Alleluia, alleluia, we in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished once for all when thou wast slain, in its fullness undiminished shall for evermore remain, Alleluia, alleluia, cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly manna, stricken rock with streaming side, heaven and earth with loud hosanna worship thee, the Lamb who died, Alleluia, alleluia, risen, ascended, glorified!

George Hugh Bourne (1840-1925)

Taking of the Bread and Wine

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now reunited on this table in bread and wine, so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Please sit or stand as you are most comfortable

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth_are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in_ the high - est.

Bless - ed_ is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho
san - na in_ the high - est. Ho - san - na in_ the hig - est.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you.

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. (Bells are rung)

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

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.

(Bells are rung)

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel

As our saviour taught us, so we pray

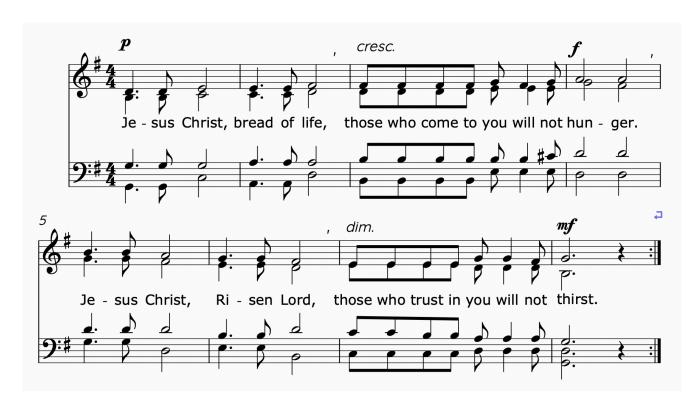
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

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.



Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy,

Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

This is God's table and all are welcome. Regular communicants of their own tradition are invited to receive communion. The bread is distributed from the chancel step and the wine from that of the Lady Chapel, to the left. You may receive the bread only. Please do not dip your wafer in the chalice. Please inform a steward if you wish to receive communion in your seat.

Hymn 621

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways! re-clothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea, the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still small voice of calm.

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

Prayer after Communion

Lord of all mercy,
we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice
which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace:
by our communion
keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel
and preserve us from all sin;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Sending Out

Please stand

Hymn 739

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices; who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us, to keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills of this world in the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Dismissal

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

Voluntary: Antiphon- S. Karg-Elert

Please do join us for refreshments at the back of church or in the meeting room after the Service. Please take this booklet away with you and recycle it when you have finished with it.

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Notices: August 31st

Clergy will highlight some of these notices in their brief welcome. If there is something you would particularly like highlighted at the start of the service, please notify the clergy (by email or phone) in good time before the service, or speak to them before the service starts if this is not possible.

31 August: The Eleventh Sunday of Trinity

8am Holy Communion

President & Preacher: Revd Prof Rob Gilbert

10am Parish Eucharist NB Forest Sunday School on a break

President: Revd Canon David Knight Preacher: Revd Prof Rob Gilbert

Deacon: Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex

Organist: Andrew Patterson

7 September: The Twelfth Sunday of Trinity

8am Holy Communion

President & Preacher: Revd Prof Rob Gilbert

10am All-Age service – Intergenerational Community

President: Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex

Preacher: Revd Prof Rob Gilbert

Organist: Andrew Patterson

Midweek Services

10am Wednesday Eucharist followed by refreshments.

Please note: Morning Prayer will be taking a break during August, resuming on Tuesday 2 September.

All-Age service - Intergenerational Community - next Sunday

We will celebrate our church community and the launch of the prayer partners scheme with an all-age service at the beginning of September.

A prayer for the vacancy:

God of vision and hope, we thank you for all who have ministered here throughout the history of this church. In this time of vacancy, may we continue to grow in love, share in responsibility, and seek your vision for our future, in the name of Jesus Christ, our shepherd and our guide.

Amen.



The Church Wardens and the PCC invite you to the Collation by the Bishop of Oxford and the Induction and Installation by the Archdeacon of Oxford

of The Revd Martin Little as Vicar of Holy Trinity Headington Quarry on Monday 15 September 2025 at 7pm in Holy Trinity Church

Refreshments afterwards in the Coach House

Please RSVP by 31 August via email: felicity.hthq@gmail.com

Clergy and LLMs are asked to indicate if they will robe (Choir Dress)

Address: Holy Trinity Church, Headington Quarry, Oxford, OX3 8NX Parking: Coach House, 46 Quarry Rd, Oxford OX3 8NU (limited spaces)

Free street parking available Quarry Rd, Weyland Road and Mark Road (OX3)

News from Emily: I am delighted to share that (subject to legalities) I have been appointed as the new vicar of St John the Baptist Church in Bodicote. My final service at Holy Trinity will be **Sunday 19 October**, and I will be installed at Bodicote on **Wednesday 12 November**. Further details to follow but I hope to celebrate with you on either or both occasions!

Newsletter The deadline for the next online newsletter is **Thursday 4th September**. If you have any items and photos to contribute, please email them to Yue-Yi Hwa at newsletter@hthq.uk. Thank you very much.

The Parish Office will be closed from Thursday September 11th and will reopen on Tuesday 23rd September. For any notices for the Sundays of September 14th and 21st please send to Helen in the Parish Office no later than Thursday **28th** August. Thank you.

Julian Group. The September meeting will be on **Friday 5th September at 2.30 pm at 3 Barton Road**, **Headington**. We meditate for half an hour on a passage provided by one of us and then discuss it before having a social time with tea/coffee and biscuits. New members are very welcome. Please contact me for further details: **Sheila Allcock 769630**

A **BIG THANKYOU** to the Sunday cake and biscuit fairy! You are much appreciated. Margaret Jackson and all the 10am congregation.

Community Café every Tuesday 9.30 – 11.30am in the meeting room in church. An intergenerational space for parents/carers to spend time with their younger ones, meet up with people of all ages over a cup of tea/coffee etc Toys available for preschool age children and toddlers.

Forest Sunday School will be having a break during the summer. See you in September!

Eco Tips This week's Eco Tip: A reminder: Buy in bulk to reduce packaging and Buy local to reduce transport costs. Hilary Rollin, Eco Church Group

Pastoral care team Are you in need of support or would you like to talk to someone? We rely on you to let us know of anyone who is ill, or in hospital or who might welcome a visit. Please contact any of the clergy (numbers on back page) or Helen Day, Janet Masters, Anne Tarassenko, or Ruth Wooldridge.





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Get involved in worship...



READING & PRAYING

The first reading and the prayers of intercession are always led by a member of the congregation.

SERVING

Our serving team help to prepare the altar, carry the cross, and support the clergy in leading services.

BELLRINGING

Our bells connect us to the community and are an audible witness to our worship.

SOUND SYSTEM TEAM

Volunteers enable us to broadcast our services on Radio Cherwell as well as making people heard in church.



For more information, contact office@hthq.uk



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As the Anglican parish in Headington Quarry, Risinghurst and Wood Farm, we are here for every local resident. Our church is open every day. We hope that you will find God's peace as you come to pray or just sit and rest awhile. If you have questions about the Christian faith or would like to find out more about church life, please get in touch:

Contact us

Vicar: Revd Martin Little arriving in September
Associate Priest: Revd Prof Rob Gilbert

associatepriest@hthq.uk

Curate: Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex curate@hthq.uk 07979 931889

Parish Office: office@hthq.uk 01865 762931

Churchwardens: wardens@hthq.uk

Website: www.hthq.org.uk

Church postcode for emergencies: OX3 8LQ