

Trinity 7 July 26th 2020



A Service for all the Church Family

The online services are a combination the service sheet with links to readers, hymns and music etc. (This can be activated directly from the document sent to you by email, or on the internet at <https://e-voice.org.uk/bradwellchurch/>) and used as normal or 'save' the service document, open it afresh and the links can be activated with the service sheet remaining in place). Alternatively, you can open two browsers on your screen, one to keep the service sheet visible and the other to activate the links. [Family Time Activities are at the end of the service sheet:](#)

Bradwell Bells: <https://youtu.be/ZQqq6x8lo88>

Hymn 1: All Things Bright and Beautiful

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPMA5I3-0Jw>

We say together the words printed in bold.

Gathering to worship God

Greeting

Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

All We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Welcome to our all age this Trinity 7 Sunday Service.

Opening Prayer

All Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.

**Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

Hymn 2: like a mighty river flowing hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fvRuYoIYx5Y>

Silence is kept and the Collect, the prayer of the day, is said.

Generous God,

you give us gifts and make them grow:

though our faith is small as mustard seed,

make it grow to your glory

and the flourishing of your kingdom;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Saying sorry to God

Confession

God our Father,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.
For turning away from you,
and ignoring your will for our lives;
Father, forgive us:

All save us and help us.

For behaving just as we wish,
without thinking of you;
Father, forgive us:

All save us and help us.

For failing you by what we do
and think and say;
Father, forgive us:

All save us and help us.

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you
by temptations in the world about us;
Father, forgive us:

All save us and help us.

For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son;
Father, forgive us:

All save us and help us.

God's forgiveness.

May the God of love and power
forgive *us* and free *us* from *our* sins,

heal and strengthen *us* by his Spirit,
and raise *us* to new life in Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Praise

Blessed is the Lord

All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

All and in our song we will praise our God.

Hymn 3: Will Your Anchor Hold?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTfypuXwrMA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQQO8v-0VBo>

Hearing and responding to the Word of God

Readings

The first reading is from Genesis 29.15-28

¹⁵ When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, 'Get up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or else you will be consumed in the punishment of the city.' ¹⁶ But he lingered; so the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and left him outside the city. ¹⁷ When they had brought them outside, they^[a] said, 'Flee for your life; do not look back or stop anywhere in the Plain; flee to the hills, or else you will be consumed.' ¹⁸ And Lot said to them, 'Oh, no, my lords; ¹⁹ your servant has found favour with you, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life; but I cannot flee to the hills, for fear the disaster will overtake me and I die. ²⁰ Look, that city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!' ²¹ He said to him, 'Very well, I grant you this favour too, and will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. ²² Hurry, escape there, for I can do nothing until you arrive there.' Therefore the city was called Zoar.^[b] ²³ The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar.

²⁴ Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulphur and fire from the LORD out of heaven; ²⁵ and he overthrew those cities, and all the Plain, and all the inhabitants

of the cities, and what grew on the ground. ²⁶ But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

²⁷ Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the LORD; ²⁸ and he looked down towards Sodom and Gomorrah and towards all the land of the Plain, and saw the smoke of the land going up like the smoke of a furnace.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The 2nd reading is: Romans 8.26-39

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes^[a] with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷ And God,^[b] who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit^[c] intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.^[d]

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good^[e] for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.^[f] ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

God's Love in Christ Jesus

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.^[g] ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Music: *Nada Te Turbe* 'Let nothing trouble you'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fvfTVxgkWpo> (skip adverts if they appear)

The third reading is from Matthew 13.31-33,44-52

By Margaret French <https://youtu.be/n4xCUsYipv0>

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

³¹ He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

The Parable of the Yeast

³³ He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with^[a] three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

Three Parables

⁴⁴ 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Treasures New and Old

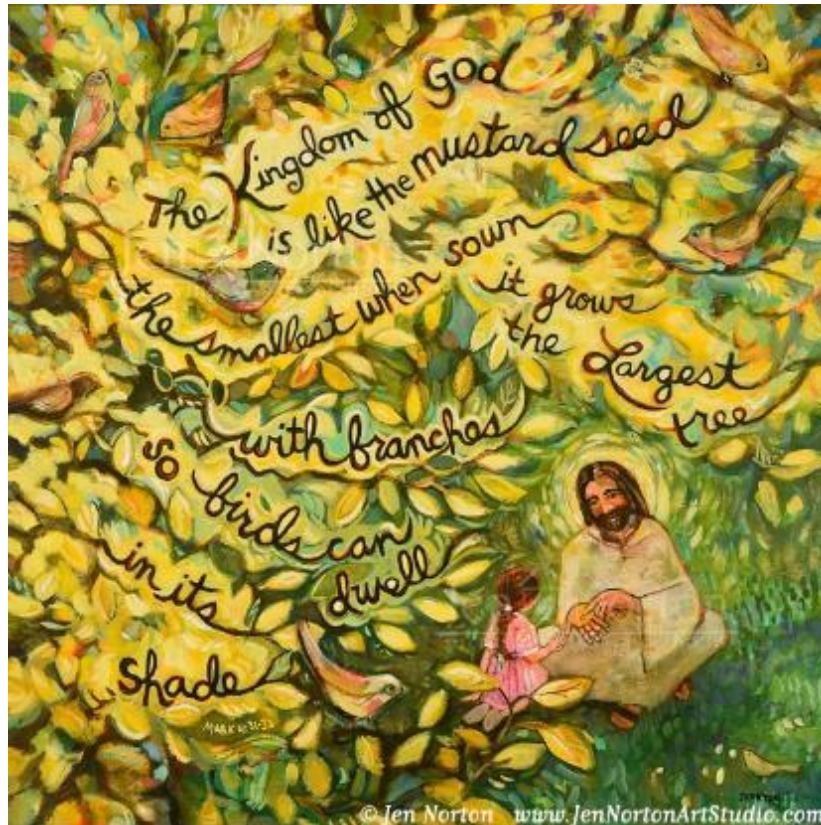
⁵¹ 'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' ⁵² And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Song Parable of the Mustard Seed

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=90R3G9WjnAs>



Picture by kind permission of Jen Norton Studios

Sermon: By Revd Steven:

We begin with another of St Paul's great verses of scripture in verse 38 and 39 of Romans 8:-

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

These mighty verses gives us further hope and comfort at this time, as we hear that God will never separate himself from us in Christ, because Paul says in verse 32:-

³² He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?

Christ has triumphed over all things, and they are now in submission to him. Within this passage, Paul lists five truths about God's providence:-

1. We know that God works, or is at work, in our lives. Here, we are to put ourselves continually guided by God, in all the events of our lives.
2. God is at work for the good of his people. The good which is the goal of all his providential dealings with us is our ultimate well-being, namely our final salvation.

3. God works for our good in all things. Thus all that is negative in this life is seen to have a positive purpose in the execution of God's eternal plan.
4. God works in all things for the good to those who love him. Paul rarely speaking of loving God is probably referring to the first and great commandment to love God with our whole being.
5. Those who love God are also described as those who have been called according to his purpose. For their love for him is a sign and token of his prior love for them.

Paul continues these stages he names foreknowledge, predestination, calling, justification and glorification. With regards to predestination here, this is not to say that God predestines people who are going to believe because the ground of their salvation is in themselves and their merit, instead of in God's mercy and free initiative of grace. We know from elsewhere in the New Testament that Jesus wants to draw all people to himself and desires all peoples to be saved. This is summed up in verse 29 that we should be conformed to the likeness of his Son.

This is part of his trinitarian argument with the working of the triune God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in action with the world and the God is for us in verse 31, is of the greatest value.

This greatest value is the theme of our Gospel reading with the parables of the mustard seed, leaven, pearls etc. For these parables are about the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, and he is not exaggerating. Knowing God in Jesus Christ and discovering the kingdom is the greatest treasure this world affords and lasts into the next. How does the value of the kingdom affect our values in this world?

The mustard seed and the yeast are everyday miracles. Everyone knows how they work, and how extraordinary it is that something so small can have such an effect. But had you ever thought of the kingdom of Heaven like that? Surely the kingdom of Heaven is already huge and magnificent, not something tiny, working inconspicuously until suddenly you can't miss it any more? The surprise in these parables is not what the yeast and the mustard seed do, since we know that already. The point is that other things, that you may not be so familiar with, may also behave like this. Don't discount small things until you know what they are capable of. Don't think about big things as though they can never have had small beginnings and that these small beginnings can result in great transformation.

In the long perspective of Genesis, part of the point is to see God's hand in the duplicity and half-faith of the patriarchs. Every day, there are new possibilities in our daily friendship with the living God know matter how small.

We cannot see God's work happening, but that is not to say it isn't happening. With our readings today, we can see God's hand at work, often in small and transforming ways, it is a reminder to us that we too can work in small but transforming ways for the kingdom of God and that they are of the greatest value, Amen.

(Sources – Matthew – Barclay & Green / Lectionary Reflections - Wright & Williams)

Amen.

Hymn 4: We Cannot Measure How You Heal

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=exr0oxZwZKA>

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray: Heavenly Father, you promised through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

At a time when many question the relevance of the Church, give us the presence to be witnesses in the world. Witnesses that strengthen the presence of Christ in our communities. Help us to be the answer to those questions of relevance by what we do and what we are known for. Make us a welcoming body of Christ across all the churches of our benefice so when people think about the church they think about the real church – the people of God who worship here.

Lord in your mercy

All hear our prayer

God of hope, in these times of change, unite our nations and guide our leaders with your wisdom. Give us courage to overcome our fears and help us to build a future in which all may prosper and share. Grant those in authority the humility to listen to your word as they seek to guide us through these troubled times.

Lord in your mercy
All hear our prayer

Lord God, we live in a beautiful place where it is easy to see your work all around us. Help us never to take this for granted but to maintain that sense of awe and wonder at the beauty of your creation. Our communities face many ongoing challenges and changes this year; let us find ways to serve you together as we support those in need in our villages. May we emerge from this with a new sense of purpose and unity.

Lord in your mercy
All hear our prayer

Ruth Newlyn and Rob from Mayland who are getting married on Friday 31st July in Mayland Church.

We pray for Ruth and Rob as they begin their married life together. May their home be full of joy and laughter, may God give them good health and may they always find happiness in each other.

Lord in your mercy
All hear our prayer

Lord, comfort the sick, the hungry, the lonely and those who are hurt and shut in on themselves, by your presence in their hearts; use us to help them in a practical way. Show us how to set about this and give us strength, tact and compassion. Teach us how to be alongside them, and how to share in their distress deeply in our prayer. Make us open to them and give us courage to suffer with them, and that in so doing we share with you in the suffering of the world for we are your body on earth and you work through us.

At this time, we especially remember

Cally Thorpe
Josh Pitman
Ryan Smith
Diane Lystor

Eddie Foster
Ann Cowell
Sue Wilson
Beryl Dixon

And all residents at Down Hall and the Swan care homes and in a moment of quiet all those others known to us, and for those you care for them and share their suffering

Lord in your mercy
All hear our prayer

We thank you, O God, for the saints of all ages; for those who in times of darkness kept the lamp of faith burning; for the great souls who saw visions of larger truth and dared to declare it; for the multitude of quiet and gracious souls whose presence has purified and sanctified the world; and for those known and loved by us, who have passed from this earthly fellowship into the fuller light of life with you.

Cyril John Perrin, we pray for his family and friends.

Sally Alden we pray for her family and friends.

We commit ourselves and all of creation to your saving power and love.

Lord in your mercy
All hear our prayer

Merciful Father,

All accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

All 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.

Going out to serve God

Hymn 5: Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ofp6rdAgRrY>

This prayer may be said

A blessing on the season of growth,
A blessing on all that is done:
The blessing of the fertile Creator,
The blessing of the virile Son,
The blessing of the Spirit, sustaining,
May God and the earth be one.

All Amen.

Blessing, honour and glory be yours,
here and everywhere,
now and for ever.

All Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Blessing Song: May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxUAeTDW3c0&t=1s>

A service from New Patterns for Worship. Compilation copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2002. Closing prayer Ray

Simpson, painting by kind permission of Jen Norton, photo David Thorpe.

Notices

These **Online Services** will continue for those wanting to continue worshiping at home.

(To view this service playlist, click below, come back to this sheet for the readings and the prayers for today)

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-v3HHJqZACwI3hefNIUEjsmjmJogRgYp>

Communion Services will now be taking place in one parish per a week, this Sunday it will be at St James' and next Sunday at the Centre. If possible, please stay within your communities. **Please note: anyone attending services MUST from now on wear face covering (masks) unless for specific reasons.**

Live **Zoom communions** will take place each Sunday at 9am, the link will be on this service sheet each week. A Communion Service sheet is available to print out to follow these Zoom services. See: <https://e-voice.org.uk/bradwellchurch/assets/documents/zoom-sheet>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87125469167?pwd=K0IPM2RDMHFiMWpDN3kvVWpDQUhkZz09>

Meeting ID: 871 2546 9167

Passcode: 031556

The **St Peter's Chapel Summer Evening Services** will be online, see

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6204/>

Click below:

https://media.acny.uk/media/July_24th_An_Evening_Service_of_the_Word_8nKOZty.pdf

If you wish to have this week's **Family Time Activities** from St Augustine's Springfield Essex, please send me an email and I will send them to you:

davidthorpe227@btinternet.com