

**CHARLTON BENEFICE  
SUNDAY OCTOBER 25th  
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY**

**Welcome from Ali**

**Hymn – Jesus Christ is waiting**

President: In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

President The Lord be with you  
**All: and also with you.**

Revd Liz welcomes and introduces the theme

**Prayer of Preparation**

All: Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Prayers of Penitence**

My sisters and brothers, as we prepare to celebrate the presence of Christ in word and sacrament, let us call to mind and confess our sins.

All: **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.

President: May the God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

### The Gloria

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

*The President introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.  
The Collect is said, and all respond*

Loving Father

you have made us your people,  
richly provided us with good gifts  
and called us to live for you;

may gratitude be in our hearts;

may generosity be in our hands;

may justice and righteousness guide our feet

and may

the life of your kingdom and the joy of heaven be found among us.

Through Jesus Christ, you Son our Lord

**Amen**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

### **Old Testament Reading – read by Catherine**

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**New Testament Reading** – read by Sue

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints— and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you. Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn to greet the Gospel - We have a Gospel to proclaim**

**Gospel Reading** – read by Kayin

Alleluia, alleluia, we do not live by bread alone,  
But by every word that comes from the mouth of God

**Alleluia**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**All: Glory to you, O Lord**

As they were listening to this, he went on to tell a parable, because he was near Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately. So he said, ‘A nobleman went to a distant country to get royal power for himself and then return. He summoned ten of his slaves, and gave them ten pounds, and said to them, “Do business with these until I come back.” But the citizens of his country hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, “We do not want this man to rule over us.” When he returned, having

received royal power, he ordered these slaves, to whom he had given the money, to be summoned so that he might find out what they had gained by trading. The first came forward and said, "Lord, your pound has made ten more pounds." He said to him, "Well done, good slave! Because you have been trustworthy in a very small thing, take charge of ten cities." Then the second came, saying, "Lord, your pound has made five pounds." He said to him, "And you, rule over five cities." Then the other came, saying, "Lord, here is your pound. I wrapped it up in a piece of cloth, for I was afraid of you, because you are a harsh man; you take what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow." He said to him, "I will judge you by your own words, you wicked slave! You knew, did you, that I was a harsh man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow? Why then did you not put my money into the bank? Then when I returned, I could have collected it with interest." He said to the bystanders, "Take the pound from him and give it to the one who has ten pounds." (And they said to him, "Lord, he has ten pounds!") "I tell you, to all those who have, more will be given; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** – by Bennett

*After the sermon there is a period of quiet reflection*

### **The Affirmation of Faith**

**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.  
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 – led by Ally**

*Prayers are offered for*

- *the Church of Christ*
- *Creation, human society, the Sovereign and those in authority*
- *the local community*
- *those who suffer*
- *the communion of saints*

After each prayer ...

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy

**All:** hear our prayer.

After the final prayer ...

Intercessor: God of mercy,

**All:** hear our prayer  
and make us one in heart and mind  
to serve you with joy forever.  
Amen.

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

### **The Peace**

President: 'Where two or three are gathered together  
in my name,' says the Lord, 'there am I in the midst of them.'

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All:** And also with you.

## **Offertory Hymn – How sweet the name of Jesus sounds**

### **Preparation of the Table**

#### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

President: The Lord be with you

**All:** and also with you.

President: Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them to the Lord.

President: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is right to give thanks and praise.

President: Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ,  
your living Word,  
through whom you have created all things;  
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit

he took flesh; as your Son,  
born of the blessed Virgin,  
he lived on earth and went about among us;  
he opened wide his arms for us  
on the cross; he put an end to death  
by dying for us; and revealed  
the resurrection by rising to new life;  
so he fulfilled your will  
and won for you a holy people.  
Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and singing:

**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.**

President: 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:**  
**Christ has died:**  
**Christ is risen:**  
**Christ will come again**

President: 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 St Luke and St Richard, St Thomas  
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 Lord's Prayer**

President: 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**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

President: We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

**All: Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

### **Agnus Dei**

**All: Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world,**

**grant us peace.**

The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ. In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, 'I am the Bread of Life'

### **Invitation to Communion**

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

**All: Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

### **Prayer before Distribution**

**All: Most merciful Lord,  
your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean,  
our hearts were unprepared;  
we were not fit even to eat  
the crumbs from under your table.  
But you, Lord,  
are the God of our salvation,  
and share your bread with sinners.  
So cleanse and feed us  
with the precious body and blood  
of your Son, that he may live in us and we in him; and that  
we,  
with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in your  
kingdom. Amen.**

**Communion Music:** A New Commandment by Richard Shephard,  
sung by St Martin's Voices

## **Prayer after Communion**

Father, in creation, the gift that keeps giving,  
you have provided abundantly for the world you have made;  
in broken bread and wine outpoured you have given to us your very self in your  
Son Jesus.

Grant us wisdom to support and to set free those bound in debt and money  
anxiety.

Grant us contentment to live with gratitude and care for the earth.

Grant us wisdom to manage well all that has been entrusted to us.

Grant us grace to give generously of all that has been given to us.

**Amen**

## **NOTICES**

### **Final Prayer**

**All:            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 Blessing and Sending Out**

President: The Lord be with you

**All: and also with you.**

President: May the peace of God which passes all understanding  
Fill your hearts and minds with the knowledge and love of God  
and of his Son, Jesus Christ  
And the blessing of God almighty  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
Be with us all, ever more  
**Amen**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Final Hymn – I, the Lord of sea and sky**

*Our worship is over: our service begins.*