

**10am Parish Eucharist**  
**27th September 2026**  
*Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity*  
**The Unexpected Kingdom: Part 2**

**5pm Service** today is Choral Evensong with Healing Ministry

**VOLUNTARY**

*During which the following prayer is shown  
on the screens:*

Almighty God,  
be with us in this time of worship.  
Give us an insight of your kingdom,  
a vision of your purpose,  
the guidance of your Holy Spirit,  
and grace to do your just and loving will;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
Amen

**THE GATHERING**

*Informal welcome*

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

HON 695

1 To God be the glory,  
great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son*

*and give him the glory, great things he has done!*

2 Oh, perfect redemption,  
the purchase of blood,  
To every believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offender who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. [Refrain]

3 Great things He hath taught us,  
great things He hath done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher, and greater will be  
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see. [Refrain]

## THE GREETING

*President* We meet in the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

***All* Amen.**

*President* The Lord be with you.

***All* And also with you.**

*President* Please be seated.

*The President introduces the service and 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

*Deacon* St Paul writes to the Philippians in our first Reading, “do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit” and “look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.” Let us confess before God the times we have acted out of self interest rather than in the interests of others.

***All* Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

*President* Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon † and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***All* Amen.**

*As forgiven people, we stand to sing the Gloria.*

## THE GLORIA

St. Helen's Service

***All* Glory, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest.  
Glory, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest.**

**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.**

**Glory, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest.  
Glory, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest.**

**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.**

**Glory, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest.  
Glory, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest.  
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.**

**Glory, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest.  
Glory, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest.  
Amen**

## **THE COLLECT**

*President*      Almighty God,

you have made us for yourself,  
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:  
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,  
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city  
where we shall see you face to face;  
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.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*The Children's breakout group departs*

### **A READING FROM THE BIBLE** *Philippians 2.1–13*

*Read by Cat Berry*

2 If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, 2 make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. 5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 12 Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

*Reader*  
*All*

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

## **GRADUAL HYMN**

NEH 338 v. 1-5 Tune: Evelyns

1 At the name of Jesus  
Every knee shall bow,  
Every tongue confess him  
King of glory now;  
'Tis the Father's pleasure  
We should call him Lord,  
Who from the beginning  
Was the mighty Word.

2 At his voice creation  
Sprang at once to sight,  
All the angel faces,  
All the hosts of light,  
Thrones and dominations,  
Stars upon their way,  
All the heavenly orders,  
In their great array.

3 Humbled for a season,  
To receive a name  
From the lips of sinners  
Unto whom he came,  
Faithfully he bore it  
Spotless to the last,  
Brought it back victorious  
When from death he passed:

4 Bore it up triumphant

With its human light,  
Through all ranks of creatures,  
To the central height,  
To the throne of Godhead,  
To the Father's breast;  
Filled it with the glory  
Of that perfect rest.

5 In your hearts enthrone him;  
There let him subdue  
All that is not holy,  
All that is not true:  
He is God the Saviour,  
He is Christ the Lord,  
Ever to be worshipped,  
Trusted, and adored.

## **GOSPEL READING** *Matthew 21:23-32*

*Deacon*            The Lord be with you.  
*All*                 **And also with you.**

*Deacon*            Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
                        according to Matthew.  
*All (sung)*        **Glory to you, O Lord.**

23 When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' 24 Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. 25 Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" 26 But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' 27 So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.'

28 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." 29 He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. 30 The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

*Deacon*                This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
*All (sung)*           **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**        *The Rev. Matt Ford*

## **CREED**

*President*        Let us declare our faith in God,  
                              who is 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.  
          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 David Harrison*

*The following response is used after each section*

**All** Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

*The prayers conclude with the following:*

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

## **THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

### **THE PEACE**

**President** The kingdom of God is not a matter  
of eating and drinking,  
but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

**All**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*Deacon*

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

## **OFFERTORY HYMN**

Words: Ally Barrett. Tune: DIM OND IESU

- 1 May the peace we share among us  
sow a seed in every soul;  
may its roots grow deep within us,  
give us strength, and make us whole.  
May we bring forth leaves for healing,  
flowers of mercy, fruits of grace;  
as we look on one another,  
Jesus, help us see your face.
- 2 May your peace be in the stillness  
of a softly whispered prayer;  
when our lives are filled with turmoil  
may we know that you are there.  
When we feel the tempest raging,  
guard and shelter us from harm,  
breathe your peace once more upon us  
as the still small voice of calm.
- 3 Let your peace transform the conflicts  
that would tear your world apart;  
may the leaders of the nations  
long for peace with all their heart;  
and in every place of violence,  
every moment lived in fear,  
in the depth of every sorrow,  
may your perfect peace draw near.
- 4 May your peace, once breathed in blessing,  
fill each thought and deed and word,  
and empower us in our witness  
to the love of Christ our Lord.  
In the beauty of your presence,  
as you send us out anew,

may we never lose our wonder  
at the peace we find in you.

## PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

*President* Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ,  
our risen high priest; and make yourself known  
in the breaking of bread.

**All Amen.**

## 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:

## SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

St. Helen's Service

**All**

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

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

*Please kneel or sit*

**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.

**All**

Great is the mystery of faith  
**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 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**

*The President introduces 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.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

*The President invites the people to receive Holy Communion.  
Prayer Ministry will be available in St Peter's Chapel.*

*President*      Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith and with thanksgiving.

## **AGNUS DEI**

St. Helen's Service

*All*              **Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world.  
have mercy on us,  
have mercy on us,  
have mercy.**

**Lamb of God,**

you take away the sin of the world,  
Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us,  
have mercy on us,  
have mercy.

Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace,  
grant us peace,  
grant us peace.

*The President and people receive Communion or a blessing.  
Please come to a communion station when indicated by a Warden.*

## **ANTHEM**

### **Hail, gladdening light      C Wood**

*Hail, gladdening light, of his pure glory poured  
Who is the immortal Father, heavenly, blest,  
Holiest of holies, Jesu Christ, our Lord.*

*Now we are come to the sun's hour of rest,  
The lights of evening round us shine,  
We hymn the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit Divine.*

*Worthiest art thou at all times to be sung  
With undefiled tongue,  
Son of our God, giver of life alone!  
Therefore in all the world thy glories, Lord, they own. Amen.*

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

Words: Lizzi Green. Tune: PICARDY

1 Christ, you call us to your table,  
one with earth and heaven above;  
here we find, so poor and fragile,  
bread of life and cup of love.

In the breaking, in the sharing,  
you are present, risen Lord.

2 All are welcomed at your banquet,  
called by grace to be your own;  
none excluded, none forgotten,  
lost and lonely find a home.  
Here your mercy gathers round us,  
drawing strangers into one.

3 In the silence, in the singing,  
in the blessing of the bread,  
in the wine outpoured and taken,  
hope is born where hope seemed dead.  
Christ our priest, and Christ our offering,  
be the food by which we live.

4 Send us out to love and witness  
to the world you died to save:  
hands of peace in broken places,  
light that shines beyond the grave.  
May your kingdom come, Lord Jesus,  
filled with justice, joy, and grace.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*President* Lord, we pray that your grace  
may always precede and follow us,  
and make us continually to be given to all good works;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** Amen.

**All** Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you  
our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.  
Amen.

# THE DISMISSAL

The notices

*Please stand*

## THE BLESSING

*President* The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you.**

*President* May God keep you in all your days.

May Christ shield you in all your ways.

May the Spirit bring you healing and peace.

May God the Holy Trinity drive all darkness from you  
and pour upon you blessing and light;

and the blessing of God almighty, †

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you, and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

NEH 486

1 We have a gospel to proclaim  
Good news for all throughout the earth,  
The gospel of a Saviour's name:  
We sing his glory, tell his worth.

2 Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,  
Not in a royal house or hall,  
But in a stable dark and dim;  
The Word made flesh, a light for all.

3 Tell of his death at Calvary,  
Hated by those he came to save,  
In lonely suffering on the cross:  
For all he loved, his life he gave.

4 Tell of that glorious Easter morn,  
Empty the tomb, for he was free,  
He broke the power of death and hell  
That we might share his victory.

5 Now we rejoice to name him King:  
Jesus is Lord of all the earth,  
This gospel message we proclaim;  
We sing his glory, tell his worth.

## **THE DISMISSAL**

*Please turn to face the West door at the back of the church*

*Deacon*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

***All***

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

**Voluntary** *Wir glauben all an einen Gott* J S Bach BWV680