

The Benefice of Groby and Ratby

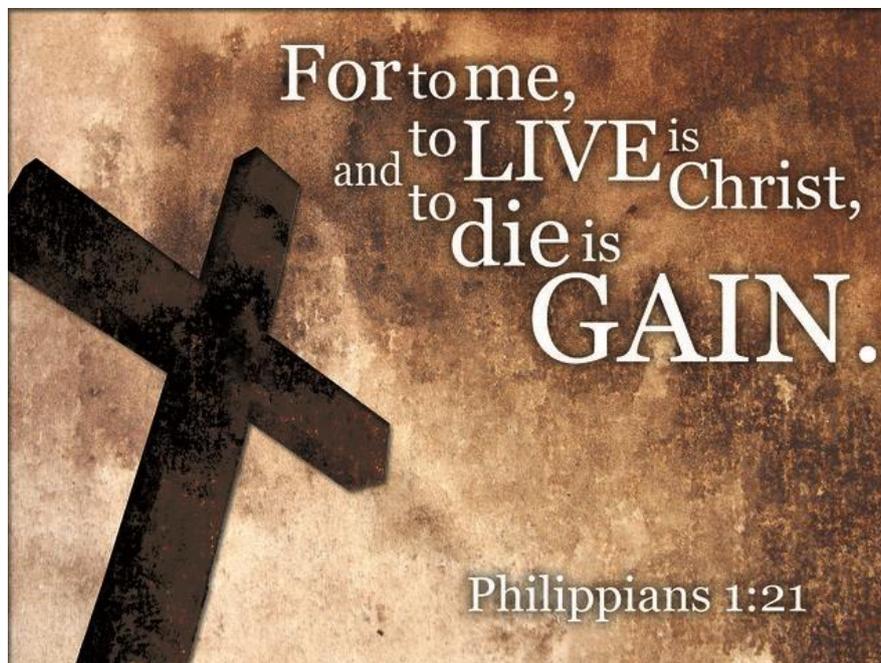


St. Philip & St. James Church, Groby



St. Philip & St. James Church, Ratby

WORSHIP FROM THE BENEFICE OF GROBY AND RATBY



TRINITY 15

*We say together the words printed in **bold**, knowing we are united across time and space in the power of Christ.*

THE GATHERING

Not an easy peace,
not an insignificant peace,
not a half-hearted peace,
but the peace of God in Jesus Christ
be with you all.

OPENING RESPONSES

Thanks be to you, O God, that we have risen this day
To the rising of this life itself.

Be the purpose of God between us and each purpose.
The hand of God between us and each hand,

The pain of Christ between us and each pain,
The love of Christ between us and each love.

O God, who brought us to the bright light of this new day
Bring us to the guiding light of eternity.

HYMN

Led by Ruth Matthews and Paul and Jane Cox

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive Your people's praise.

Lord, for our world when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him:
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us -
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us, for the future take us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RESTORATION

We gather in God's name.
We claim Christ's promised presence.

My brothers and sisters, not out of dread and fear
but believing that God is faithful to forgive,
let us rid ourselves of what we need to carry no longer.

Eternal God, maker of the skies above,
lowly Christ, born amidst the growing earth,
Spirit of life, wind over the flowing waters,
in earth and sky, you are there.
O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns,
soul behind all souls,
in everything we touch, in everyone we meet,
your presence is around us, and we give you thanks.
But when we have not touched
but trampled you in creation,
when we have not met but missed you in one another,
when we have not received but rejected you in the poor,
forgive us, and hear now our plea for mercy.

Hear now the words of Jesus for all who are truly sorry and seek to
renew their lives: your sins are forgiven. Go in peace; come and
follow me.

Lead us now, O God, to acknowledge your costly generosity by
living as forgiven people, until heaven and earth rejoice and the
whole earth cries Glory! Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE READING OF THE WORD

Read by Owen Lawrence

Philippians 1:21-30

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the
flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I
prefer. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to
depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴ but to remain in
the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this,
I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your
progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that I may share abundantly in your
boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so
that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about

you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

SERMON

Ruth Mwenya

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Led by Anne Koscielska

At the end

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

SONG

Led by Ruth Matthews and Paul and Jane Cox

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
Your perfect love is casting out fear
And even when I'm caught in the middle of the storms of this life
I won't turn back
I know You are near

And I will fear no evil
For my God is with me
And if my God is with me
Whom then shall I fear?
Whom then shall I fear?

Oh no, You never let go
Through the calm and through the storm
Oh no, You never let go
In every high and every low
Oh no, You never let go
Lord, You never let go of me

And I can see a light that is coming for the heart that holds on
A glorious light beyond all compare
And there will be an end to these troubles
But until that day comes
We'll live to know You here on the earth

And I will fear no evil
For my God is with me
And if my God is with me
Whom then shall I fear?
Whom then shall I fear?

Oh no, You never let go
Through the calm and through the storm
Oh no, You never let go
In every high and every low
Oh no, You never let go
Lord, You never let go of me

Yes, I can see a light that is coming for the heart that holds on
And there will be an end to these troubles

But until that day comes
Still I will praise You, still I will praise You

Yes, I can see a light that is coming for the heart that holds on
And there will be an end to these troubles

But until that day comes
Still I will praise You, still I will praise You

Oh no, You never let go
Through the calm and through the storm

Oh no, You never let go
In every high and every low

Oh no, You never let go
Lord, You never let go of me

Oh no, You never let go
Through the calm and through the storm

Oh no, You never let go
In every high and every low

Oh no, You never let go
Lord, You never let go of me

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
Your perfect love is casting out fear
And even when I'm caught in the middle of the storms of this life
I won't turn back I know you are near

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BLESSING

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you:
wherever he may send you;
may he guide you through the wilderness:
protect you through the storm;
may he bring you home rejoicing:
at the wonders he has shown you;
may he bring you home rejoicing:
once again into our doors.

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