

**Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community**  
**Scattered Church: Worship at home on 21/09/25 St Matthew**  
**(Call 0333 0110 616; code 334 7721)**

**Hymn**

God is love, let heav'n adore him;  
God is love, let earth rejoice;  
let creation sing before him,  
and exalt him with one voice.  
He who laid the earth's foundation,  
he who spread the heav'ns above,  
he who breathes through all creation,  
he is love, eternal love.

God is love and he enfoldeth  
all the world in one embrace;  
with unfailing grasp he holdeth  
ev'ry child of ev'ry race.  
And when human hearts are breaking  
under sorrow's iron rod,  
all the sorrow, all the aching  
deep within the heart of God.

God is love, and though with blindness  
sin afflicts the human soul,  
God's eternal loving-kindness  
guides and heals and makes us whole.  
Sin and death and hell shall never  
o'er us final triumph gain;  
God is love, so love for ever  
o'er the universe must reign.

*Timothy Rees 1874-1939*

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

**and also with you.**

*cf 1 Timothy 1.2*

We meet in the presence of God  
**who knows our needs,**  
**hears our cries, feels our pain,**  
**and heals our wounds.**

We run the race set before us,  
surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.  
Therefore let us lay aside every weight,  
and the sin which clings so closely,  
bringing them to Jesus in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus, in your love you invite us to be your friends:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, in your joy you choose us to go out and bear fruit:

Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, in your power you send us to be your faithful witnesses:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son  
and strengthen us to live in the power of the Spirit  
all our days. **Amen.**

**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***

O Almighty God,  
whose blessed Son called Matthew the tax collector  
to be an apostle and evangelist:  
give us grace to forsake the selfish pursuit of gain and the possessive love of riches  
that we may follow in the way of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

***Readings***

***Proverbs 3:13-18***

Happy are those who find wisdom, and those who get understanding,  
for her income is better than silver, and her revenue better than gold.  
She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.  
Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honour.  
Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.  
She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called happy.  
This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **2 Corinthians 4:1-6**

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth, we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Matthew 9:9-13**

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Reflection**

### **Affirmation of faith**

We say together in faith

**Holy, holy, holy  
is the Lord God almighty,  
who was, and is, and is to come.  
We believe in God the Father,  
who created all things:  
for by his will they were created  
and have their being.  
We believe in God the Son,  
who was slain:  
for with his blood,  
he purchased us for God,  
from every tribe and language,  
from every people and nation.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit:  
the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'  
Even so come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

*cf Revelation 4.8,11; 5.9; 22.17, 20*

## **Intercessions**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us

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.

### ***The Peace***

We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God,  
through Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace  
to those who were far off and those who were near.

*Ephesians 2.19,17*

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

### ***Notices***

Lord God, the source of truth and love,  
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,  
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### ***Blessing***

God, who has prepared for you a city with eternal foundations,  
bring you, with all the saints, to the eternal and triumphant joy of that city;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### ***Hymn***

Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bid'st me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come!

Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many a conflict, many a doubt;  
fightings within, and fears without,  
O Lamb of God, I come!

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
sight, riches, healing of the mind;  
yea, all I need, in thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come!

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come!

Just as I am, thy love unknown  
has broken every barrier down;  
now, to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come!

Just as I am, of that free love  
the breadth, length, depth and height to prove,  
here for a season, then above,  
O Lamb of God, I come!

*Charlotte Elliott 1789-1871*

*'New Patterns of Worship' and 'Common Worship: Times and Seasons',  
material from which is included in this service, are copyright  
©The Archbishops' Council 2000, 2002, 2006  
Reproduced with permission for use in the Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community  
Hymn and song words are copyright and reproduced with permission  
CCLI Licence No: 1665979*

### **Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community Services**

#### **Telephone Services**

**(Call 0333 0110 616; code 334 7721)**

**Sundays at 9am:** Sunday Worship – a half hour Service of the Word: hymns, readings and prayers

#### **Church Services**

<b>Sept 21 St Matthew</b>	10.30am HC St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock 10.30am HC St Mary Dunsford
<b>Sept 28 Trinity 15</b>	10.30am HC St Thomas Becket Bridford 10.30am HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford
<b>Oct 5 Trinity 16</b>	10.30am HC St James Christow 10.30am HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh
<b>Oct 12 Trinity 17</b>	10.30am Harvest Family Service St Mary Dunsford 11.00am Harvest Thanksgiving w/HC St Thomas Becket Bridford 11.00am Harvest Thanksgiving St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock
<b>Oct 19 Trinity 18</b>	10.30am HC St John the Baptist Ashton 10.30am HC St Mary Dunsford
<b>Oct 26 Bible Sunday</b>	10.30am MC HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford 4.00pm Forest Church Ashton

**Nov 2 All Saints/**

**10.30am HC St John the Baptist Ashton**

**10.30am HC St James Christow**

**10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford**

**All Souls**

**6.00pm All Souls Service of Remembering St Thomas Becket  
Bridford**

**Nov 9 Remembrance  
Sunday**

**10.50 St John the Baptist Ashton**

**10.50 St Thomas Becket Bridford**

**10.50 with HC St James Christow**

**10.45 St Michael Doddiscombsleigh**

**10.45 St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock**

**10.50 St Mary Dunsford**

**Want to make a donation?**

Use the QR codes below, or go to <https://www.achurchnearyou.com> and search for the parish you want to support...remember to Gift Aid your donation if you can...thank you!



**Ashton**



**Bridford**



**Christow**



**Doddiscombleigh**



**Dunchideock**



**Dunsford**