

Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community
Scattered Church: Worship at home on 20/09/26 Trinity 16

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.

Loving God, we have come to worship you.
Help us to pray to you in faith,
to sing your praise with gratitude,
and to listen to your word with eagerness;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world and knows our every word and deed.
Let us then open ourselves to the Lord and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

We confess to you our lack of care for the world you have given us.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you our failure to protect resources for others.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The Lord enrich us with his grace,
and nourish us with his blessing;
the Lord defend us in trouble and keep us from all evil;
the Lord accept our prayers,
and absolve us from our offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **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

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace at our lives' end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings

Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, 'O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the Lord said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.'

But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Philippians 1:21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. 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, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

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, 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. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Matthew 20:1-16

'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

(Dial 01647 407047 to hear it again during the week)

Affirmation of faith

Let us declare our faith in God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

cf Ephesians 3

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

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
since as members of one body you are called to peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

cf Colossians 3.15

Notices

We say together:

**Eternal God, our beginning and our end,
accompany us in this day's journey.
Dawn on our darkness, open our eyes to praise you for your creation
and to see the work you set before us today.
Take us and use us to bring to others the new life you give
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself,

the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service,
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn

Lead us, heav'nly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee,
yet possessing every blessing
if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us,
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary
through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy;
thus provided, pardoned, guided
nothing can our peace destroy.

James Edmeston 1791-1867

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

Sept 20 Trinity 16	10.30am HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh
	10.30am HC St Mary Dunsford
Sept 27 Trinity 17	10.30am HC St Thomas Becket Bridford
	10.30am HC St James Christow
	10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford
	4.00pm Forest Church Ashton
Oct 4 Trinity 18	10.30am HC St John the Baptist Ashton
	10.30am HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh
	10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford
Oct 11 Trinity 19	10.30am Harvest Thanksgiving St Thomas Becket Bridford
	10.30am Harvest Thanksgiving St Mary Dunsford
	11.00am Harvest Thanksgiving St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock

Oct 18 Luke the Evangelist	10.30am HC St Mary Dunsford 11.00am Harvest Thanksgiving St James Christow 16.30am Harvest Thanksgiving St Michael Doddiscombsleigh
Oct 25 Last after Trinity	10.30am HC St Thomas Becket Bridford 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford 3.00pm Tea-time Service St Mary Dunsford 4.00pm Forest Church Ashton
Nov 1 All Saints	10.30am HC St John the Baptist Ashton 10.30am HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh 6pm All Souls' Service of Remembering St Thomas Becket Bridford
Nov 8 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
Nov 15 2 before Advent	10.30am HC St James Christow 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford
Nov 22 Christ the King	10.30am MC HC St Thomas Becket Bridford 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford
Nov 29 Advent Sunday	10.30am MC HC St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford 6.00pm Advent Carol Service St James Christow

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Ashton



Bridford



Christow



Doddiscombeleigh



Dunchideock



Dunsford