

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55.10–13

The word of the Lord is not useless or empty: he sends it forth with a purpose, and the purpose is fulfilled. This has been true for all eternity.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD:

¹⁰ As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹² For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

SECOND READING

Romans 8.1–11

The Christian need have no fear of eternal condemnation: the sacrifice of Christ has set us free from sin for ever. When our minds are led by the Spirit of God, then we have life and peace.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

¹ There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to

God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

GOSPEL

Matthew 13.1–9, 18–23

Jesus tells a parable about the planting of seeds. He explains that the seed is the word of God, and the soil is the heart of those who hear the word. Will the seed planted in our hearts yield a rich harvest?

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

¹ Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ Let anyone with ears listen!

¹⁸ Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹ yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

We don't take a **collection** during the service. *But offerings may be left in the plates at the back of church.* Thanks for your support!

Refreshments follow the Parish Eucharist in the Church Hall. Please join us!

Hymns - (AMRW);

<i>Introit</i>	AMRW 721 – Love divine, all loves excelling
<i>Gradual</i>	AMRW 383 – Lord, thy word abideth
<i>Offertory</i>	AMRW 238 – Come down, O Love divine
<i>During Communion</i>	AMRW 628 – Father of heaven, whose love profound
	AMRW 42 – My God and is thy table spread
<i>After Communion</i>	AMRW 810 – Thou whose almighty word

Psalm 65

R/ You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;

to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.

2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, because of their transgressions.

R/

3 Our sins are stronger than we are, but you will blot them out.

4 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.

R/

5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.

6 You make fast the mountains by your power; they are girded about with might.

R/

7 You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the clamour of the peoples.

8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvellous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy. **R/**

Next Sunday, 19 July is
the 7th Sunday after Trinity

Eucharist: 10.30 am

with the Revd Dr Daniel Parkinson

Readings:

Isaiah 44.6-8;
Romans 8.12-25;
Matthew 13.24-30,36-43

Parish of St Cuthbert, Benfieldside

The Parish is currently in vacancy please contact:

Wardens:

Mrs Linda Short ☎ 01207 503750/07734 355911

Mrs Carol O'Malley e-mail: carolomalley@talktalk.net

Web-site: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13511/

Facebook pages : facebook.com/benfieldside

6th SUNDAY after TRINITY

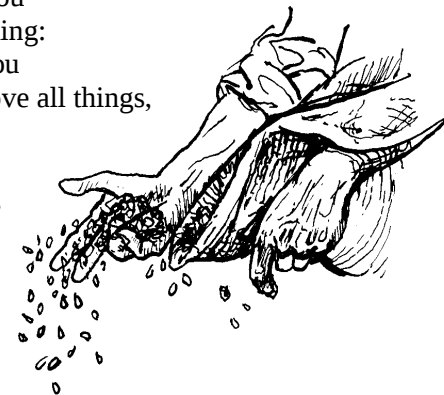
12 July 2026

Jesus preached a new kingdom – a kingdom of love – and we come to celebrate all that it means. So, we come into the presence of the king of heaven, and praise God who has the power to transform both us and the world around.

Eucharist: 10.30 am – We welcome the Revd Dr Kate Eaton-Wells today

Collect:

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
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. **AMEN.**



Psalm 65

See the back page.

Gospel acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ the sower;
whoever finds this seed will remain forever. **Alleluia!**

Eucharistic Prayer G is used

*We welcome communicant members of any Christian Church to **receive communion**
- people who don't receive communion are invited to receive a blessing*