

FIRST READING

Genesis 50.15–21

A reading from the book of Genesis.

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, 17 "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' 19 But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? 20 Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. 21 So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM

Psalms 103.1-7

R/ The Lord is compassion and love

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.

R/

He forgives all your sins
and heals all your infirmities;
He redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

R/

He satisfies you with good things,
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
The Lord executes righteousness
and judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made his ways known to Moses
and his works to the children of Israel.

R/

SECOND READING

Romans 14.1–12

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

1 Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

7 We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

10 Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. 11 For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' 12 So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18.21–35

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

21 Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' 22 Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

23 For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; 25 and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." 27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." 29 Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

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!

Hymns - (AMRW):

Introit AMRW 702 – Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
Gradual AMRW 116 – Be thou my guardian and my guide
Offertory AMRW 365 – Let us build a house
During Communion AMRW 717 – Lord, make us servants of your peace
AMRW 725 – Make me a channel of your peace
After Communion AMRW 532 – All creatures of our God & King (omit*verses)

Also this week...

Saturday 19 Sep 10.30-12.00 noon **Coffee Morning Plus**
- St Cuthbert's Church Hall

Saturday 3 October – 1.00 – 4.30 pm

Derwent Valley Team Vision Day at Christ Church Consett

Working with all the other six churches in the Team.

Please let Carol know if you wish to attend.

Saturday 10 October – 10.00 – 12.00 noon

Preparing our Parish Profile – St Cuthbert's Church Hall

We need to start working on our Parish Profile which will be used when adverts are placed for the new appointments in the Derwent Valley Team.

All are welcome to attend and contribute.

Coffee and cake on offer too...

Next Sunday, 20 September is the 16th Sunday
after Trinity & Harvest Festival and Lunch

Eucharist: 10.30 am

with the Revd Anthony Bash

Readings:

Jonah 3.10-4.11;
Philippians 1.21-30;
Matthew 20.1-16

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

15th SUNDAY after TRINITY

13 September 2026

In today's Gospel Jesus makes it clear that if we want God to forgive us, we should be ready to forgive others. We know how hard it can be to forgive, but Christ's way is a way of forgiveness and peace. In this Eucharist we pray that his way may be ours.

Eucharist: 10.30 am – We welcome the Revd Phil Carter today.

Collect:

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.**



Gospel acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. **Alleluia!**

Eucharistic Prayer B 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*

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