

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



HARVEST THANKSGIVING – 20 SEPTEMBER 2026

Today we give thanks for all the blessings we receive from God through the richness of his creation.

Eucharist: 10.30 am – We welcome the Revd Prof Anthony Bash today.

Gifts for the Harvest will be offered during the service for the *People's Kitchen*. Proceeds of the Harvest Lunch will be donated to USPG.

Opening Hymn 289 To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise

Call to Worship

God is good All the time
all the time. **God is good.**

Behold the kingdom of our Lord.
Behold the beauty of the sky,
the warmth of the earth,
the wonders of his creation.

The Lord who threw stars into space and hung the cobwebs of the morning with tears of light, he alone is to be praised.
Come with joy and praise his holy name. **Amen. Alleluia.**



Confession

Let us confess our forgetfulness of the needs of the poor,
and let us say sorry for the ways in which we waste the resources of the world.

God has blessed us, but still God's children go hungry.
Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy**

God has blessed us, but still the poor cry out for justice.
Christ have mercy **Christ have mercy**

God has blessed us, but still we see inequality and oppression in the earth.

Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy**

The priest gives the Absolution

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT:

Eternal God,
you crown the year with your goodness
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:
grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;
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**



READING

Philippians 1.21–30

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

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.

During the following hymn we bring harvest gifts to the altar

Hymn 283 Fill your hearts with joy and gladness
(repeat the first two lines of each verse at the end of each verse)

GOSPEL

Matthew 20.1–16

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: ¹ ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; ⁴ and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶ 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?” ⁷ They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” ⁸ 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.” ⁹ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² 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.” ¹³ 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? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



ADDRESS:

Prayers of intercession

Let us pray to God, that he will bring to fruition all that he desires for his creation.

God of the harvest, **hear our prayer.**

The Intercessor continues:

You have created the universe by your eternal Word,
and have blessed humankind in making us stewards of the earth.

We pray for your world,
that we may share and conserve its resources,
and live in reverence for the creation
and in harmony with one another.
God of the harvest, **hear our prayer.**

You have given the human race a rich land,
a land of streams and springs,
wheat and barley,
vines and oil and honey.

But we live in a world of suffering and sorrow.

We pray for those who bear the weight of affliction,
that they may come to share the life of wholeness and plenty.
God of the harvest, **hear our prayer.**

In Christ you call us to a new way of life,
loving our neighbours before ourselves.

Help us to treat with care and respect the world as it is
as we live in hope and anticipation of the world as it will be
when your kingdom comes and your will is done.

Thank you for those, living *and* departed,

who have shown a true respect for your creation...

Help us to follow in their footsteps,
until, with them, we see you face to face,
where all is made new in Christ our Lord.
God of the harvest, **hear our prayer.**

The Intercessor will continue with the Prayers for the Sick and the Departed

The Peace

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy, peace.
If the Spirit is the source of our life,
let the Spirit also direct its course. The peace of the Lord...

Offertory Hymn 282 Come ye thankful people, come

A special Eucharistic Prayer 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*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 2 (FROM LITURGY WITH CHILDREN)

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Lord of all life,
you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.

You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish.

You give us the fish in the sea,
the birds of the air,
and every plant and tree;
the life that sleeps in the winter earth,
and awakens again in the spring.

You made us all,
each wonderfully different,
to join with the angels
and sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.

He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.
Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died,
when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.
He gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:

'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more
to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with Mary and the Apostles,
with Cuthbert and all your saints
we give you glory,
through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever. **Amen.**

Hymns during Communion

430i Bread of heaven, on thee we feed
434 Christ bids us break the bread

After Communion

Hymn 290 We plough the fields, and scatter



Closing responses

With awesome deeds, with saving justice
you have answered us, O God our Saviour.

People all over the world and across the distant seas
trust and hope in you.

Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs.
**You make the gateways of the morning and the evening
shout for joy.**

May the God who gathers and scatters us as seed
give us a harvest of peace sown in justice
that everyone may have daily bread. And the blessing...

After the Sung Eucharist please join us for Harvest Lunch in the Hall

Coming up...

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, 27 September is the
17th Sunday after Trinity
Eucharist: 10.30 am
with the Revd Canon Gavin Wort

Readings:
Ezekial 18.1-4, 25-end;
Philippians 2.1-13;
Matthew 21.23-32