



# The parable of the sower

Heart & Anchor Church

## SERVICE ORDER

Sunday Worship, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2021



## **The Gathering**

Opening Song: *Here I am to worship*

[\*Here I Am to Worship -Tim Hughes \(Lyrical video\)\*](#)

The Lord is here

**All** His Spirit is with us

## **Welcome and introduction**

### **Opening prayer**

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Confession**

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,  
**All** slow to anger and of great kindness.  
He has not dealt with us according to our sins,  
**All** nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.  
For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
**All** so great is his mercy upon those who fear him.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**All** Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.

As far as the east is from the west,  
**All** so far has he set our sins from us.  
As a father has compassion on his children,  
**All** so is the Lord merciful towards those who fear him.



Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
**All and all that is within me bless his holy name.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
**All and forget not all his benefits.**

### **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.**

### **The Greenhouse Prayer**

Loving God,  
Help us by your Spirit to  
Bask in the sunshine of your love,  
Absorb the nutrients of your Word  
Inhale the oxygen of prayer,  
Exhale the carbon dioxide of anxiety.  
Soak our dry roots in the water of your Spirit  
Heal our wounds and infirmities  
Gather the isolated, restore the lost,  
Nurture new seeds of vision  
For the garden you want to grow  
In the presence and power of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## **Old Testament Reading**

### **Psalm 65**

#### **Thanksgiving for Earth's Bounty**

To the leader. A Psalm of David. A Song.  
Praise is due to you,  
O God, in Zion;  
and to you shall vows be performed,  
O you who answer prayer!  
To you all flesh shall come.  
When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,  
you forgive our transgressions.



Happy are those whom you choose and bring near  
to live in your courts.

We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,  
your holy temple.

By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,  
O God of our salvation;

you are the hope of all the ends of the earth  
and of the farthest seas.

By your strength you established the mountains;  
you are girded with might.

You silence the roaring of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves,  
the tumult of the peoples.

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.

You visit the earth and water it,  
you greatly enrich it;  
the river of God is full of water;  
you provide the people with grain,  
for so you have prepared it.

You water its furrows abundantly,  
settling its ridges,  
softening it with showers,  
and blessing its growth.

You crown the year with your bounty;  
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

The pastures of the wilderness overflow,  
the hills gird themselves with joy,  
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,  
the valleys deck themselves with grain,  
they shout and sing together for joy.



## Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;  
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

**Alleluia.**

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Song: [\*Thou visitest the earth - Maurice Greene\*](#)

## **Mark 4:1-20**

### The Parable of the Sower

<sup>1</sup>Again he began to teach beside the lake. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the lake and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the lake on the land. <sup>2</sup>He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: <sup>3</sup>'Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. <sup>5</sup>Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. <sup>8</sup>Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.' <sup>9</sup>And he said, 'Let anyone with ears to hear listen!'

### The Purpose of the Parables

<sup>10</sup> When he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables. <sup>11</sup>And he said to them, 'To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables; <sup>12</sup>in order that

"they may indeed look, but not perceive,  
and may indeed listen, but not understand;  
so that they may not turn again and be forgiven." '

<sup>13</sup> And he said to them, 'Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables? <sup>14</sup>The sower sows the word. <sup>15</sup>These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. <sup>16</sup>And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: when they hear



the word, they immediately receive it with joy. <sup>17</sup>But they have no root, and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. <sup>18</sup>And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word, <sup>19</sup>but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>20</sup>And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.'

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Talk by Ben Mussanzi**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**All I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**All I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**



## Prayers

### The LYCIG prayer

*Silence is kept.*

God of mission,  
Who alone brings growth to your church,  
Send your Holy Spirit to give  
Vision to our planning,  
Planning to our vision,  
Wisdom to our actions  
And power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow in numbers,  
In spiritual commitment to you,  
And in service to our local community,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### The Peace

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace.  
If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**  
*Let us offer one another a sign of God's peace*

**Song:** [Be Still For The Presence Of The Lord](#)

### The Communion

The Lord is here.  
**All His Spirit is with us.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**All We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**  
Blessed are you, Lord God,  
our light and our salvation;



to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things  
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image,  
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels  
and all the powers of heaven

we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**All 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.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.

As a mother tenderly gathers her children,  
you embraced a people as your own.

When they turned away and rebelled  
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,  
to be the living bread,

in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,  
and with a love stronger than death  
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,  
he came to supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.

He broke it and gave it to them, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;



do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**All Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:**

**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Father, we plead with confidence  
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;  
we remember his dying and rising in glory,  
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you  
these gifts of your creation;  
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,  
form us in the likeness of Christ,  
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

[Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.

Reveal her unity, guard her faith,  
and preserve her in peace ...]

Bring us at the last with Clement, Augustine and all the saints  
to the vision of that eternal splendour  
for which you have created us;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
by whom, with whom, and in whom,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:



**All Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

*As our Saviour taught us, so we pray*

**All Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

**All Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

### **The invitation**

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**



During communion we hear: [Remembrance \(Communion Song\) - Matt Redman](#)

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Father of all,  
**We give you thanks and praise,  
That when we were still far off  
You met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
Gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
We who drink his cup bring life to others;  
We whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
So we and all your children shall be free,  
And the whole earth live to praise your name;  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*As our Saviour taught us, so we pray*

**All** Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.

Notices



## The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep *you*;  
the Lord make his face shine on *you*,  
and be gracious to *you*;  
the Lord turn his face towards *you*  
and give you peace;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with *you* always.

**Amen.**

## Notices

- Wednesday afternoon Working Party/Open Church 2-5pm
- Thursday evening HOME – discussing the way forward with Home Groups and midweek meetings at St Augustine's and via Zoom – or input via pastoral group or Rosy.
- Letter
- Saturday afternoon 2-4
- 19<sup>th</sup> June
- 26<sup>th</sup> July - all together event 10-2 with light lunch

Go in the peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Final Hymn: *Forth in thy name O Lord I go* [\*Forth in Thy Name O Lord I go\*](#)**



