

ST MARK AND ALL SAINTS, READING

SUNDAY 24TH AUGUST 2025

*Whoever you are,
wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

Saint Bartholomew

THE GATHERING

*All the words are in this service sheet. Please join in with the words printed in **bold type**.*

At the start of the service a bell is rung and the procession enters as we stand to sing the opening hymn.

ENTRANCE HYMN

O worship the King, all glorious above;
O gratefully sing his pow'r and his love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendour, and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
his chariots of wrath the deep thunder-clouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth, with its store of wonders untold,
almighty, thy pow'r hath founded of old:
hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end!
Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.

O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn thee above,
thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

THE GREETING

✠ In the name of the Father,
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The priest welcomes us and introduces the theme of the service.

PRAYER OF PENITENCE

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit.
Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness,
all slander and malice,
and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Knowing that we are forgiven for our sins we sing this song of praise to God.

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.**

**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. . .**

The priest invites us to pray silently and then prays the collect:

Almighty and everlasting God,
who gave to your apostle Bartholomew grace
truly to believe and to preach your word:
grant that your Church may love that word which he believed
and may faithfully preach and receive the same;
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

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43.8–13

Bring forth the people who are blind, yet have eyes,
are deaf, yet have ears!
Let all the nations gather together,
let the peoples assemble. Who among them declared this,
foretold to us the former things? Let them bring their witnesses to justify them,
let them hear and say, It is true.
You are my witnesses, says the Lord,
my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me
understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed,
shall there be any after me.
I, I am the Lord,
besides me there is no saviour.
I declared and saved and proclaimed,
there was no strange god among you;
and you are my witnesses, says the Lord.
I am God, and also henceforth I am He;
is no one who can deliver from my hand;
work and who can hinder it?

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN PSALM 98

Old Hundredth

Our gradual Hymn is a congregational setting of today's psalm.

As we stand and sing the Gospel Book is carried into the midst of the congregation, reflecting God's coming among us in Christ. Please turn to face it.

**All praise to you, my God and King,
I bless your name for evermore,
blessing you daily, as I sing,
praising your name for evermore.**

**Come, praise the Lord, for he is great,
splendour that we can never gauge.
Daily proclaim his awesome state,
through generations, age to age.**

**Echo his glory and renown;
I contemplate your wonders, Lord,
for we commend your awesome crown,
and I recount your strength abroad.**

**Goodness and greatness they record,
singing of all your righteousness.
Holy and gracious is the Lord,
slow in his anger, swift to bless.**

**In his compassion he is good,
gentle to all beneath his gaze.
Joyful, the faithful firmly stood,
praising the Lord in all his ways.**

THE GOSPEL

Luke 22.24-30

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
Speak Lord for your servant is listening
you have the words on eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you
And also with you
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them, The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

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

Sit

THE SERMON

A brief period of silence may follow for us to reflect on the address and the readings today, then the priest invites us to stand to declare our faith.

THE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the
Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Sit or kneel to pray

THE INTERCESSIONS

During the prayers these or other responses may be used

**Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.**

And at the end of the prayers we say

**Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand

THE PEACE

**We are the Body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.**

**The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.**

We greet those around us in the peace of Christ, shaking hands and saying "Peace be with you"

OFFERTORY HYMN

**Who are these like stars appearing,
these before God's throne who stand?
Each a golden crown is wearing;
who are all this glorious band?
Alleluia! Hark, they sing,
praising loud their heav'nly King.**

Who are these of dazzling brightness,
these in God's own truth arrayed,
clad in robes of purest whiteness,
robes whose lustre ne'er shall fade,
ne'er be touched by time's rude hand?
Whence come all this glorious band?

These are they who have contended
for their Savior's honor long,
wrestling on 'til life was ended,
foll'wing not the sinful throng;
these, who well the fight sustained,
triumph thro' the Lamb have gained.

These are they whose hearts were riven,
sore with woe and anguish tried,
who in pray'r full oft have striven
with the God they glorified;
now, their painful conflict o'er,
God has bid them weep no more.
These, like priests, have watched and waited,
off'ring up to Christ their will;
soul and body consecrated,
day and night to serve him still:
now in God's most holy place
blest they stand before his face.

When the altar is prepared and the offerings received the president leads the offertory prayers.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread
to set before you,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.
Blessed be God for ever.

Generous God, as we gather around your table called and welcomed by Christ we present this
money, symbol of all the gifts you give to us.
**use it, use us, in the service of your world
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.
By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of 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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was
betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

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.

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father,

calling to mind his death on the cross,

his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;

rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,

and looking for his coming in glory,

we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,

we bring before you this bread and this cup

and we thank you for counting us worthy

to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people

and gather into one in your kingdom

all who share this one bread and one cup,

so that we, in the company of [N and] all the saints,

may praise and glorify you for ever,

through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,

for ever and ever.

Amen

We kneel or sit as silence is kept before the Lord's Prayer.

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 priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying

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

Though we are many, we are one body,

because we all share in one bread.

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

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

The priest invites the people to receive Communion, and says

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world
grant us your peace.**

COMMUNION HYMN

**Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christlight for you
in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.**

Brother, sister, let me serve you;

**let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too. .**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Once communion has been shared we stand when the priest invites us to pray.

Almighty God,
who on the day of Pentecost
sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles
with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame,
filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel:
by the power of the same Spirit
strengthen us to witness to your truth
and to draw everyone to the fire of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.:
Amen.

**God of gentleness and love
draw near to us as we draw near to you.
Dwell in every heart and conversation.
Fashion in us the likeness of your Son, Jesus Christ.
Help us to discern together
all that you are calling us to be
and all that you are calling us to do.
Assist us by your Spirit
to become a more contemplative,
more compassionate
and more courageous Church,
for the building of your kingdom
and the glory of your Son.
Amen.**

NOTICES

*We sit to listen to any notices about parish events.
Banns of Marriage may be announced.*

If your Birthday falls this week please tell us we would love to celebrate with you.

THE DISMISSAL

Stand

THE BLESSING

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image
of his glory and gladden your hearts with the
good news of his kingdom; and the blessing
of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ..

CLOSING HYMN

**Jesus we have heard Your Spirit
Saying we belong to You
Showing us our need for mercy
Focusing our hopes anew
You have won our hearts devotion
Now we feel Your guiding hand
Where You lead us we will follow
On the paths Your love has planned.**

**Jesus we have heard Your Spirit
Saying we belong to You
Showing us our need for mercy
Focusing our hopes anew
You have won our hearts devotion
Now we feel Your guiding hand
Where You lead us we will follow
On the paths Your love has planned.**

**As a chosen, pilgrim people
we are learning day by day
what it means to be disciples,
to believe and to obey.
Word and table show your purpose;
Hearts and lives we gladly bring-
where you lead us, we will follow,
suffering servant, risen King.**

**How we yearn that every people
should exalt your matchless name,
yet so often this worlds systems
countermand your regal claim.
If we stand for truth and justice**

we, like you, may suffer loss;
Where you lead us, we will follow-
give us grace to bear our cross.

So we journey on together,
keen to make our calling sure:
through our joys, our fears, our crises,
may our faith be made mature.
Jesus, hope of hearts and nations
sovereign Lord of time and space
where you lead us, we will follow
till we see you face to face.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England (2000).
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