

The Blofield benefice

**A Service for 7th Sunday
after Trinity**

With a Celebration of Holy Communion



Preparation

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you all

All **Amen**

All **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.**

All **Amen.**

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are
hidden, to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry,
and repent of all our sins.**

**For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

A canticle from Psalm 34

O magnify the Lord with me;
let us exalt his name together.

**O magnify the Lord with me;
let us exalt his name together.**

I sought the Lord and he answered me;
he delivered me from all my fears.

O magnify the Lord with me.

In my weakness I cried to the Lord;
he heard me and saved me from my troubles.

Let us exalt his name together.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

**O magnify the Lord with me;
let us exalt his name together.**

We sing:

God of glory, we exalt Your name,
You who reign in majesty.
We lift our hearts to You
And we will worship, praise and magnify
Your holy name.

In power resplendent
You reign in glory,
Eternal King, You reign forever.
Your word is mighty,
Releasing captives,
Your love is gracious,
You are my God.

The Collect

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

We hear the first Reading

The Psalmist continues to tell of his delight in God' law and the path of light and life along which it leads him.

Psalm. 119.129-136

¹²⁹ Your statutes are wonderful;
therefore I obey them.

- ¹³⁰ The unfolding of your words gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.
- ¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant,
longing for your commands.
- ¹³² Turn to me and have mercy on me,
as you always do to those who love your name.
- ¹³³ Direct my footsteps according to your word;
let no sin rule over me.
- ¹³⁴ Redeem me from human oppression,
that I may obey your precepts.
- ¹³⁵ Make your face shine on your servant
and teach me your decrees.
- ¹³⁶ Streams of tears flow from my eyes,
for your law is not obeyed.

We sing:

Majesty, worship His Majesty,
Unto to Jesus be all glory, honour, and praise
Majesty, kingdom authority,
Flow from His throne, unto His own,
His anthem raise.
So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus,
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King.
Majesty, worship His majesty,
Jesus, who died, now glorified, King of all kings.

The Gospel Reading

Jesus shares parables from everyday life to reveal what God's kingdom is like.

Mark 13:44-52

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure, buried in a field, that a man found and reburied. Then in his joy he goes and sells everything he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one priceless pearl, he went and sold everything he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a large net thrown into the sea. It collected every kind of fish, ⁴⁸ and when it was full, they dragged it ashore, sat down, and gathered the good fish into containers, but threw out the worthless ones. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out, separate the evil people from the righteous, ⁵⁰ and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all these things?”

They answered him, “Yes.”

⁵² “Therefore,” he said to them, “every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom treasures new and old.”

The Sermon

Let us declare our faith in God.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

**All This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Heavenly Father your son spoke to us in parables that we might understand the way of your kingdom. We ask you today to open our hearts to receive that treasure that surpasses all other treasures. May we daily invest our lives in your kingdom by following the path along which Jesus has led. Let our lives be transformed by the joy that is greater than any other joy. That we might be worthy of your kingdom at the end of the age.

Lord Jesus, **teach us the way of your kingdom.**

We know that following the Lord Jesus is not always an easy road. Sometimes we doubt, sometimes we are afraid, sometimes we are distracted by signs that point to an easier path. Father, give to us a heart of perseverance and such faith and trust in our Lord Jesus Christ that we will not doubt his word and his call or fail to follow where he leads.

Lord Jesus, **teach us the way of your kingdom.**

Today we pray for all those who are seeking life's true value and worth. Like the merchant in search of fine pearls, may you lead them to discover the greatest treasure of all. Help us to share with our friends and neighbours the treasure we have found. May they glimpse the treasure of your kingdom in the earthen pottery of our lives.

Lord Jesus, **teach us the way of your kingdom.**

We pray for the countries of the world as they continue to struggle with the effects of the Covid19 virus, and we remember before you today countries represented by our presence here and amongst our fellowship. Columbia, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, France, Switzerland, USA , Canada and our own home nations. Have mercy Lord on these Lands and all whom we know and love in these places.

Lord Jesus, **teach us the way of your kingdom.**

So we bring before you today your church as it seeks to worship you in Spirit and truth in times which seem bewildering and strange to us. We pray for that part of the body of Christ to which we belong. For great wisdom for our bishops and synods. For discernment for rectors, priests and lay leaders, for guidance for Churchwardens and PCC's. And today we pray for our benefice and benefice churches, North Burlingham, Hemblington and Blofield. We pray for one another – those present today and those remaining at home. Give us the wisdom we need for this day and help us to discern all that you are doing amongst us and through us at this current time.

Lord Jesus, **teach us the way of your kingdom.**

And we give you thanks in our prayers for the wider fellowship of your people both here upon earth and in heaven

above. We give you thanks for the example of their lives and the grace that you have given to them now brought to completion in your kingdom that lasts for ever.

Lord Jesus, teach us the way of your kingdom, give us the grace to serve you, the wisdom to know you and a true heart to love you.

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.**

We sing:

What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear
And what a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer

Oh, what peace we often forfeit
Oh, what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry

Everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Songwriters: Charles Crozat Converse, Joseph Scriven
© Warner Chappell Music, Inc., Universal Music Publishing Group, Downtown

The Peace

God will speak peace to his people
To those who turn to him in their hearts

Cf Psalm.85.8, 1 Samuel.12.20

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All And also with you

The Communion

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

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.

And now we give you thanks for your blessing upon us
as your people.

Through your grace we offer you the sacrifice of praise and
are built by your Spirit into a temple made without hands,
even the body of your Son Jesus Christ.

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.**

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

All

**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all your people
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Giving of Communion

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

All **Lord, give us this bread always.**

The Body and blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.

All **Amen**

After the president has partaken of the communion all who wish to receive communion come forward to the altar table.

We sing:

Abba Father, let me be
Yours and Yours alone.
May my will forever be
Ever more Your own.
Never let my heart grow cold,
Never let me go.
Abba Father, let me be
Yours and Yours alone.

Prayer after Communion

Lord God, sustain us on our earthly journey
with the vision of your grace and glory,
that, strengthened by the living bread,
we may come to your eternal dwelling place;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Blessing

Christ, whose glory is in the heavens, fill us with His Spirit and
illuminate our hearts;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always.

All **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**