

# Service Sheet

16<sup>th</sup> July 2023, 10.30am St Mary's  
The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

**Welcome to St Mary's Church!** We are so glad you are here – whether you are in the church building or watching online. If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello (in the chat feature online, or to the service leader or a member of the welcome team in church). You can find out more about our church on our website ([www.denhamparish.church](http://www.denhamparish.church)) or Facebook page ([facebook.com/denhamparish.church](https://facebook.com/denhamparish.church)).

*Christoph Lindner, Rector*

## WELCOME

### OPENING PRAISE (Psalm 119.105)

Your word, O Lord, is a lamp  
to my feet.  
**and a light to my path.**

### HYMN

Thou, whose almighty word  
Chaos and darkness heard,  
And took their flight;  
Hear us, we humbly pray,  
And where the gospel-day  
Sheds not its glorious ray,  
Let there be light!

Thou who didst come to bring,  
On thy redeeming wing,  
Healing and sight;  
Health to the sick in mind,  
Sight to the inly blind,  
O now to all mankind  
Let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love,  
Life-giving, holy Dove,  
Speed forth thy flight;  
Move on the waters' face,  
Bearing the lamp of grace,  
And in earth's darkest place  
Let there be light!

Holy and blessed Three,  
Glorious trinity,  
Wisdom, love, might;  
Boundless as ocean's tide  
Rolling in fullest pride,  
Through the world far and wide  
Let there be light!

## CONFESSION

**God of mercy, we acknowledge that we are all sinners. We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and done, and are mindful of all that we have failed to do. For the sake of Jesus, who died for us, forgive us for all that is past, and help us to live each day in the light of Christ and his resurrection. Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION

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

## COLLECT

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## SONG

Faith as small as a mustard seed  
will move mountains, move mountains  
Faith as small as a mustard seed will  
move mountains by the power of God

Believe what Jesus said was true  
Believe He meant it just for you  
Wait and see what God will do  
As you pray as you pray

Do da do da do da do da do da  
Do da do da mountains  
Do da do da do da do da do da  
Do da do da mustard

*(The children leave for Sunday Club)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 5. 10-13

<sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup> so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. <sup>12</sup> For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. <sup>13</sup> Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING: Matt 13.1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>Let anyone with ears listen!'

<sup>18</sup> 'Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup>But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

### OFFERTORY HYMN

God is working his purpose out as year succeeds to year.  
God is working his purpose out, and the day is drawing near.  
Nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be, when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

How can we do the work of God, how prosper and increase harmony in the human race and the reign of perfect peace?  
What can we do to urge the time, the time that shall surely be, when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea?

March we forth in the strength of God, his banner is unfurled;  
let the light of the gospel shine in the darkness of the world:  
strengthen the weary, heal the sick and set ev'ry captive free,  
that the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

All our efforts are nothing worth unless God bless the deed;  
vain our hopes for the harvest tide til he brings to the life the seed.  
Yet ever nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be, when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you, and of your own do we give you. Amen.**

### PRAYERS

*We pray for our five mission partners: Bible Reading Fellowship, Church Army, SHOC/Trinity, Tearfund and Wycliffe Bible Translators. We thank you for their sharing of good news in action and word and pray that you would sustain and inspire them. May they see rich fruit in their work for you.*

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

**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**

### HYMN

We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,  
but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand:  
he sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
the breezes and the sunshine, and soft, refreshing rain.

*All good gifts around us  
are sent from heav'n above  
then thank the Lord  
O thank the Lord  
for all his love.*

He only is the maker of all things near and far;  
he paints the wayside flower, he lights the evening star;  
he fills the earth with beauty, by him the birds are fed;  
much more to us, his children he gives our daily bread.

We thank thee then, O Father, for all things bright and good: the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.  
Accept the gifts we offer for all thy love imparts, and, what thou most desirest, our humble, thankful hearts

### BLESSING

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## Diary

**Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1.30pm**  
Wedding James Lee &  
Jade Ratchford

**Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> July 4pm**  
Baptism Leonardo  
Lovelock

**Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> July 10.15am**  
Destiny, St Mark's  
Church Hall



## NEW ON YOUTUBE

“**God in the Life of Sheila Crunden**”. You can now watch the interview from our last Café Church on our YouTube channel (scroll down to VIDEOS):

[youtube.com/DenhamParishChurch](https://youtube.com/DenhamParishChurch)

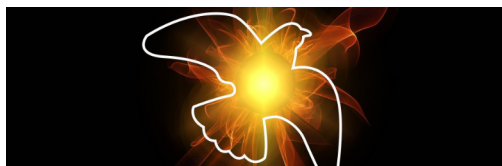
## VOTE FOR OUR SERMON THEME FOR AUGUST!

In August our sermon theme will be chosen by you! Our PCC have made suggestions for topics and voted on their top three. Now it's your choice which one we will preach on. Please cast your vote by the end of Tuesday 18 July.

Go to [denhamparish.church](https://denhamparish.church) and click on the banner or go to [denhamparish.churchsuite.com/forms/bcgiamss](https://denhamparish.churchsuite.com/forms/bcgiamss) or call the office and leave a message.

**email: [office@denhamparish.church](mailto:office@denhamparish.church)**

**phone: 01895 832771**



## CONFIRMATION AT ST MARY'S:

**Sunday, 1 October, 5pm**

Are you interested in being confirmed?

There will be a confirmation service at St Mary's on Sunday 1 October. Please contact our parish secretary Victoria to receive updates about preparation classes in September.