

*The Benefice of St Mary the Virgin,  
Higham Ferrers with St John the Baptist,  
Chelveston-cum-Caldecott*



# MEETING POINT

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity  
29<sup>th</sup> August 2021

‘Perspectives & Priorities’

Online Worship



***Welcome to our Online Worship –  
Meeting Point***

*As Sunday Services now take place in our churches,  
our Online Worship continues in ‘Meeting Point’ –  
we are joined together as one worshipping family through our  
services at home and in church through the seasons of the  
Church Year and the themes of the Gospel.  
Sunday Meeting Point helps us deepen our faith as we explore  
readings from scripture and experiences from our day to day lives.*

*Today we focus on the dangers of getting stuck on rules and  
regulations and losing sight of the bigger picture –  
it’s all about ‘Perspectives and Priorities’ based on today’s Gospel from  
Mark 7 and the danger of Phariseeism -  
true faith comes from the heart.*



Thanks to all who have made  
today’s service possible  
including members of the Ministry Team  
and their families and Teresa Webb from  
Wellingborough.

# The Welcome

*Michelle & Paul introduce today's service.*



## *Hymn*

**Ye holy angels bright,  
who wait at God's right hand,  
or through the realms of light  
fly at your Lord's command,  
assist our song,  
for else the theme  
too high doth seem  
for mortal tongue.**

**Ye blessed souls at rest,  
who ran this earthly race  
and now, from sin released,  
behold the Saviour's face,  
his praises sound,  
as in his sight  
with sweet delight  
ye do abound.**

**Ye saints, who toil below,  
adore your heavenly King,  
and onward as ye go  
some joyful anthem sing;  
take what he gives  
and praise him still,  
through good or ill,  
who ever lives.**

**My soul, bear thou thy part,  
triumph in God above:  
and with a well-tuned heart  
sing thou the songs of love;  
let all thy days  
till life shall end,  
whate'er he send,  
be filled with praise!**

*Words: Richard Baxter (1615-1691) & John Hampden Gurney (1802-1862)  
Music: DARWALL's 148<sup>th</sup> John Darwall (1731-1789)*

**Greeting** Michelle & Chris

Welcome in the name of Christ  
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you.  
**And also with you.**



## ***Opening Acclamation***

God in Christ has revealed his glory.  
**Come let us worship.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting  
**the Lord's name is greatly to be praised.**

Give him praise, you servants of the Lord.  
**O praise the name of the Lord!**

## ***Collect for The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity***

Almighty God,  
you search us and know us:  
may we rely on you in strength  
and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**



## ***Gospel Reading - Brenda***

*Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23*

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.)

So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?”

He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: “These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.’ You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.”

Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them.” For it is from within, out of a person’s heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and defile a person.”

## **Hymn**

**Purify my heart,  
let me be as gold and precious silver.  
Purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold.**

***Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire is to be holy,  
set apart for you, Lord.  
I choose to be holy, set apart for you, my Master,  
ready to do your will.***

**Purify my heart,  
cleans me from within and make me holy.  
Purify my heart, cleans me from my sin,  
deep within.**

*Words & Music: Brian Doerksen (b. 1965)*



***What makes a good actor?*** Teresa Webb

# **Anthem**

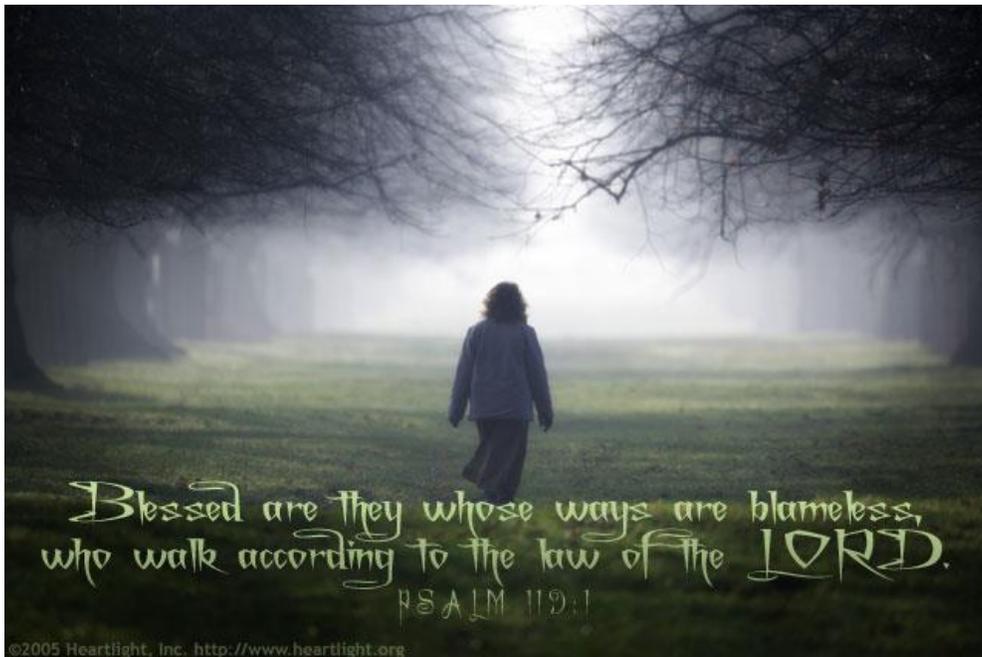
*Sung by the Choir of St John's College, Cambridge*

*Beati quorum via integra est:  
qui ambulant in lege Domini*

*Blessed are they whose road is straight,  
who walk in the law of the Lord.*

*Words from Psalm 119 v.1*

*Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)*



**Homily - Paul**

## **Hymn**

**Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult  
of our life's wild, restless sea,  
day by day his sweet voice soundeth,  
saying, 'Christian, follow me.'**

**As, of old, St Andrew heard it  
by the Galilean lake,  
turned from home and toil and kindred,  
leaving all for his dear sake.**

**Jesus calls us from the worship  
of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us,  
saying, 'Christian, love me more.'**

**In our joys and in our sorrows,  
days of toil and hours of ease,  
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,  
'Christian, love me more than these.'**

**Jesus calls us: by thy mercies,  
Saviour, may we hear thy call,  
give our hearts to thine obedience,  
serve and love thee best of all.**

*words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)  
music: Edward Henry Thorne (1834-1916)*

## **Prayers** – led by Lynda

*We pray for our world, our church, our family and friends and for ourselves, remembering especially the people of Afghanistan, and the people of Haiti.*



## **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 Peace – Michelle and Chris***

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 peace.



## ***Hymn***

**When I needed a neighbour, were you there,  
were you there?**

**When I needed a neighbour, were you there?**

***And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
were you there?***

**I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there?  
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?**

**When I needed a shelter, were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a shelter, were you there?**

**Wherever you travel, I'll be there, I'll be there.  
Wherever you travel, I'll be there.**

***And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
I'll be there.***

*Words & Music: Sydney Carter (1915-2004)*



## **Blessing** – Michelle

May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May the Lord make his face to shine  
upon you,  
and be gracious to you.  
May the Lord lift up his countenance  
upon you,  
and give you peace.  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
come down upon you this day, and remain with you always.  
**Amen**



*Why not check out the weekly Newsheet via the website and keep up to date with all that's happening?*

*Find it here by visiting [www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk](http://www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk) and go the 'Keeping in Touch' tab then select 'Newsletters' from the drop-down menu.*



*Material used in this booklet is copyright of its respective rights owners. Music and hymn words are reproduced under ONE LICENSE number A-633137, Church Copyright License 2148907 and Music Reproduction License 2216255. Material in this order of service is taken from Common Worship, copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000-2006 and is used here with permission.*  
[www.commonworship.com](http://www.commonworship.com).