**The Churches of St Mary, Haxby**

**and St Nicholas, Wigginton**

The United Benefice of Haxby and Wigginton

*Stepping out … with God … with each other*

*… with our local community and wider world*

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**Worship for Sunday 20th September 2020**

**The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**

**(CW Proper 20)**

This service is produced for use:

* as the ‘Service of the Word’ for use in our churches and
* by those worshipping with us via the website and as an audio service.

The Readings and Sermon are available as separate documents.

These documents may be downloaded for use in church or at home.

Music

The music on the audio may also be used in church, or an alternative offered at the discretion of the Officiant and Organist.

**If worshipping at home**

You may like to light a candle, if safe to do so.

**If worshipping at church**

Instructions for standing and sitting may be followed. The Officiant will provide other directions throughout the service.

This service, and the sermon, have been prepared by Ian Evans.

Music

With the exception of the hymn ‘For the fruits of his creation’, the music on audio was recorded by Andrew Tillett on the organ at St Mary’s Haxby, and sung by the Benefice ‘virtual choir’ (including Jane Ashby, Tony Berry, Ian Evans, Fiona Evans, Lynne Fisher and Stewart Pearson) recorded remotely in their homes, and edited together by Andrew Tillett.

The hymn ‘For the fruits of his creation’ is sung by the Choral Scholars of St Martin’s-in-the-Fields, recorded remotely in their own homes, and edited together.

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*Opening Music (on audio)*

*‘Litanei’ by Schubert*

**Preparation**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father

and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

**and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**Hymn ‘New ev’ry morning is the love’**

New ev’ry morning is the love

our wak’ning and up-rising prove;
through sleep and darkness safely brought, restored to life and pow’r and thought.

New mercies, each returning day,

hover around us while we pray;
new perils past, new sins forgiv’n,

new thoughts of God, new hopes of heav’n.

If on our daily course our mind

be set to hallow all we find,
new treasures still, of countless price,

God will provide for sacrifice.

Old friends, old scenes, will lovelier be,

as more of heav’n in each we see;
some soft’ning gleam of love and prayer

shall dawn on ev’ry cross and care.

The trivial round, the common task,

will furnish all we need to ask,
room to deny ourselves, a road

to bring us daily nearer God.

Only, O Lord, in thy dear love

fit us for perfect rest above;
and help us, this and ev’ry day,

to live more nearly as we pray.

*Tune: Melcombe John Keble, (1792 – 1866)*

*based on Lamentations 3: 23*

**Gathering Prayer**

The night has passed and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

**God our Father, we thank you for calling us together as members of your family. Help us through your Holy Spirit to sing your praises, to ask for what we need and to learn more about you. Help us to share your love which you showed the world in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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**Prayers of Penitence**

The grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all. Let us come to Him, in sorrow for our sins, seeking healing and salvation.

*A moment of silent reflection, before we say together*

**Lord God, we have sinned against you;**

**we have done evil in your sight.**

**We are sorry and repent.**

**Have mercy on us according to your love.**

**Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.**

**Renew a right spirit within us and restore to us the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse *us* from *our* sins, and restore *us* in his image, to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
**Amen**.

Blessed is the Lord,

**for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

**and in our song will we praise our God.**

I will praise the Lord at all times

**His praise will always be on my lips.**

**Hymn ‘For the fruits of his creation’**

For the fruits of his creation,

thanks be to God;
for his gifts to ev’ry nation,

thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,

silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth’s safe-keeping;

thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour,

God’s will is done;
in the help we give our neighbour,

God’s will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring

for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,

God’s will is done.

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For the harvests of his Spirit,

thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit,

thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,

for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us,

thanks be to God.

*Tune – East Acklam Fred Pratt Green (1903 - 20000*

**The Collect for the 15th Sunday after Trinity**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel

that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;

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.**

**Readings** *(see separate sheet)*

Exodus 16: 2 – 15; Philippians 1: 21 – 30;

Matthew 20: 1 - 16

**Hymn ‘Thy kingdom come! …’**

Thy kingdom come! On bended knee

the passing ages pray;
and faithful souls have yearned to see

on earth that kingdom’s day.

But the slow watches of the night

not less to God belong;
and for the everlasting right

the silent stars are strong.

And lo, already on the hills

the flags of dawn appear;
gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,

proclaim the day is near.

The day in whose clear shining light

all wrong shall stand revealed,
when justice shall be throned in might,

and ev’ry hurt be healed.

When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,

shall walk the earth abroad;
the day of perfect righteousness,

the promised day of God.

*Tune – Irish. Frederick Lucian Hosmer (1840 – 1929)*

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**Sermon**

**Affirmation of Faith**

We stand to declare our faith in God.

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

**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.**

**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.**

**Hymn ‘Thy kingdom come, O God’**

Thy kingdom come, O God,

thy rule, O Christ, begin;
break with thine iron rod

the tyrannies of sin.

Where is thy reign of peace

and purity and love?
When shall all hatred cease,

as in the realms above?

When comes the promised time

when war shall be no more,
and lust, oppression, crime

shall flee thy face before?

We pray thee, Lord, arise,

and come in thy great might;
revive our longing eyes,

which languish for thy sight.

Some scorn thy sacred name,

and wolves devour thy fold;
by many deeds of shame

we learn that love grows cold.

O’er lands both near and far

thick darkness broodeth yet;
arise, O morning star,

arise, and never set.

*Tune St Cecilia Lewis Hensley (1824 – 1905) alt.*

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**Intercessions**

*Our intercessions have been prepared, and are led on audio, by David Grice.*

I start with a prayer from the 1st millennium.

Lord

You are the peace of all things calm
You are the place to hide from harm
You are the light that shines in dark
You are the heart's eternal spark
You are the door that's open wide
You are the guest who waits inside
You are the stranger at the door
You are the calling of the poor
You are my Lord and with me still
You are my love, keep me from ill
You are the light, the truth, the way
You are my Saviour this very day.  **Amen**

Merciful God, your Son Jesus Christ healed the lame with a touch and cured the sick with a word - hear our prayers today for those who are laid low by sorrow and illness, fear and weakness (*see Intercessions list*). Breathe new life into them and give them your comfort and healing love.

We also raise before you those known to us who have died recently *(see Intercessions list)* and that those bereaved by their passing may find comfort in your peace and reassurance. We recognise the slenderness of the thread which separates life from death, and the suddenness with which it can be broken. Help us to appreciate that whatever occurs in life we are surrounded by your love.

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

Dear Lord, in the light of recent racial tensions, political differences, the Brexit negotiations and conflicts throughout the world, we ask you to take away all hatred, prejudice, ignorance and fear which may hinder us from being united with other people and peoples.

We also pray for love between us and those of different faiths and none.

Through dialogue may we deepen our understanding of one another.

Through common witness and action may we build bridges.

Through prayer may we learn to recognise the Holy Spirit at work in us all.

If the way forward is not always clear or easy, may we recall in our hearts the truth that:- “the love of Christ compels us.” **Amen.**

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Finally, my favourite Celtic Blessing

May the blessing of light be on you - light without and light within.
May the blessed sunlight shine on you like a great peat fire, so that stranger and friend may come and warm himself at it.
And may light shine out of the two eyes of you,
like a candle set in the window of a house,
bidding the wanderer come in out of the storm.
And may the blessing of the rain be on you,
may it beat upon your Spirit and wash it fair and clean, and leave there a shining pool where the blue of Heaven shines, and sometimes a star.
And may the blessing of the earth be on you,
soft under your feet as you pass along the roads,
soft under you as you lie out on it, tired at the end of day; and may it rest easy over you when, at last, you lie out under it.
And may the Lord bless you, and bless you kindly.

**Amen.**

Merciful God, **accept these prayers for the sake of your son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, as our Saviour has taught us, so we pray

**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**

**The Peace**

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another (a socially distanced) sign of peace.

**Hymn ‘For the healing of the nations’**

For the healing of the nations,

Lord we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing

of the things that earth affords,
to a life of love in action

help us rise and pledge our word.

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Lead us, Father, into freedom,

from despair your world release;
that, redeemed from war and hatred,

all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness

fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,

let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race or schooling

dogmas that obscure your plan,
In our common quest for justice

may we hallow life’s brief span.

You, creator-God, have written

your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness

bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service

earth its destiny may find.

*Tune: Alleluia dulce carmen (Tantum Ergo)*

*Fred Kaan (1929 – 2009)*

**The Blessing**

Lord Jesus, master carpenter of Nazareth, who through wood and nails achieved mankind’s full redemption; wield well your tools in this your workshop, so that we who come to you rough hewn may be fashioned into a truer usefulness and purpose in your service.

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Concluding music (on audio)*

*Opening section from 1st movement of*

*Organ Sonata no. 3 in A major, Op. 65 no. 3 by*

*Felix Mendelssohn.*

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