

WORSHIP - 2nd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY, 21 JUNE 2020

Lighting of the Candle, on this Midsummer Day

Adapted from <https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/practices/naming-the-days/view/23141/summer-solstice>

Holy is this fire on midsummer's day, and holy are you, O God.
From your burning heart you drew forth a fiery ball
and flung it into space.
Your laughter shook the empty cosmos and echoed again and again
until the darkness of space resounded with your love and with fire.
You reached in again and drew forth fire and seeded it like yeast
in each atom, plant and animal, each bird, fish, man, and woman.
And you gave us a special star, our sun, aflame with a life-evoking energy
to make our planet green and fertile,
sun-soaked in your love.
As we celebrate this day,
open our eyes to the countless wonders
and to the sparks of fire-life that you have planted in each of us.
May our lives and our world
be aglow with star-fire and God-light
as we once again begin the sacred season of summer.
Amen.

I searched on google for "Church Midsummer" and found this picture of Haddenham, Oxfordshire - the church of Midsomer Oaks (from one of the episodes of Midsomer Murders)!



Offer to God the good things in life - the joy of the summer (despite the rain), St Matthew's open this afternoon 2 to 4 for private prayer, for the building work continuing in St Edmund's. This afternoon our musicians would have been at an RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) Festival in the Cathedral. Offer everything to God - and ask him to grant us Peace.

Look at the World, John Rutter - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4k8oVf9v78>

We come together (wherever we are) as the family of God,
believing in God whom we experience as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

A Trinity prayer in union with creation, Pope Francis

Father, we praise you with all your creatures.
They came forth from your all-powerful hand;
they are yours, filled with your presence and your tender love. Praise be to you!

Son of God, Jesus, through you all things were made.
You were formed in the womb of Mary our Mother, you became part of this earth,
and you gazed upon this world with human eyes.
Today you are alive in every creature in your risen glory. Praise be to you!

Holy Spirit, by your light you guide this world towards the Father's love
and accompany creation as it groans in travail.
You also dwell in our hearts and you inspire us to do what is good. Praise be to you!

Triune Lord, wondrous community of infinite love, teach us to contemplate you
in the beauty of the universe, for all things speak of you.
Awaken our praise and thankfulness for every being that you have made.
Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined to everything that is.
God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love
for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.

Enlighten those who possess power and money that they may avoid the sin of indifference, that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live. The poor and the earth are crying out.

Father, we have sinned against heaven and against you. We are not worthy to be called your children. We turn to you again. Have mercy on us, bring us back to yourself, as those who once were dead but now have life through Christ our Lord.

O Lord, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life, to prepare for a better future, for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty. Praise be to you! Amen.

The Collect for the 2nd Sunday after Trinity is on the noticesheet on the website.

Hymns - Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided - a Songs of Praise production

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkTrFQLy6js>

Bible readings - Jeremiah 20.7-13, Romans 6.1b-11, Matthew 10.24-39

For the last few weeks I have been typing out the bible readings onto this sheet, forgetting they are already printed on the blue sheet, the Bible Readings and Prayers sheet, on the front page of the website (next to the noticesheet you can download). Please use that sheet, and save me some work!

Address - you have sermons from me and from Clive. You can find them on the front page of the website

I refer to the church of St Clement, Notting Hill

and the church of St Peter, Barton, Cambridgeshire



The Nicene Creed - we affirm our faith, and the faith of the whole church (hence 'we' not 'I')

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.

Anthem - Ex ore innocentium - *this was an anthem that my boys would sing regularly with St Edmundsbury Cathedral choir and there are many excellent performances available on youtube, I chose this version by the Virtual Boys Choristers of Holy Trinity Guildford, making music in a time of Covid -*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9ATBZUUwUg>

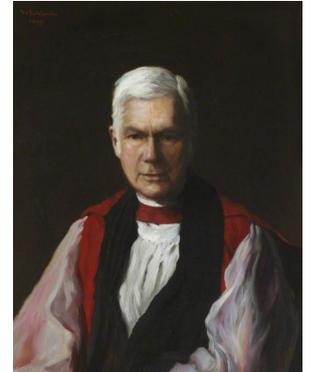
It is a thing most wonderful,
Almost too wonderful to be,
That God's own Son should come from heav'n,
And die to save a child like me.

And yet I know that it is true:
He chose a poor and humble lot,
And wept, and toiled, and mourned, and died,
For love of those who loved him not.

I sometimes think about the cross,
And shut my eyes, and try to see
The cruel nails and crown of thorns,
And Jesus crucified for me.

But even could I see him die,
I should but see a little part
Of that great love, which, like a fire,
Is always burning in his heart.

And yet I want to love thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
And I will love thee more and more,
Until I see thee as thou art.



Words: William Walsham How, 1823-1897



Music: John Ireland, 1879-1962

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in this Trinity Season, on this Midsummer Day, we offer you our praise and adoration. You are God the creator, we are sun-soaked in your love. You are Christ the Saviour of the world, who died to set us free. You are the Spirit of truth and love, bringing light and power to our lives. You are holy and blessed. One God, eternal Trinity, be near to us the people formed in your image, and close to the world your love brings to life. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord we pray for your church throughout the world, for those that are thriving and those which have lost a sense of direction. Those who are coping well when buildings are closed, and those who are missing so much the Holy Places where we gather in worship. We pray for our those re-decorating St Edmund's, for those opening St Matthew's regularly, for our role in our communities. For the churches and communities around Grenfell Tower, for the Lordsbridge Team Ministry. For Bishop Libby and the life of our Diocese. We pray for music and musicians - in our churches and Cathedrals, and in all aspects of life. Lord, thank you for their gifts, protect and inspire them, and may we soon be able to sing together. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who bear the responsibility of leadership, for Her Majesty The Queen, for the Prime Minister and his government, for all our members of Parliament, for advisers, scientists, medical professionals, people involved in public health - for the media, for all of us in Society. We pray for communities torn apart by racial divisions, and communities like ours who live lives which are, in many

ways, so sheltered. We pray for our schools and our young people, Lord give us vision, help us all to have hope for the future. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We remember those who are sick, those who are sad or lonely and those who are brave and patient when things are going wrong. We pray that we may be aware of your comforting presence and know that in your hands they are safe and loved. We pray for all those working through this pandemic - we continue to pray for those still serving, and sacrificing so much. We pray for those whose life is saddened by the death of loved ones, be with them in their loneliness and let them know that Jesus Christ is the light of the world a light which no darkness can quench. We remember before God those who have died, remembering especially Betty Hill from St Matthew's, John Coltman and Colin Wolstenholme from St Edmund's, for John Godfrey, for all for whom we pray. May they rest in peace, and rise in glory. Strengthen those who miss them most. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord we ask you to lead us into the coming week. Help us to believe that you are close by us, keep us from making mistakes and help us never to disappoint you. When we face hard decisions or difficult work, when we enjoy ourselves and have fun with others may we know that you share these times with us. Thank you God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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.

Hymn - Guide me, O thou great redeemer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HA24kNXdhrM>

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
Hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the firey cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs and praises,
I will ever give to thee.

This was the next youtube video after "Lord for the years" and I decided to use it at the last hymn as I need a bit of WOW. It's the recording from HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Service at St Paul's, organised by my friend and former colleague Michael Hampel. No, I'm not really jealous!!



Dismissal prayers

To God the Father, who loved us, and made us accepted in the Beloved:
to God the Son, who loved us, and loosed us from our sins by his own blood:
to God the Holy Spirit, who spreads the love of God abroad in our hearts:
to the one true God be all love and all glory for time and for eternity. **Amen.**

Final music - Scherzo from A Midsummer Night's Dream Op.21, Mendelssohn
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hHTV3GFyHfM>