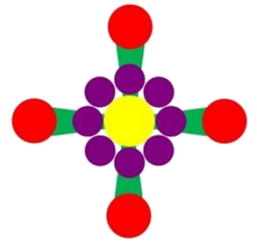


**The Benefice of
Harden, Wilsden, Cullingworth, Denholme
Sunday 06 July 2025
The Third Sunday After Trinity**



Today's Liturgy was prepared by Alison

Preparation

The Lord is here
His Spirit is with us

Greeting

Opening Prayer

Father God,
draw us together here,
united in faith, love and purpose,
and with Christ and one another,
having the same mind among us and the same goal:
to seek your kingdom and do your will.
Teach us what it means to be your children,
your people,
your family,
and help us to honour you through honouring that calling.
Amen

Prayers of Penitence

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand;
So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.**

**We have left undone those things that we ought to have done;
and we have done those things that we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.
But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners.
Spare those who confess their faults.
Restore those who are penitent,
according to your promises declared to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen**

Absolution

**Almighty God,
Who forgives all who truly repent:
Have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins;
Strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in eternal life,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, Almighty God and Father;
We worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world.
Have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
Receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
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.**

The Readings

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading: Galatians 6:1-6

My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfil the law of Christ. For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbour's work, will become a cause for pride. For all must carry their own loads. Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel reading: Luke 10:1-11,16-20

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no

sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you." But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, "Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near. 'Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.'

The seventy returned with joy, saying, 'Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!' He said to them, 'I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Reflection with Robert

Last week we read in Paul's letter to the Colossians that we had been set free. Not to do whatever we desire but free to help one another through life and to love our neighbours as we love ourselves.

This week, in his letter to the Galatians, he concludes in much the same vein, speaking about growing community and helping each other to thrive in our Christian lives. In this part of his letter Paul concludes by reminding the Galatians to look out for one another and bear each other's burdens while not shirking their own individual responsibility to live a life of freedom and love. We are all called to care for and nurture one another so that we all grow in the love of Christ.

Paul also writes that we must not condemn others who have transgressed or are in trouble or have a problem, but we must first keep our own house in order, carry our own load and responsibilities. A bit like the saying 'those in glass houses should not throw stones.'

So, as well as carrying our own burdens we should be alert to the burdens that others may be carrying and offer help when needed. But burdens come in all shapes and sizes. Some are obvious – perhaps you've seen someone struggling up the station steps with a heavy suitcase or trying to manoeuvre a large piece of furniture. Other burdens, however, are not so obvious. Sometimes, we can feel sad, and feelings 'weigh heavy' on us. But that may not be obvious to people around us. So just like when we ask for help with a heavy suitcase, we can ask for help to enable us to carry our heavy feelings.

Carrying our own load but sharing your burden sounds complicated! But responsible members of a community work well together and help each other. Carrying our own load doesn't mean we can't ask for help. So, if we as a group try to focus on how we can bear one another's burdens, invest in each other's lives and pay attention to doing good to all who need it, perhaps our churches will be known as places of kindness and growing communities and there might be a harvest of people joining us.

And finally, three questions to think about this week....

What heavy loads are you carrying right now?

Where can you find help in your community?

Whose burdens could you help to carry?

Prayers of Intercession with Brenda

Blessed are you Lord our God. King of the Universe who created our beautiful planet and all living things in and on it.

We come before you today to give thanks and praise

Thanks for the gift of Your Beloved Son our Saviour Jesus Christ who came to redeem us all and left us His Commandment that we love one another as He loves us.

Therefore with our brothers and sisters we invite the Holy Spirit into our hearts as we praise you.

Heavenly Father we pray for our world beset by conflict, violence and war .For Sudan, For Gaza and Israel, for Ukraine and Russia and for all people who live in the shadow of war. .We ask that You comfort all those who are displaced, homeless or grieving. For the injured, the hungry, the aid workers, those who are working tirelessly to ease suffering.

Lord in your Mercy Hear our prayer

We thank you that we are blessed to live in a peaceful place ,surrounded by natural beauty. We give thanks for our families friends and loved ones. We pray especially today for the four Churches of our Benefice ,who at this time have said farewell to Richard our Minister and Anna .

We thank you for their service over recent times and pray for Reverend Alison and Reverend Liz as they go forward in their Ministry whilst we await the appointment of a new Team Rector. We pray you will guide a candidate in time to be called to serve our four villages .

Lord in Your Mercy Hear our Prayer

Dear Lord we pray for all leaders in our own country and worldwide that they will be given wisdom and guidance by Your hand to bring about a peaceful settlement to conflicts wherever they may be. We ask that the proposed 60-day ceasefire in the Middle East holds and leads to a peaceful just settlement.

We pray for our Government as they face difficult decisions especially we pray for those people who are vulnerable in our Society that those in power will address their needs with compassion and insight.

Lord in Your Mercy Hear our Prayer.

As we bow before you we pray for our loved ones ,our families, our friends and ourselves.

We ask that you hold us up and walk beside us each day as we go forward trying to live out the message of Jesus our Saviour. We bring before you all those who are facing challenges at this time Those who are physically or mentally ill.

Those who are coming to the end of their earthly journey and those who dwell with You in your Heavenly Kingdom we remember those who are grieving a loved one, who were lost more recently or in the past.

Finally Father we ask you to remind us that the words of Your Son as written in The Gospels help us to draw ever closer to You in our hearts, minds and behaviour towards others.

Merciful Father Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son Our Saviour Jesus Christ
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour 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.**

**Give us grace, O Christ, for this day,
that we may be a people of praise and thanksgiving,
rejoicing and delight, compassion and understanding.
May we be a blessing to all we meet and be blessed in them;
for your name's sake.
Amen.**

Blessing

May the Father from whom every family
In earth and heaven receives its name
Strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being,
So that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith;
And the blessing of God Almighty,
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
Be upon us now and remain with us always.
Amen.