6th Sunday after Trinity 11 July 2021

Greeting

Through Christ let us offer our sacrifice of praise to God. Let our lips proclaim his praise.

Prayers of penitence

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.
As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith, we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

Silence is kept

Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Collect

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos [7.7-15]

This is what the Lord God showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb-line, with a

plumb-line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, 'Amos, what do you see?' And I said, 'A plumb-line.' Then the Lord said,

'See, I am setting a plumb-line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.'

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, 'Amos has conspired against you in the very centre of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, "Jeroboam shall die by the sword,

and Israel must go into exile away from his land." 'And Amaziah said to Amos, 'O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.' Then Amos answered Amaziah, 'I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycomore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Ephesians [1.3-14]

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his

children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Hymn

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, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow;

let the fiery cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through: strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield, 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, songs and praises, I will ever give to thee, I will ever give to thee.

Watch a recording:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NLl1CvtE9Y&ab_ channel=NorwichCathedralServices

The Reading of the Gospel

My Brothers and Sisters hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Mark 6.14-29]

King Herod heard of the healings and other miracles, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, 'John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.' But others said, 'It is Elijah.' And others said, 'It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.' But when

Herod heard of it, he said, 'John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.'

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.' And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, 'Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.' And he solemnly swore to her, 'Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.' She went out and said to her mother, 'What should I ask for?' She replied, 'The head of John the baptizer.' Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, 'I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.' The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

This, my brothers and sisters is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon by Sarah Dallas

Prayers for the church and the world

The response to each petition

Lord, in the silence **Hear our prayer**

The Lord's Prayer

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.

In church the pianist Nicholas Bosworth will play for us as part of the Save the Music Project.

Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks and praise for all God's gifts

Silence is kept

For birth and life and strength of body, for safety and shelter and food, we give you thanks: we praise your holy name.

For sight and hearing and the beauty of nature, for words and music and the power of thought, we give you thanks: we praise your holy name.

For work and leisure and the joy of achieving, for conscience and will and depth of feeling, we give you thanks: we praise your holy name.

For grace and truth in Jesus Christ, for the gifts of the Spirit and the hope of heaven, we give you thanks: we praise your holy name.

Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

The Peace

God has called us to live in peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you. Amen

Notices

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation: give us the courage to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

SAVE THE MUSIC FUND and other donations to St Peter's

St Peter's *Save The Music Fund* has been set up to support professional musicians struggling to work. We provide employment with live sessions in weekly Sunday services and recorded sessions for Home Worship and online events.

To make a donation - click on **Donate to St Peter's** on Home page and select Save the Music or scan the code below.

