**Morning Prayer on The Fourth Sunday after Trinity**

Sunday 13th July 2023 at 9.30 (call in from 9.15)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85649430168?pwd=QzFzNytXM01TQTc5cTROaHc2aElvZz09

Meeting ID: 856 4943 0168

Passcode: 336782

**Telephone instructions:**

\* Dial: 0131 460 1196  
  
\* You are then welcomed to Zoom and asked to type in the meeting ID ie. 856 4943 0168  
  
\* If the next instruction is to add your personal ID just press # to ignore  
  
\* When passcode requested type numbers i.e. 336782 plus #.  
  
\* At this point you should be admitted to the call.****

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**Preparation**

In the name of the living God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*All* **Amen.**

O Lord, open our lips

*All* **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, creator of all,

to you be glory and praise for ever.

You founded the earth in the beginning

and the heavens are the work of your hands.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image,

and in these last days you have spoken to us

in your Son Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us,

let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,

your Spirit ever renew our lives

and your praises ever be on our lips.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

### A prayer of confession

Refrain:**Forgive us when we let them down.**  
Lord God, it is easy:  
to ask you to bless others, but to not bless them ourselves;  
Refrain: **Forgive us when we let them down.**  
to ask for encouragement for others, but to not  
encourage them ourselves;

Refrain: **Forgive us when we let them down.**  
to take others for granted and to not acknowledge  
their worth or affirm their efforts;

Refrain: **Forgive us when we let them down.**  
to talk the talk but not show faith in action  
or hope in perseverance.  
**Forgive us when we let you down, and reshape us,**  
**in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

### Assurance of forgiveness

All-knowing God,  
you bless us with encouragement in our dark times.  
You cheer us on through your Spirit in our better times.  
You forgive us for our worst times  
and are alongside us at all times.

**Amen.**

God of encouragement,  
you bless us by calling us by name:  
we are encouraged by your living Word.  
You bless us by inviting us to serve you,  
and we are encouraged by your living Word.  
You bless us through the lives of others,  
and we are encouraged by your living Word.  
You entrust to us the ministry of blessing others,  
that they may be encouraged by your living Word.  
To your glory.

**Amen.**

**The Word of God**

First reading Colossians 1: 1-14

**1**Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, **2**To God’s holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians%201&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29468a)] in Christ: Grace and peace to you from God our Father.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians%201&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29468b)]

### Thanksgiving and Prayer

**3**We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, **4**because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God’s people— **5**the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel **6**that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God’s grace. **7**You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant,[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians%201&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29473c)] who is a faithful minister of Christ on our[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians%201&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29473d)] behalf, **8**and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

**9**For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives,[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians%201&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29475e)] **10**so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, **11**being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, **12**and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you[[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians%201&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29478f)] to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. **13**For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, **14**in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*  **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 25: 1-10

**1**In you, Lord my God,  
     I put my trust.

**2**I trust in you;  
     do not let me be put to shame,  
     nor let my enemies triumph over me.  
 **3**No one who hopes in you  
     will ever be put to shame,  
 but shame will come on those  
     who are treacherous without cause.

**4**Show me your ways, Lord,  
     teach me your paths.  
 **5**Guide me in your truth and teach me,  
     for you are God my Savior,  
     and my hope is in you all day long.  
 **6**Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love,  
     for they are from of old.  
 **7**Do not remember the sins of my youth  
     and my rebellious ways;  
 according to your love remember me,  
     for you, Lord, are good.

**8**Good and upright is the Lord;  
     therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.  
 **9**He guides the humble in what is right  
     and teaches them his way.  
 **10**All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful  
     toward those who keep the demands of his covenant.

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,**

**is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Second Reading: Luke 10: 25-37

### The Parable of the Good Samaritan

**25**On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

**26**“What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”

**27**He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2010&version=NIV#fen-NIV-25391c)]; and, ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2010&version=NIV#fen-NIV-25391d)]”

**28**“You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

**29**But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbour?”

**30**In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. **31**A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. **32**So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. **33**But a Samaritan, as he travelled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. **34**He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. **35**The next day he took out two denarii[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2010&version=NIV#fen-NIV-25399e)] and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

**36**“Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

**37**The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*  **Thanks be to God**

*We pause to reflect on the readings before turning to prayer.*

**Hands holding up a cross

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**Prayers of intercession**

Send us out to share your love

God of all:  
we pray for places where neighbouring peoples and countries are at war,  
asking that a just peace will overcome deep-seated fear and hatreds.  
May we be faithful in prayer for the Middle East where neighbours  
are driven by historic mistrust and deepening violence;  
for decisions that improve lives across all the nations of the United Kingdom;  
for dialogue leading to lasting peace between Russia and Ukraine;  
for co-operation between nations on the biggest challenges facing us all in our world, including climate change, asylum and migration.

We turn to you, O Lord.  
Fill our hands with gifts to share.  
**All: Send us out to share your love.**

God of all:  
we pray for our relationships with our friends, our families and our colleagues at work that we would show your love in daily acts of kindness.  
May we be generous in our opinions of others.  
May we break down barriers and see beyond narrow expectations of other people and may we be prepared to go beyond the limits of our own patience and care, trusting in the resources of your Holy Spirit.

We turn to you, O Lord.  
Fill our hands with gifts to share.  
**All: Send us out to share your love.**

God of all:  
we pray for all on the edges of our communities: local and national;  
for people whose voices are sometimes not heard and whose opinions are overlooked.  
May we hear the voice of people of all ages and from every background  
and may we remember that Jesus placed a child in the midst  
showing us the upside-down values of your kingdom   
where the smallest is greatest and the outsider belongs at your table.

We turn to you, O Lord.  
Fill our hands with gifts to share.  
**All: Send us out to share your love.**

God of all:  
we pray that our mission would always be rooted in the basics of caring for others and may our plans, budgets and actions put the needs of others before our own.  
May we be renewed for more generous living   
and equipped for more open-hearted attention to those in need.  
We pray for wisdom for all in local and national government  as they make decisions that affect people who are in need,  
especially decisions relating to child poverty and provision for special educational needs in schools.

We turn to you, O Lord.  
Fill our hands with gifts to share.  
**All: Send us out to share your love.**

God of all:  
we pray for people who are suffering from sickness or distress of any kind;  
for bereaved people, remembering especially the flood disaster in Texas;  
for all people fleeing war and conflict, and for all victims of bullying, racial hatred, violence and injustice.  
May we have the holy imagination to see the pain in our world  
and be prepared to respond to it with whatever resources we have.  
We pray today for people who work at the frontline of caring:  
medical staff; first responders; social workers, teachers, parents;  
and people whose life ministry is about binding up the wounds that life inflicts; and we place into your hands the people we know  
who are in need of your healing today. (Prayer list)

We turn to you, O Lord.  
Fill our hands with gifts to share.  
**All: Send us out to share your love.**

God of all:  
we pray for your peace and grace to guide our actions  
and for your love to shape us as we walk day by day with you.  
May we be strong, patient and joyful in serving you  
and faithful in loving our neighbour.

We turn to you, O Lord.  
Fill our hands with gifts to share.  
**All: Send us out to share your love.**

**Amen.**

*Collect for the fourth Sunday after Trinity*

O God,

the strength of all those who put their trust in you,

mercifully accept our prayers

and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature

we can do no good thing without you,

grant us the help of your grace,

that in the keeping of your commandments

we may please you both in will and deed;

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.

*All* **Amen.**

*The Lord’s Prayer*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

*All* **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.**

As we go out in the world today,  
help us to treasure the encouraging words we have heard.  
May our mouths be full of encouraging words for others.  
Help us to look out for opportunities to share them this week.  
**Amen.**

Blessing

The love of the Lord Jesus draw us to himself;

the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen us in his service;

the joy of the Lord Jesus fill our hearts;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among us and remain with us

and those whom we love and pray for

today and always.

*All* **Amen.**

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**Steph Update**

**A message from Steph and family**

***It goes without saying that progress is very much one step at a time at this point (quite literally), and she needs to remain focused 100% on the physical side of her recovery for some time now to build strength, confidence and the best chance of a normal life in the future.***

***Given her track record for prioritising others it's very important that she isn't distracted from this process, for this reason she requests that she isn't bothered with work matters for now (no matter how trivial). Frankly she just isn't accustomed to putting herself first and her selfless nature could be a real detriment to her progress at this point.***

***This will be particularly important when she returns to the house given the obvious blurred lines between her work and private life in the vicarage. For this reason we will sadly not be allowing visitors, work related or otherwise to the house without prior appointment with the family until she is fit. At that point will be in contact with you directly and you can inform everyone. We have not yet been given a date for her return home, once we receive one I will contact you immediately.***

***Sitting with her in the ward now, she thanks you hugely for the support and kind words she has received from both clergy and parishioners up until this point and thanks you in advance for giving her the space she needs to return reinvigorated back into the community she loves so dearly.***

**What’s on ….**

**Exe Valley Community Lunches**

The next lunch is at North Esworthy Farm Oakford on August 14th from 12.30pm. Please let the church office know if you will be joining us and if you need transport.

**Prayer Chain**

The Exe Valley Mission Community are starting a telephone prayer chain. If you like to be included for prayer or know someone who would like to be included, please contact the church office 01884 250417. Only first initials will be used on the prayer chain to ensure total confidentiality.

**Contacting Church Office while Steph recovers from her surgery.**

Email: [office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org](mailto:office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org)

Tel: Dawn on 07733949295

**Giving**

**Giving to the Exe Valley Mission Community**

If you would like to make a contribution to the work of The Exe Valley Mission Community please make a gift using the Exe Valley Group of Churches BACS details. Please use the reference EVMC Services.

**Account Name:** Exe Valley Group of Churches

**Sort Code:**60-21-27

**Account No:** 54731690

Cheques should be made payable to: 'Exe Valley Group of Churches'