



Welcome to St Botolph's Church

Jesus said "If anyone is thirsty,
let them come to me and drink"

Sunday 9th June 2024

Welcome

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

All and also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

All Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Hymn 326 part I Awake my Soul

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.

**All Almighty God, long-suffering and of great goodness:
I confess to you, I confess with my whole heart my
neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments,
my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking; the hurts I
have done to others, and the good I have left
undone. O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against**

you; and raise me to newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

All Amen.

Blessed is the Lord,

All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

All and in our song will we praise our God.

First reading 2 Corinthians 4.13 - 5.1 *read by David Root*

¹³It is written: 'I believed; therefore I have spoken.' Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. ¹⁵All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

¹⁶Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

5 For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Benedictus

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, who has come to his people and set them free.**
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David.**
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,**
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant.**
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**
- 6 Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.**
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins.**
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

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 *Mark 3.20 – 35 read by David Root*

²⁰ Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. ²¹ When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, ‘He is out of his mind.’

²² And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, ‘He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons.’

²³ So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: ‘How can Satan drive out Satan? ²⁴ If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. ²⁶ And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. ²⁷ In fact, no one can enter a strong man’s house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man’s house. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, ²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin.’

³⁰ He said this because they were saying, ‘He has an impure spirit.’

³¹ Then Jesus’ mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. ³² A crowd was sitting round him, and they told him, ‘Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you.’

³³ ‘Who are my mother and my brothers?’ he asked.

³⁴ Then he looked at those seated in a circle round him and said, ‘Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵ Whoever does God’s will is my brother and sister and mother.’

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 303 Oft in danger

Sermon

The Creed

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 136 Blest are the pure in Heart

Prayers of intercession inc. the Collect of the Day led by Colin Nicholson

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever

At the end of the prayers...

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, 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.

Hymn 253 God of mercy, God of Grace

The conclusion

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Today's voluntary is Choral Song by S. S. Wesley

Please stay for refreshments in the hall (at the end of the corridor)

Giving is an important part of our worship.

Did you know, one of the easiest way to give is by using the Parish Giving Scheme?

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/colchester-st-botolph-colchester/>

NOTICES

St, Botolph's celebrations! On Sunday, 16th June we are celebrating St. Botolph's Day with a Bring and Share picnic. Our friends from Christ Church will be joining us for our service and then we all share a picnic together. In the hall there is a list for you to sign if you would like to provide certain foods. Please look at it and see if you can help.

Mid-week Bible Study – 10.30 am. for refreshments
All are welcome to join our study group – 10.45 – 11.45 am.

Mid-Week Prayer Space
Join us for a time of prayer as we open the church.
every Wednesday 12 noon – 1.00 pm.

You are invited to the 'Everybody Welcome' course. This material was developed with expert advice from John Lewis to help churches look afresh at how they welcome newcomers and see visitors become regular members of the congregation. This is just what we want to see at St Botolph's, so the PCC has committed to running and attending the sessions, and we want to extend this invitation beyond the PCC to the whole congregation.

**You are invited to join us in the church on Tuesday
9th July, 13th August, 10th September and 8th October at
10.30am**

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

16th June at 10.30am. – Holy Communion led by Revd. Chris Smith
Christ Church will be joining us

23rd June at 10.30 am. - Holy Communion led by Ven. Michael Fox

30th June at 10.30 am. - We will join Castle Methodist in Maidenburgh
Street for our morning service

Churchwardens: David Poppleton 01206 570725 and Colin Nicholson 01206 577905
Vicar: Revd Chris Smith 07458 197461