



# Welcome to St Botolph's Church

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

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

## **Welcome**

## **Gathering**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

## **Hymn**

Christ is the world's Light, Christ and no other;  
born in our darkness, he became our brother.  
If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:  
glory to God on high.

Christ is the world's Peace, Christ and no other;  
no one can serve him and despise another.  
who else unites us, one in God the Father?  
Glory to God on high.

Christ is the world's Life, Christ and no other;  
sold once for silver, murdered here, our Brother -  
he who redeems us, reigns with God the Father:  
Glory to God on high.

Give God the glory, God and no other;  
give God the glory, Spirit, Son and Father;  
give God the glory, God with us, my brother:  
glory to God on high.

## **Prayer of Preparation**

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of  
our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may**

perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Prayers of Penitence**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all law and the prophets.

**Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

### **Confession**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

### **Absolution**

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

### **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.**

### **Collect**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.

### **First Reading - 1 Timothy 6.6-19** *read by Alan Grimsey*

<sup>6</sup> But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup> For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. <sup>8</sup> But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. <sup>9</sup> Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

<sup>11</sup> But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. <sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup> In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup> to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> which God will bring about in his own time – God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup> who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honour and might for ever. Amen.

<sup>17</sup> Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup> Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup> In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

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

**Gospel Reading – Luke 16.19-31** (Please stand) read by Alan Grimsey

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup> ‘There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. <sup>20</sup> At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores <sup>21</sup> and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

<sup>22</sup> ‘The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup> So he called to him, “Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.”

<sup>25</sup> ‘But Abraham replied, “Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup> And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.”

<sup>27</sup> ‘He answered, “Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.”

<sup>29</sup> ‘Abraham replied, “They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.”

<sup>30</sup> “No, father Abraham,” he said, “but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.”

<sup>31</sup> 'He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

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

### **Sermon**

### **Hymn**

For the beauty of the earth,  
for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies.

*Refrain:*

*Christ, our Lord, to you we raise  
this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

For the wonder of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light,

For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild,

For yourself, best gift divine,  
to the world so freely given,  
agent of God's grand design:  
peace on earth and joy in heaven.

### **The Creed**

**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.**

***Prayers of Intercession*** *led by Nicky Phillips*

*At the end* **Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### ***Hymn***

Christians, lift your hearts and voices,  
Let your praises be outpoured;  
Come with joy and exultation  
To the table of the Lord;  
Come believing, come expectant,  
In obedience to his word.

See, presiding at his table,  
Jesus Christ our great high priest;  
Where he summons all his people,  
None is greatest, none is least;  
Graciously he bids them welcome  
To the eucharistic feast.

Lord, we offer in thanksgiving  
Life and work for you to bless;  
Yet unworthy is the offering,  
Marred by pride and carelessness;  
So, Lord, pardon our transgressions,  
Plant in us true holiness.

On the evening of his passion  
Jesus gave the wine and bread,  
So that all who love and serve him  
Shall evermore be fed.  
Taste and see the Lord is gracious,  
Feed upon the living bread.

### ***The Peace***

The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.**

*Let us offer one another a sign of peace.*

### ***The Communion***

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever. From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation. You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

**Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand. Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory. Remember, Lord, your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace.

Bring us at the last with St Botolph's and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. 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.**

### ***Breaking the Bread***

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

### ***Giving of Communion***

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*We kindly ask that you do not dip your wafer in the wine. Thank you.*

### ***Prayer after Communion***

**Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

### ***Hymn***

Faithful vigil ended,  
watching, waiting cease;  
Master, grant your servant  
his discharge in peace.

All the Spirit promised,  
all the Father willed,  
now these eyes behold it  
perfectly fulfilled.

This your great deliverance  
sets your people free;  
Christ their light uplifted  
all the nations see.

Christ, your people's glory!  
Watching, doubting cease:  
grant to us your servants  
our discharge in peace.

### ***The Dismissal***

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.**

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

***Today's voluntary is*** *Toccata by Dubois*

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

Churchwarden: David Poppleton 01206 570725 (please do not contact on Thursdays)  
Vicar: Revd Chris Smith 07458 197461

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## **GIVING**

Giving is an important part of our worship.

One of the easiest way to give is by using the Parish Giving Scheme?  
[www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/colchester-st-botolph-colchester/](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/colchester-st-botolph-colchester/)

And if you pay tax, please ask for a Gift Aid form.

## NOTICES

### **Mid-Week Bible Study**

Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> September



10:30 am – Refreshments

10:45 am – 12:00 noon – Bible Study

Come and enjoy fellowship, learning, and encouragement together.



### **Midday Prayer**

Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> September



12:00 pm – 1pm

A short time of quiet, reflection, and prayer in the middle of the week.



*All are warmly welcome!*



**5<sup>th</sup> October**, we celebrate Harvest. We will be giving our donations of Food items, toiletries and baby items to Colchester Food Bank. At 6.30 pm we are holding our own Songs of Praise. Further details on posters. Please spread the word to your friends

Our Harvest Red Bucket collection will be for Humanity First – Disaster Relief

## SUNDAY SERVICES

5<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30 am – Harvest Morning Worship led by Chris and Emma Smith

12<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am – Holy Communion and Kids Church led by Chris Smith and Jo Jeffery

19<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am – Morning Worship led by Emma Smith

26<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am – Holy Communion led by Michael Fox

## STAY IN TOUCH

Visit our website or call the parish office for more information

[www.stbotolphs.org](http://www.stbotolphs.org)

01206 542307



# *Songs of Praise*

Sing your favourite hymns  
with a live orchestra

**6.30pm - St Botolph's Church**

**Sunday 5th October 2025**

**Free Entry - All Welcome**



Brought to you by St Botolph's Church & St Botolph's Music Society  
[stbotolphs.org](http://stbotolphs.org)