**St Barnabas’ Church**

**Swanmore**

**16th Sunday after Trinity**



**All Ages Family Service**

**10am**

**Sunday September 27th 2020**

**Words of Welcome** from Revd. Claire

**Song: Make way, make way**

**Make way, make way,**

**for Christ the King in splendour arrives;
fling wide the gates**

**and welcome him into your lives.**

*Make way! Make way!*

*For the King of kings!
Make way!  Make way!*

*And let his kingdom in!*

**He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the prisoners to free;
the deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
the blind shall see.** *Refrain*

**And those who mourn with heavy hearts,
who weep and sigh,
with laughter, joy and royal crown
he'll beautify.** *Refrain*

**We call you now to worship him
as Lord of all,
to have no gods before him,
their thrones must fall!** *Refrain*

**Prayer of the day**

Lord of creation,

whose glory is around and within us:

open our eyes to your wonders,

that we may serve you with reverence

and know your peace at our lives’ end,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Reading: Philippians 2:1-13** read by Vicki and Lila

*A reading from Paul’s Letter to the Philippians*

If you’ve received anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you *care*— then do me a favour: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don’t push your way to the front; don’t sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don’t be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.

Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn’t think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became *human*!Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn’t claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion.

Because of that obedience, God lifted him high and honoured him far beyond anyone or anything, ever, so that all created beings in heaven and on earth—even those long ago dead and buried—will bow in worship before this Jesus Christ, and call out in praise that he is the Master of all, to the glorious honour of God the Father.

What I’m getting at, friends, is that you should simply keep on doing what you’ve done from the beginning. When I was living among you, you lived in responsive obedience. Now that I’m separated from you, keep it up. Better yet, redouble your efforts.

Be energetic in your life of salvation, reverent and sensitive before God. That energy is *God’s* energy, an energy deep within you, God himself willing and working at what will give him the most pleasure.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Song: Our God is a great big God**

 **Our God is a great big God.
Our God is a great big God.
Our God is a great big God.
And he holds us in his hands**

**He’s higher than a skyscraper.
He’s deeper than a submarine.
He’s wider than the universe
and beyond my wildest dreams.**

 **He’s known me and he’s loved me
since before the world began.
How wonderful to be a part of
God’s amazing plan.**

**Reading: Matthew 21:23-32** read by Poppy Armstrong

*A reading from the Gospel of Matthew*

Then Jesus was back in the Temple, teaching. The high priests and leaders of the people came up and demanded, “Show us your credentials. Who authorized you to teach here?” Jesus responded, “First let me ask you a question. You answer my question and I’ll answer yours. About the baptism of John—who authorized it: heaven or humans?” They were being put on the spot and knew it. They pulled back into a huddle and whispered, “If we say ‘heaven,’ he’ll ask us why we didn’t believe him; if we say ‘humans,’ we’re up against it with the people because they all hold John up as a prophet.” They decided to concede that round to Jesus. “We don’t know,” they answered.

Jesus said, “Then neither will I answer your question “Tell me what you think of this story: A man had two sons. He went up to the first and said, ‘Son, go out for the day and work in the vineyard.’“The son answered, ‘I don’t want to.’ Later on he thought better of it and went. “The father gave the same command to the second son. He answered, ‘Sure, glad to.’ But he never went. “Which of the two sons did what the father asked?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said, “Yes, and I tell you that crooks are going to precede you into God’s kingdom.

John came to you showing you the right road. You turned up your noses at him, but the crooks believed him. Even when you saw their changed lives, you didn’t care enough to change and believe him.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Talk / Activity** led by Ben Armstrong

**Song: Meekness and majesty**

**Meekness and majesty, manhood and deity,
in perfect harmony the man who is God.
Lord of eternity dwells in humanity,
kneels in humility and washes our feet.**

*O what a mystery, meekness and majesty.
Bow down and worship for this is your God,
this is your God.*

**Father's pure radiance, perfect in innocence,
yet learns obedience to death on a cross.
Suffering to give us life,
conquering through sacrifice,
and as they crucify prays, “Father forgive”.**

*O what a mystery, meekness and majesty.
Bow down and worship for this is your God,
this is your God.*

**Wisdom unsearchable, God the invisible,
Love indestructible in frailty appears.
Lord of infinity stooping so tenderly,
lifts our humanity to the heights of his throne.**

*O what a mystery, meekness and majesty.
Bow down and worship for this is your God,
this is your God, this is your God.*

**Prayers** led by Ben and Poppy

**The Lord’s Prayer** – as adapted by The Revd. Dr. Sam Wells, Vicar of St. Martin in-the-Fields, London

Look on us with kindness and mercy.
**hallowed be your name,**

Give us a true perspective of what matters and what doesn’t
**your kingdom come,**

Recast the world in your image
**your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give me the humility to live in your story not mine.

**Give us today our daily bread.**

You are enough for me.

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Heal my past from hurt
**Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

Free my future from fear.
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

Show me how to live your forever in my today
**Amen.**

**Hymn: At the name of Jesus**

**At the name of Jesus ev’ry knee shall bow,
ev’ry tongue confess him King of glory now;
‘tis the Father's pleasure we call him Lord,
who, from the beginning, was the mighty Word.**

**At his voice creation sprang at once to sight,
all the angels’ faces, all the hosts of light;
thrones and dominations, stars upon their way,
all the heav’nly orders, in their great array.**

**Humbled for a season, to receive a name
from the lips of sinners unto whom he came;
faithfully he bore it, spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious when from death he passed.**

**Bore it up triumphant with its human light,
through all ranks of creatures to the central height;
to the throne of Godhead, to the Father's breast,
filled it with the glory of that perfect rest.**

**All creation name him, with love strong as death,
but with awe and wonder, and with bated breath.
He is God the saviour, he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped, trusted and adored.**

**In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue
all that is not holy, all that is not true;
crown him as your captain in temptation's hour,
let his will enfold you in its light and power.**

**Truly this Lord Jesus shall return again,
with his Father’s glory, with his angel train:
for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,**

**and our hearts confess him King of glory now.**

**Blessing**