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

Sunday 3rd August 2025 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.****

**Preparation**

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.**

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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.

**A prayer of confession**

God of all, forgive us when we put others down
and make them feel small,
acting as if we are great.
Forgive us when we put on airs and graces,
acting as if we are more precious than others.
Forgive us, clothe us in humility, integrity and generosity,
and give us a fresh perspective on ourselves and those we meet.
We ask this in Jesus’ name.
**Amen.**

 **Assurance of forgiveness**

Creator God, though the sky is vast, each star can shine.
Though the ocean is mighty, each wave can dance.
Though the world is noisy, each silent cry is heard.
Though we are so small, your grace lifts us up
and we can trust that we are forgiven, cherished
and forever clothed in your life-giving love.
**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.**

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**The Word of God**

First reading: Colossians 3: 1-11

**3**Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2**Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. **3**For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. **4**When Christ, who is your[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians%203&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29522a)] life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

**5**Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. **6**Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians%203&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29524b)] **7**You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. **8**But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. **9**Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices **10**and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. **11**Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*  **Thanks be to God**

Psalm Psalm 49: 1-12

**1**Hear this, all you peoples;
    listen, all who live in this world,
**2**both low and high,
    rich and poor alike:
**3**My mouth will speak words of wisdom;
    the meditation of my heart will give you understanding.
**4**I will turn my ear to a proverb;
    with the harp I will expound my riddle:

**5**Why should I fear when evil days come,
    when wicked deceivers surround me—
**6**those who trust in their wealth
    and boast of their great riches?
**7**No one can redeem the life of another
    or give to God a ransom for them—
**8**the ransom for a life is costly,
    no payment is ever enough—
**9**so that they should live on forever
    and not see decay.
**10**For all can see that the wise die,
    that the foolish and the senseless also perish,
    leaving their wealth to others.
**11**Their tombs will remain their houses[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psalm%2049&version=NIV#fen-NIV-14660b)] forever,
    their dwellings for endless generations,
    though they had[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psalm%2049&version=NIV#fen-NIV-14660c)] named lands after themselves.

**12**People, despite their wealth, do not endure;
    they are like the beasts that perish.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

All **as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Second Reading Luke 12: 13-21

**The Parable of the Rich Fool**

**13**Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

**14**Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” **15**Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

**16**And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. **17**He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

**18**“Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. **19**And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’

**20**“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

**21**“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*  **Thanks be to God**

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

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**Prayers of Intercession**

Lord, help us to see beyond the earthly things
**To where you are at work in our world.**

Lord, we come to you in the stillness now, aware that we are so small in a world full of problems and pain. We feel helpless when we watch the news, but we come to you knowing that you are much greater than anything we can ask or imagine. We know that you are a God of compassion and mercy. We come, therefore, seeking your heart as we open our hearts to you.

Lord, help us to see beyond the earthly things
**To where you are at work in our world.**

Lord, we pray for the Middle East. Our news bulletins are full of the Gaza crisis. We cry out to you, asking for you to have mercy on all the people in Gaza who are starving. We pray that humanitarian agencies will have the freedom to distribute aid where it is most needed. We remember, too, the hostages and those awaiting their return. Lord, the whole situation seems impossible to fix. We cannot see the answer, but you know the bigger picture. So we pray that you will speak into the hearts and minds of world leaders, enabling them to bring this conflict and suffering to an end. We pray that peace will reign in the land where you walked. And in amongst all the suffering, help us to see where you are working: the kindness of those who care for the sick and wounded, the determination of those who are working for a peaceful solution, the love that is shared between families and friends.

Lord, help us to see beyond the earthly things
**To where you are at work in our world.**

Lord, we remember other parts of the world that do not have peace: Ukraine, Syria, Cambodia and Thailand. We continue to pray for negotiations for a ceasefire. We ask that you help those in power to see that peace and love are always the better way.

And we remember all those who have died because of violence this week, even if the events were only fleeting mentions in the news or went unreported.

Lord, you see everything. You see the pain, but you also see beyond it to a world where people are as you created them to be. Lord, help us to see what you see. To trust that one day all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.

Lord, help us to see beyond the earthly things
**To where you are at work in our world.**

Lord, we pray for all those affected by the earthquake and tsunami. Lord, you are the God of creation. Yet we know that sometimes even the earth does not behave as you ordered. We long for when your reign of order and peace will be restored.

Lord, help us to see beyond the earthly things
**To where you are at work in our world.**

Lord, we pray for our nation. We pray for places where there have been industrial disputes, strikes or civil unrest. We ask that negotiators be people of wisdom, looking to the common good.

Lord, we think now of our own community. We thank you for the people who live around us. We pause to pray for our neighbours and friends…(prayer list)

Help us to bring the good news of your kingdom into the area where we live. Nowhere is out of the reach of your love, and you have inspired us to take that love to others. We think about where we have been over the past week. Where did we see you at work? Maybe in a job well done, the smile of a friend, a hurdle overcome….

We look forward to the week ahead. We bring our plans to you and picture some of the people we may meet. Help us to see you standing with us in the meetings, playing with us in the playgrounds, walking with us and serving with us. Help us to see you reflected in the eyes of everyone we meet. May that lead us to a deeper understanding of our shared humanity.

Lord, help us to see beyond the earthly things
**To where you are at work in our world.**

**Help us walk in step with you and return rejoicing next week to share in the wonders of your love.**
**Amen.**

Collect for the Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

 *All* **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name;**

**thy kingdom come;**

**thy will be done;**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation;**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is kingdom,**

**the power and the glory,**

**for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

As we go, Lord, please help us to look up,
 seeking the things that honour and please you,
 letting go of the things that damage us and others,
 clothed with Christ-likeness,
 to live and work to your praise and glory.
 **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..**

Steph is now back home from hospital and going from strength to strength. Praise the Lord!

A message from Steph.

“Thank you all for the beautiful flowers from you all. They are lovely and I am so grateful for your love and prayers. It’s so good to be home but there are lots and lots of comings and goings from carers and therapists. Hopefully this will calm down a bit in the next few weeks – and then I’ll be able to enjoy a cup of tea with all my clothes on!!” with love Steph.

 The family respectfully ask for no visitors at this time. Please keep Steph and her family in your prayers.

**What’s on ….**

**Bible Study**

The next Bible study will be on Monday 11 August at The Cottage Washfield at 2.30pm with Tim Gorringe. We are looking at Paul’s letters to the Galatians.

**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 on 07733949295. Only first initials will be used on the prayer chain to ensure total confidentiality.

**Contacting Church Office.**

Email: 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

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