

**Tenpenny Villages Benefice
Morning Prayer from
St Andrew's, Alresford
Trinity 19 - Sunday 18th October 2020**



Welcome

Welcome to St Andrew's, Alresford – where we celebrate Holy Communion at our 11 o'clock service. As we gather online, we are aware that we meet at a distance but that we are brought together by the presence of God's Spirit meeting us in our homes and spanning the gaps between us.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you: **and also with you.**

A special welcome if you are isolating at home, to anyone watching on their own and to any children and teens. *Today, we look at Worship and how the people of Jerusalem respond to the reading of Gods law.*

Opening Prayer / Reading

Kyrie Confession:

Lord, you give justice to those who are suffering
and bread to those who hunger.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, you loose those who are bound
and open the eyes of the blind.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, you watch over the stranger in the land
and uphold the orphan and the widow.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

cf Psalm 146.6,7,9

Worship: Psalm 96

¹The Lord reigns,
let the nations tremble;
he sits enthroned between the cherubim,
let the earth shake.

²Great is the Lord in Zion;
he is exalted over all the nations.

³Let them praise your great and awesome name—
he is holy.

⁴The King is mighty, he loves justice—
you have established equity;
in Jacob you have done
what is just and right.

⁵Exalt the Lord our God
and worship at his footstool;
he is holy.

⁶Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel was among those who called on his name;
they called on the Lord
and he answered them.

⁷He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud;
they kept his statutes and the decrees he gave them.

⁸Lord our God,
you answered them;
you were to Israel a forgiving God,
though you punished their misdeeds.

⁹Exalt the Lord our God
and worship at his holy mountain,
for the Lord our God is holy.

Reading: Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 9-12

Nehemiah Helps the Poor

8 ¹ all the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel.

² So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand.

³ He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

⁵ Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. ⁶ Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

⁹ Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is holy to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

¹⁰ Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

¹¹ The Levites calmed all the people, saying, “Be still, for this is a holy day. Do not grieve.”
¹² Then all the people went away to eat and drink, to send portions of food and to celebrate with great joy, because they now understood the words that had been made known to them.

Reflection: Andrew Fordyce

Prayers of the people

Lord thank you that we have this opportunity to worship together,
Thank you that you lift our gaze, help us to rest our hope in you.
Thank you, God, that you call us to be a people of hope,
Lord may your light shine in this challenging time.
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Heavenly Father, we are humbled as we hear of a people gathering to listen to your word,
Help us to spend time, reading Scripture and may your words of life sink deep.
Lord we pray for all who work to bring your word to people of every tribe and tongue,
We thank you for the work of the Gospels with Wycliffe Bible translation.
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Lord as a nation we recognise that this Pandemic is bringing a stern test for so many,
We pray for those who are struggling and for the vulnerable.
Lord we pray for all staff offering health care support and those who maintain law and order.
We pray for those whose businesses are impacted; Lord show them next steps.
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Heavenly Father, we pray for those who are suffering in body, mind or spirit,
We lift to you those who grieve at this time.
We pray for those who feel isolated, whose time hangs heavy,
Thank you for the kindness of those who look out for others, Lord show us how we can serve.
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

A special prayer as we look for our next Bishop of Chelmsford:

*God of provision and care,
discernment and knowledge:
lead us in your love,
empower us by your Spirit,
and equip us with your gifts;
give us hearts full of love for all people,
minds open to the signs of the times,
and wisdom to know how to respond
to the voice of your calling;
We ask this through him whose coming is certain,
whose day draws near, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Collect:

Faithful Lord,
whose steadfast love never ceases
and whose mercies never come to an end:
grant us the grace to trust you
and to receive the gifts of your love,
new every morning,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Blessing

God the Father, who created the world,
give you grace to be wise stewards of his creation.

Amen.

God the Son, who redeemed the world,
inspire you to go out as labourers into his harvest.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit, whose breath fills the whole of creation,
help you to bear his fruits of love, joy and peace.

Amen.

And the blessing ...