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**Holy Communion**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**1 June 2025**

Welcome to our services today. Revd Simon Winn, Vicar, is presiding at 8am and 10am. We welcome the Very Revd John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry Cathedral, as preacher at both services. Our church is proud to belong to the Community of the Cross of Nails whose home is Coventry Cathedral.

**Readings**

Acts 16: 16-34

Psalm 97

2 Corinthians 5: 14-21

John 17: 20-26

**Hymns**

Christ triumphant ever reigning (on page 2 of this sheet)

71 O dearest Lord (Tune: Albano)

262 Alleluia, sing to Jesus

431 We have a gospel to proclaim

**Collect**

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:

we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Prayer after Communion**

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Entrance Hymn**

**Christ triumphant, ever reigning,  
Saviour, Master, King!  
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,  
hear us as we sing:  
*Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, the eternal name*.**

**Word incarnate, truth revealing,  
Son of Man on earth!  
Power and majesty concealing  
by your humble birth:  
*Yours the glory...***

**Suff’ring servant, scorned, ill - treated,  
victim crucified!  
death is through the cross defeated,  
sinners justified:  
*Yours the glory...***

**Priestly King, enthroned for ever  
high in heaven above!  
Sin and death and hell shall never  
stifle hymns of love:  
*Yours the glory...***

**So, our hearts and voices raising  
through the ages long,  
ceaselessly upon you gazing,  
this shall be our song:  
*Yours the glory...***

Words: Michael Saward (b. 1932) Tune: John Barnard (b. 1948)

**First Reading**

**Acts 16: 16-34**

A reading from the book of Acts

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, ‘These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.’ She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, ‘I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.’ And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market-place before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, ‘These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.’ The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, ‘Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.’ The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ They answered, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.’ They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 97**

*Dominus regnavit*

The Lord is King, the earth may be glad thereof : yea, the multitude of the isles may be glad thereof.

2 Clouds and darkness are round about him : righteousness and judgement are the habitation of his seat.

3 There shall go a fire before him : and burn up his enemies on every side.

4 His lightnings gave shine unto the world : the earth saw it, and was afraid.

5 The hills melted like wax at the presence of the Lord : at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

6 The heavens have declared his righteousness : and all the people have seen his glory.

7 Confounded be all they that worship carved images, and that delight in vain gods : worship him, all ye gods.

8 Sion heard of it, and rejoiced : and the daughters of Judah were glad, because of thy judgements, O Lord.

9 For thou, Lord, art higher than all that are in the earth : thou art exalted far above all gods.

10 O ye that love the Lord, see that ye hate the thing which is evil : the Lord preserveth the souls of his saints; he shall deliver them from the hand of the ungodly.

11 There is sprung up a light for the righteous : and joyful gladness for such as are true-hearted.

12 Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous : and give thanks for a remembrance of his holiness.

**Second Reading**

**2 Corinthians 5: 14-21**

A reading from Paul’s Second Letter to the Corinthians

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Gospel**

**John 17: 20-26**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory be to thee, O Lord**

‘I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

‘Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise be to thee, O Christ**

**Today’s Music**

**Mass setting**

***Communion service in the Phrygian Mode -* Wood**

**Psalm 97**

You can find the words on page 4 of this sheet.

**Anthem**

***Coelos ascendit hodie, Op 38, No2 –* Stanford**

Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, has ascended today into the heavens.  
He sits at the right hand of the Father and rules heaven and earth.

Now all the psalms of David, our father, are fulfilled. Now the Lord sits with the Lord on the seat of God. In this greatest of triumphs let us bless the Lord. The Holy Trinity be glorified. Let us give thanks to God.

*(Words: anon, 12th Century)*

**Communion**

***Agnus Dei* from *Communion service in the Phrygian Mode -* Wood**

***God is gone up –* Hutchings**

God is gone up with a merry noise and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet. Thou art gone up on high, thou hast led captivity captive, and received gifts for men. O sing praises unto our God, O sing praises unto our King. Alleluia. God is gone up on high. *from Psalms 47, 68*

**Organ voluntary**

***Festival Voluntary* – Flor Peters**

***Abide* Tonight A service of prayer, reflection, meditation and music in the Taizé tradition. Tonight at 5.30pm in church.**

**Prayers for the week**

Our prayers are with all school pupils and students sitting exams.

We pray for those in need: Fran Barlow, Ian Clark, Fiona Cochran, Helen Delap, Hessie Hervey, Nick Hervey, Glynne and Nancy John, Lena Kimming, Vinubhai Patel, David Skingley, Jessica Springbett, Jean Smith, Tina Stanley, Anne and Noel Timmons, Sabrina Unold, Drew Webster, Jan Woolley and Pauline Youll.

We remember all who have died recently including Fredrick Osawaru Elite Idehen, Artemis Anastasi, Martin Heap, baby Gabriel Joseph Kanu, baby Harvey Muganga and Sally O’Leary. We ask God’s blessing on the O’Leary family and all mourning the loss of loved ones.

**To include names of loved ones on the prayer list, please contact David McEvoy** [**dmcevoy@btinternet.com**](mailto:dmcevoy@btinternet.com)

**The Beloved Son**

**St Alfege Church is proud to be staging *The Beloved Son,*** a remarkable play inspired by the life of the spiritual writer, Henri Nouwen, written by acclaimed playwright Murray Watts and performed by Andrew Harrison.  It is a moving solo performance exploring hope and longing, family dynamics, sexual and emotional crisis and the profound insights of a man who became one of the greatest spiritual writers of the Twentieth Century. We are delighted to be able to stage this play in our own church. Please do come along.

**Friday 13 June at 7.30pm in church. Tickets £13.70 from Eventbrite: search “Eventbrite Alfege Beloved” or buy tickets for £12 after the Sunday 10am service.**

**Safeguarding Team**

**Karen Hansen Lead Safeguarding Officer 07866 932 894**

**Carole Moses Safeguarding Officer 07899 396 671**

**Irene Bishop Safeguarding Officer 020 8698 2658**

[**safeguarding@st-alfege.org.uk**](mailto:safeguarding@st-alfege.org.uk)

**Supporting St Alfege Church**

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| Please do make a gift to support the life and ministry of St Alfege Church – during the collection in the service or by using our card reader at the North and West Doors. Please complete a Gift Aid envelope (if you are eligible) whether you donate by cash or card. You can also use this QR code to donate. | A qr code with a logo  Description automatically generated with medium confidence |

**Services this week**

**Today, Sunday 1 June *Seventh Sunday of Easter***

8.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.00am Sung Eucharist

5.30pm Abide

**Monday 2 June**

8.30am Morning Prayer

**Tuesday 3 June**

8.30am Morning Prayer

**Wednesday 4 June**

8.30am Morning Prayer

**Thursday 5 June**

8.00am Holy Communion

**Sunday 8 June *Pentecost***

8.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.00am Sung Eucharist

**Walk-In Wednesdays**

Every Wednesday 10am-12noon in the Frank Smith Room in the hall.

**Contact Us**

**Vicar: Revd Simon Winn**

**Curate: Revd Dr Tati Gutteridge**

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