

# GARROWBYBENEFICE



Agape  
for the  
Seventh Sunday after Trinity

## INTRODUCTION

### *Hymn: Be still for the presence of the Lord*

As if this were the only time, and this the only place, and we the only people

**All Jesus Christ will meet us**

As if this were the only time, and this the only place, and we the only people

**All Let us worship God**

## CONFESSION

Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness, to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others and the life of the world

**All May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.**

Amen

**ALLI Before God, with the people of God, we confess our brokenness, to the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others and the life of the world**

May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

**All Amen**

## Collect

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things; graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us in all good ness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

**All Amen**

## READINGS

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**All Glory to you O Lord**

Gospel: Matthew 13, 31-33 and 44-52

### **The Parable of the Mustard Seed**

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

## **The Parable of the Yeast**

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

## **Treasures New and Old**

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

This is the gospel of the Lord

**All Praise to you O Christ**

## **Sermon**

## **INTERCESSIONS**

*Hymn: Your grace still amazes me*

## **INVITATION**

Our Lord Jesus Christ was always the guest. In the homes of many followers. He was always the guest. At the meals of the wealthy, where he pled the case of the poor, He was always the guest. Upsetting polite company, befriending isolated people, welcoming the stranger, He was always the guest. But here at this table He is the host. Those who wish to serve him must first be served by him. Those who want to follow Him must first be fed by Him. Those who would wash his feet must first let him make them clean. For this is the table where God intends us to be nourished. This is the time when Christ can make us new. So come you who hunger and

thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world. Jesus Christ who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be his guests.

What we do here, we do to remember Jesus. To his followers in every age, Jesus gave an example and command, rooted in the experience he shared with his disciples in an upstairs room in Jerusalem.

Today we take this bread and this water, the produce of earth and human labour. In our fellowship and in our sharing, Jesus promises to be present, through these Christ can make us whole.

The Lord be with you

**All And also with you**

Lift up your hearts

**All We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

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

It is indeed right, for you made us, and before us you made the world we inhabit, and before the world you made the eternal home in which, through Christ we have a place.

All that is spectacular, all that is plain have their origin in you; all that is lovely, all who are loving, point to you as their fulfilment.

And grateful as we are for the world we know and the universe beyond, we particularly praise you, whom eternity cannot contain, for coming to earth and entering time in Jesus.

For his life which informs our living, for his compassion which changes our hearts, for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities, for his disturbing presence, his innocent suffering, his fearless dying, his rising to life breathing forgiveness, we praise you and worship him.

Here too our gratitude rises for the promise of the Holy Spirit, who even yet, even now, confronts us with your claims and attracts us to your goodness.

Therefore we gladly join our voices to the song of the church on earth and in heaven:

**All HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD  
GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT  
HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY. HOSSANA IN THE  
HIGHEST  
BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD. HOSSANA  
IN THE HIGHEST**

And now, lest we believe that our praise alone fulfils your purpose, we fall silent and remember him who came because words weren't enough.

**(silence)**

Setting our wisdom, our will, our words aside, emptying our hearts, and bringing nothing in our hands we yearn for the healing, the holding, the accepting, the forgiving which Christ alone can offer.

**(silence)**

Merciful God, send now, in kindness, your Holy Spirit to rest on us and on this bread and water that they may be signs of your Grace converting us from the patterns of this passing world, until we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share.

Jesus first born of Mary

**All Have mercy on us**

Jesus saviour of the world

**All Have mercy on us**

Jesus monarch of heaven

**All Grant us peace**

He whom the universe could not contain is always present to us. He who redeemed us and called us by name now meets us as friends together as we share bread and water.

*(The sharing of the bread and water)*

## **THE PEACE**

Christ who has nourished us is our peace. Strangers and friends, male and female, old and young, He has broken down the barriers to bind us to him and to each other.

Having tasted his goodness, let us share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All And also with you**

## **CONCLUDING PRAYERS**

**All** In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment and one another we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because meeting with you we cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So Lord may we live to your glory both as inhabitants of the earth and citizens of the commonwealth of Heaven.

**AMEN**

## **BLESSING**

Lord God, we have gathered today as your people to offer you our sacrifice of praise and worship. We have fed on your word, been refreshed through your living water, we have felt the encircling of your Spirit around us. As we begin a new week, may we continue to know your presence and power in the very different lives that we lead and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you as you seek to build His kingdom

**All** Amen

***Hymn: Let there be love shared among us***