The Benefice of Great Hanwood

Longden & Annscroft with Pulverbatch

Sunday 30 July 2023
 Trinity 8

**Collect**

Lord God,
your Son left the riches of heaven
and became poor for our sake:
when we prosper save us from pride,
when we are needy save us from despair,
that we may trust in you alone;
through Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen**

**Romans 8: 26-39**

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. 27And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

28 We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. 29For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.30And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? 33Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. 34Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.35Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36As it is written,
‘For your sake we are being killed all day long;
   we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.’
37No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come nor powers, 39nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-51**

He put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; 32it 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.’

33He 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.’

44 ‘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.45 ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; 46on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

47 ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; 48when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. 49So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous 50and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 51 ‘Have you understood all this?’ They answered, ‘Yes.’ 52And 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.’

**Post Communion Collect**

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word

be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise

be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever **Amen.**

**Sunday 6 August – Trinity 9**

 11am Sunday Praise - Annscroft

 11am Holy Communion - Hanwood

**We pray for:**

David Shirra, Hefyn Edwards, Margaret Hill,

Liba Taconis, Rhoda Pearce, Russell Smith,

Edie, Gill Brown, Anne Kent, Liam, Jake.

**We pray for our Benefice**

For those living in Hanwood, Cruckton & Cruckmeole

Sun. Great Hanwood Parish Council

Mon. St Thomas & St Anne’s CE Primary School

Tues. Tommy's Toddlers

Wed. St Thomas’s Hanwood & the PCC

Thur. Hanwood & Cruckton Village Halls,

Fri. Hanwood Youth Club

Sat. The Cock Inn

**We pray for:**

* The Anglican Church of Central America.
* Pray for all that encourages and resources churches in mission, and for Mark Melluish and others who offer guidance and support.
* England: Bristol; Finland: Helsinki.
* A recent outbreak of Marburg Virus Disease (MVD) in Tanzania seems to have been brought under control, with the end of the outbreak declared last month. Pray for developing countries in their response to health emergencies.
* Besides Covid, Tanzania has experienced outbreaks of cholera, measles, leptospirosis and dengue fever over the past three years.
* On the World Day Against Trafficking of Persons, pray for migrants and others at risk of criminal exploitation, and for all who seek to combat the various forms of modern slavery.
* On World Friendship Day, pray we may counter the evils of our world by promoting and defending a shared spirit of human solidarity.
* Playday this week affirms play as essential at all ages and stages of childhood, helping children and young people make sense of the world around them, deal with challenges, and build resilience. Pray for all who care for children, and for play leaders and enablers.
* Lammas Day, 1st August, prompts thanksgiving for the fruitfulness of the earth; pray that its bounty may be shared and used wisely.
* Pray for all local producers of food and drink products, for suppliers dealing in locally sourced foods, and for local shops and stalls, farm shops and farmers’ markets.