

# We are the church.

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Trinity 6**



## Notices:

**ISingPop - Excellent Resource for Family:** Their latest content looks at the really important topic of "".

**Foodbank:** please use the supermarket collection points while the church office is closed, and our movement is limited. Also, donations can be made direct to Gloucester Foodbank, through their Giving Page.

**'Supervised Private Prayer'** every Wednesday and Sunday 3pm-4pm, starting this Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June.

**Mid-Week Gathering:** a group of us have starting meeting online through Zoom on Wednesday mornings at 930am. It is very informal, and we would love you to join us. The Zoom details are:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96766775950?pwd=ZlZjVnk4MG0rMmorOTVhN3VEZ3Zadz09>

Meeting ID: 967 6677 5950

Password: 080328

**Black Lives Matter part 4** – racism or discrimination of any kind has no place in our communities and in our society. We can stand together in **unity to end the injustice of racism**. It is not simply enough to say nothing, we as a community declare that we love God, and love our neighbour, whatever their skin colour, as ourselves. Acting out of love and fighting injustice is what was modeled and taught to us by Jesus. To help us **be more proactive** in our empathy, understanding, and compassion of racism, systemic racism, social injustice and the hurt black people are feeling today, **please can I encourage you to watch this video:**

Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man **PART 4**  
(Emmual Acho looks at the effect of broken black families, and cultural appropriation from the black community)

# We are the church.

In the name of the Father,  
And of the Son,  
And of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Grace, mercy and peace  
From God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with us all – wherever we are.

**Sing:** (*click on the song title, and it should open up and play in YouTube*)

[Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven](#)

Almighty God,  
To whom all hearts are open,  
All desires known,  
And from whom no secrets are hidden:  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
That we may perfectly love you,  
And worthily magnify your holy name;  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen

Gathering our thoughts, we remember and confess:

Our Lord Jesus Christ said;  
The first commandment is this;  
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only  
Lord. You shall love the Lord your God  
With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your  
Mind, and with all your strength.'  
The second is this, 'Love your neighbour  
as yourself.' There is no other commandment  
greater than these. On these two commandments  
hang all the law and the prophets.

## We are the church.

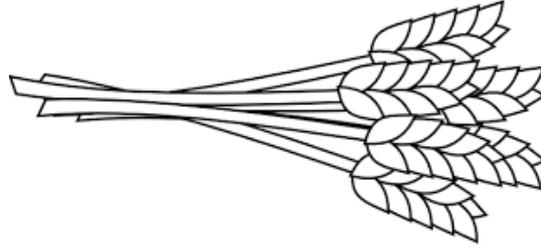
Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy  
forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly,  
love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.

Creator God,  
You made us all in your image:  
May we discern you in all that we see,  
And serve you in all that we do;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God,  
Who in Jesus Christ has given us  
A kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
Forgive us our sins,  
Open our eyes to God's truth,  
Strengthen us to do God's will  
And give us the joy of his kingdom,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*Take a few moments to sit and think about receiving that unconditional offering of forgiveness through grace.*

## We are the church.



### **Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 – The Parable of the Weeds**

Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?' "An enemy did this,' he replied. "The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' "No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

"As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

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*Those fortunate enough to have a garden made good use of it during the lockdown period. The joy of the Garden Centres reopening overcame the anxiety of following the one way system and the queueing at the tills. Weeds (flowers but in the wrong*

## We are the church.

*place) were removed, borders and hanging baskets flourished with colour and there was a feel good factor generated by the efforts put into the garden.*

*The parable of the wheat and tares (as it is known from the King James version of the Bible - cast your mind back to last week's first hymn) was well illustrated on many medieval wall paintings in some of our older church buildings.*

*The separation and the burning of the weeds was designed to frighten people into faith.*

*The Kingdom of God is about being loved and accepted by God's love, which results in the showing of good fruits in the lives of the faithful.*

*We cannot and must not avoid those who do not believe and behave in ways that continue to spoil God's good creation. The wheat and the tares will grow up together.*

*The fruits of the Kingdom of God cannot but live alongside the fruits of opposition to its claims. It is for God to judge what is of lasting value. When the judgement is made, those who are regarded as righteous will "shine like the sun".*

*We may not be able to remove all the weeds, but we **can** live lives full of colour which produce a harvest for God.*

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Let us declare our faith with confidence:

Holy, holy, holy  
is the Lord God almighty,  
who was, and is, and is to come.  
We believe in God the Father,  
who created all things:  
for by his will they were created  
and have their being.

We believe in God the Son,  
who was slain:  
for with his blood,  
he purchased us for God,  
from every tribe and language,  
from every people and nation.

# We are the church.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:  
the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'  
Even so come, Lord Jesus!  
Amen.

**Sing:** (*click on the song title, and it should open up and play in YouTube*)

## In Heavenly Love Abiding

Louisa Messenger leads as we pray for the world, the church, and for our family, friend's & our neighbours':

Thank you Father that have the freedom to meet with each other to give you thanks and praise. Bless our homes and all who join us we pray.

Lord hear us - Lord graciously hear us

Father may your light shine in the world, may it penetrate those places where there is pain and suffering, greed and corruption.in the places where life is cheap ,where your forgiveness and love are not valued . At this time we pray grant wisdom and love in all who have the power over peoples lives in the world and the church.

Lord hear us - Lord graciously hear us

We bring before you all those who are ill at this time those on our hearts--- and those known only to you all who are worried and afraid, those who live alone, help us to be your hand and feet show us where can help .Many would love a hug lord which we can not give at the moment, put your arms around them Lord we pray.

Lord hear us - Lord graciously hear us

Father we remember all who have died tragically, and those who have died recently. For all whose anniversaries fall at this time thank you for their lives and all that they meant to us. Please bless and comfort all who mourn.

Lord hear us - Lord graciously hear us

## We are the church.

Lord we bring before you some of the things that have happened this week, which has affected people deeply. All who have tried very hard to do something but have been unable to achieve it and in a moment of silence we bring our own our hopes and concerns our plans we tell you what they are and why they matter.-----  
Lord in your mercy - Lord graciously hear us

Father thank you that all life matters to you that you love us so much that you gave your life for us. We wait with longing for your return, but until then accept our love and worship for you.

Merciful Father accept these prayers for the sake of your son Jesus Christ. Amen

We pray with confidence as our saviour has taught us:

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.

**Sing:** (*click on the song title, and it should open up and play in YouTube*)

[Oh Lord my God, when I in Awesome Wonder](#)

We are the church.

**Numbers 6:24-26** *The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.*

**Until we can come together in worship & witness be strong in the Lord & in his mighty power.** (Eph6:10)

- **AMEN?**