

**The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton**  
**Fathers' Day – 21/06/20**



**A service of the Word**

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic this service will be available online on our YouTube channel (visit [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for Holy Sepulchre Northampton). Subscribe to the channel to receive notifications when new videos are uploaded.

You are invited to join with the words in **bold**.



[stseps.org.uk](http://stseps.org.uk)



[holysepulchre.northampton](https://www.facebook.com/holysepulchre.northampton)



[@StSepsNNI](https://twitter.com/StSepsNNI)

**Office Tel: 01604 230 316**

**Email: [sepsandmicks@gmail.com](mailto:sepsandmicks@gmail.com)**

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, and New Patterns for Worship, material from which is included here, are copyright © [The Archbishops' Council](http://www.archbishops.org) (2000/2002 respectively)  
Scripture quotations marked NRSV are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible.  
Scripture quotations marked RSV are taken from the Revised Standard Version Bible.

We meet in the name of God:  
**Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

See what love the Father has given us  
**that we should be called the children of God.**

You are my sons and daughters:  
this day have I begotten you.  
**See what love the Father has given us.**

As many as received him,  
to them he gave power to become the children of God.  
**See what love the Father has given us.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit.  
**See what love the Father has given us  
that we should be called the children of God.**

God our Father,  
help us to know your love  
and to make your love known,  
that all may come into your family,  
in Jesus Christ your Son.  
**Amen.**

## Invitation to Confession

Let us return to the Lord our God and say to him

**Father,  
we have sinned against heaven and against you.  
We are not worthy to be called your children.  
We turn to you again.  
Have mercy on us,  
bring us back to yourself  
as those who once were dead  
but now have life through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

May the God of love  
bring us back to himself,  
forgive us our sins,  
and assure us of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### First reading

A reading from the Second book of Samuel:

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your

enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. When he commits iniquity, I will punish him with a rod such as mortals use, with blows inflicted by human beings. But I will not take my steadfast love from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

(2 Samuel 7:4-16 - NRSV)

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Second reading

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans:

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many

nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.'

(Romans 4:13-18 - NRSV)

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
And his name shall be called Emmanuel.

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

"Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and his name shall be called Emman'u-el"

(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

(Matthew 1:18-25 - RSV)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

*After each petition the following response may be used:*

Father of all  
**hear your children's prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Jesus taught us to call God our Father,  
so in faith and trust let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has  
taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

Sending Out

**In darkness and in light,  
in trouble and in joy,  
help us, heavenly Father,  
to trust your love,  
to serve your purpose,  
and to praise your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

The Lord God almighty is our Father:  
**he loves us and tenderly cares for us.**  
The Lord Jesus Christ is our Saviour:  
**he has redeemed us and will defend us to the end.**  
The Lord, the Holy Spirit, is among us:  
**he will lead us in God's holy way.**  
**To God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be praise and glory today and for ever.  
Amen.**