

# Your Word of the Week

17<sup>th</sup> September 2023, 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Trinity



Christ Church  
Wheelock

St Michaels  
Crewe Green



St Matthews  
Haslington

9.30 am	St Matthew's	Holy Communion	Vicar Jane
10.45 am	Christ Church	Holy Communion	Vicar Jane
11.00 am	St Michael & All Angels	Morning Worship	Linda Clarke & Anne Thompson

## The Gospel Reading Matthew 18:21-35

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church<sup>[a]</sup> sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven<sup>[b]</sup> times.' <sup>23</sup> 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup> When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents<sup>[c]</sup> was brought to him; <sup>25</sup> and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup> So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." <sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii;<sup>[d]</sup> and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." <sup>29</sup> Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." <sup>30</sup> But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup> Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" <sup>34</sup> And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup> So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister<sup>[e]</sup> from your heart.'

## Epistle Reading, Romans 14:1-12

<sup>14</sup> Welcome those who are weak in faith,<sup>[a]</sup> but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. <sup>2</sup> Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup> Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup> Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord<sup>[b]</sup> is able to make them stand. <sup>5</sup> Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup> Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. <sup>7</sup> We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup> If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup> For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. <sup>10</sup> Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister?<sup>[c]</sup> Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister?<sup>[d]</sup> For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God.<sup>[e]</sup> For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God.<sup>[e]</sup> <sup>11</sup> For it is written,

'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to<sup>[f]</sup> God.'

<sup>12</sup> So then, each of us will be accountable to God.<sup>[g]</sup>

## Collect, prayers, and Old Testament Reading continued

### Collect for 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Trinity

Merciful God,  
your Son came to save us  
and bore our sins on the cross:  
may we trust in your mercy  
and know your love,  
rejoicing in the righteousness  
that is ours through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen.

### We remember the sick in our prayers:

David Looker, Melodi Kahya, John Lewis, Stephen Jones, Colin Evans, Helen Birch, Margaret Cooper, Kathleen Burgess, Alan Burgess, Alan Wheeler, Ray Thorley, Margaret Lindop, Gwen Bickerton, John Finnemore, Barbara Harvey, Winnie Rutter, Bob Holland, Rev Canon Bill Baker, Keith and Barbara Whittle, Marjorie Crook, Janet Fallon, Roger Pearce, Anna Betts, Kathleen Knox, Martin Harper, Charles Howard-Smith, Freda Claridge, Linda Jones, Chris Hollis, Audrey Roberts, Robert Leech, Angela Adams, Alma Garner, William Carlson, Mark Trigger, Gill Golding, Joanne Wall, Lisa Lalor, Graham Timmis, Kim Pearce, David Hurst, Jamie Hurst, Pauline Fletcher, Samantha Hart, Trevor Thompson, Valerie Bowyer, Colin Booth, Norma Hill, Susan and Steven Parsons.

### We thank God for the lives of all who have died and for the rest in Christ they now enjoy:

Russell Hodgkinson, Jeff Budden, George Farrall, Hazel Looker, Marjorie Dodd, Howard (Frederick) Ollier, Joan Haddock and Barry. We remember and pray for all families whose loved ones have died.

### Genesis 50:15-21

<sup>15</sup> Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' <sup>16</sup> So they approached<sup>[a]</sup> Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup> "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup> Then his brothers also wept,<sup>[b]</sup> fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' <sup>19</sup> But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup> So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

### Church notices.

Thank you to everyone who attended **the Alpha course**; for good discussions and godly insights.

Next Friday, **22<sup>nd</sup> September, is the Macmillan Coffee** morning, 10.00 am until noon, at St Matthew's church Hall. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a friend.

**Prayer Breakfast is on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September** 10.00am, in St Matthew's church hall. Everyone is welcome.

**The Bereavement Journey Course**, (revised & improved), begins on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 7.00pm, at the café area in Christ Church, Wheelock. Everyone is welcome.

We look forward to a musical evening at **St Michael's church, Crewe Green**, as we welcome **The Winterley Brass Band on September 23rd at 7.00pm**. Tickets are £7 on the door and include wine, or a soft drink, and nibbles.

**Harvest Festival celebrations across the United Benefice are on 1<sup>st</sup> October**. Please bring food to be taken to local foodbanks. Everyone is welcome to the **"Bring and Share" lunch** at St Matthew's church Hall.

### DIARY

9.30am Morning Worship for all St Matthew's church family in church and Facebook Live stream.

10.45am Morning Worship for all Christ Church's family in church and Facebook Live stream.

11.00am Morning Worship for all St Michael's church family.

4.30pm [Fourth Sunday] Evening Prayer from Book of Common Prayer at Christ Church and Facebook Live stream.

10.30am (Fifth Sunday) Joint Benefice service, rotating around our 3 churches.

**Wednesday** 9.45 am Hoy Communion, (Common Worship), in St Michael and All Angels church.

10.45 am Holy Communion, (Book of Common Prayer), in St Matthew's church.

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