

OOS 20th September 2026 – Trinity 16 - HC

Good morning, and welcome to Christ Church Lille.

We are continuing through Creation tide, a season when we are encouraged to pause and give particular attention to God's wonderful gift of creation — the world around us, the creatures we share it with, and our place within it.

It is also a time to remember that creation is not simply something we are given to enjoy, but something we are entrusted to care for. As we look at the beauty and diversity of our world, we are reminded of God's generosity, and of our responsibility to live with greater care for one another and for the whole of creation.

Our readings today, from Jonah and Matthew's Gospel, remind us that God's compassion and generosity are far greater than we sometimes expect. They challenge us to look beyond our own perspective and to see the world, and the people around us, through God's eyes.

So, as we come together this morning for worship and Holy Communion, let us put aside the busyness of the week, and make space to listen, reflect and draw closer to God.

We keep a moment of silence, placing ourselves in God's presence
(Silence)

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

(All): Amen.

A CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come, let us worship the God who created the heavens and the earth,
who gives generously to all he has made.

Come, let us worship the God whose compassion reaches further than ours,
who cares for every person and every part of his creation.

Come, let us set aside our own ways of seeing,
and open our hearts to the generosity and grace of God.

**(All) Let us worship God,
who is Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of all.
Amen.**

Opening Hymn:#1003 My Jesus My Saviour

Invitation to Confession – *please be seated*

God of all creation,
you fill the world with creatures of your love and purpose.

The mountains declare your majesty,
the fields your generosity,
the oceans your power,
and the skies your grandeur.
Birds sing of your freedom;
the ant speaks of your persistence.
May our work honour your justice and mercy,
and our relationships reflect your love and compassion.
May we praise you not only in this hour of worship,
but in all our waking and our working.
Help us to live your praise and promise,
through Christ, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and always.
In confidence of your grace,
we confess to you our sins:

**(All) God, you are the giver of all good gifts,
yet our generosity is often limited.
We complain about our circumstances,
and compare ourselves with others,
seeing what they have that we do not.
We struggle to accept your generosity to others,
and worry that there will not be enough for us.
Forgive us our jealousy and greed,
our resentment and lack of compassion.
Give us generous hearts that trust in you,
and rejoice in your goodness to all.
Amen.**

The Absolution

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive+ you your sins
and make you holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
(All) Amen.

The Collect for The fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence

and know your peace at our lives' end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The First Reading – Jonah 3:10 – 4:11 (NRSVUE) - Read by René

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

Jonah's Anger

⁴ But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶ The Lord God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

Jonah Is Reproved

⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

This is the Word of the Lord.

(All) Thanks be to God

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 20: 1-16 *Please stand if you are able*
(Read by Revd Elisabeth Dean)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

(All) Glory to you, O Lord.

The Laborers in the Vineyard

20 “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourer’s for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’^[a] ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

(All) Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily – Rev. Elisabeth Dean

The Nicene Creed – *Please stand if you are able*

**(All) We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary**

and was made man.

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Intercessory Prayer – *Please be seated.* – Led by Marie-Christine

Let us pray to the God who delights in all that he has made, whose mercy is without measure, and who calls us to live in peace with one another and with all creation.

God of mystery and wonder,

We look at the beauty and diversity of your creation
and give thanks for all that you have made.

Yet we also see a world under pressure,
with so much precious life at risk.

Bless all who work to care for our planet and its climate.
Help us to recognise what is ours to protect
and to live more gently within your creation.

**(All) God our Maker,
make us a sharing people.**

God of energy and life,

We look at the peoples of our world
and see your image and your gifts in every culture and community.

Yet we also see hunger, suffering and fear,
and hear the cries of those who have lost hope.

Bless the work of your Church around the world
as it brings practical help, healing and hope to those in need.

Give us generous hearts,
ready to share what we have with others.

**(All) God our Maker,
make us a sharing people.**

God of promise and possibility,

We pray for a world divided by conflict,
where old rivalries and new grievances bring suffering.

We pray for those who lead our nations and communities.
Give them wisdom, courage and a desire for justice and peace.

Bless all who speak up for those without a voice,
and help us to be people who build bridges rather than barriers.

**(All) God our Maker,
make us a sharing people.**

God of faithfulness and surprise,

Sometimes we doubt that we can make a difference.

Remind us of the gifts you have placed within us:
love and compassion,
courage and commitment,
laughter and friendship,
generosity and mercy.

Help us to use these gifts in your service
and to trust that, through your grace,
you can do far more than we can ask or imagine.

Call us to keep serving together,
through your Church, our congregation
and our daily lives.

**(All) God our Maker,
make us a sharing people.**

Merciful father,

**(All) Accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace - Please stand

The God of heaven has made a home on earth.

Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

(All) and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All who are baptised Christians are welcome to receive the sacrament.

If you are not baptised you are welcome to receive a blessing, keeping your hands to your sides or crossed across your chest. Gluten free wafers are available, please raise your hand if this is your preference.

Offertory Hymn: #465 Meekness and majesty

The Prayer of Preparation – Please remain standing if you are able

In thanksgiving for God's graciousness and blessings,

we return to God a portion of what we have received.

(All) Amen

The Eucharistic Prayer G

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.

Blessed are you, Lord God,

our light and our salvation;

to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things

and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image,

the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**(All) Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Please be seated

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced as people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper; taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**(All) Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.
Remember, Lord, your church in every land.
Reveal her unity, guard her faith,
and preserve her in peace

Bring us at the last with all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
(All) Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As we join our prayers with the Church Universal, so we say, each in our own language, the prayer that Jesus taught us.

**(All) 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 for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**(All) Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

The Agnus Dei is said

**(All) Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

**(All) Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Mp3 will plays through the serving of Communion

Prayer after Communion - Silence is kept.

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son
that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Notices:

Refreshments
Next Week – HC

Closing Hymn: The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Dismissal

Blessing

Go, remembering God's generosity to us in Christ and in creation.
Be generous in kindness to all who reach out to you.
May the power of the Spirit strengthen you, and the love of Christ that surpasses all
knowledge fill you with the fullness of God this day and evermore.
(All) Amen.

Let us go in Peace to love and serve the Lord
(All) In the name of Christ. Amen.