**Psalm 146**

1  Alleluia.
      Praise the Lord, O my soul:
      while I live will I praise the Lord; •
   as long as I have any being,
      I will sing praises to my God.
2  Put not your trust in princes,
      nor in any human power, •
   for there is no help in them.
3  When their breath goes forth, they return to the earth; •
   on that day all their thoughts perish.
4  Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help, •
   whose hope is in the Lord their God;
5  Who made heaven and earth,
      the sea and all that is in them; •
   who keeps his promise for ever;
6  Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong •
   and bread to those who hunger.
7  The Lord looses those that are bound; •
   the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
8  The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; •
   the Lord loves the righteous;
9  The Lord watches over the stranger in the land;
      he upholds the orphan and widow; •
   but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.
10  The Lord shall reign for ever, •
   your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
      Alleluia.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Collect**

Almighty God,

whose only Son has opened for us

a new and living way into your presence:

give us pure hearts and steadfast wills

to worship you in spirit and in truth;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Isaiah 35.4-7a**

4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
   ‘Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
   He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
   He will come and save you.’

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
   and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
6 then the lame shall leap like a deer,
   and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
   and streams in the desert;
7 the burning sand shall become a pool,
   and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
   the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

**Mark 7.24-end**

24 From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, 25but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. 26Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. 27He said to her, ‘Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.’ 28But she answered him, ‘Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.’ 29Then he said to her, ‘For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.’ 30So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

31 Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. 32They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. 33He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. 34Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, ‘Ephphatha’, that is, ‘Be opened.’ 35And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. 36Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. 37They were astounded beyond measure, saying, ‘He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.

**NOTICES:**

At the end of the service please place your service booklet in the box provided at the back of church and take this sheet home with you.

To comply with NHS Test & Trace we ask you to fill in the contact sheet and place this in a separate box at the back of church. Please do not fold the sheet. For the time enter the time of the service you are attending. If you are using the NHS app the QR code is displayed at the back of church and in the porch.

**PCC Meetings:**

St Peter’s – Monday 13th September 7.30pm

St Mary’s – Tuesday 14th September 7.30pm

**Forthcoming services:**

5th September Trinity 14

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary’s

11.00am Morning Prayer at St Peter’s

1.30pm Baptism of Matilda Gerrard at St Mary’s

3.00pm Installation of the Bishops of Birkenhead & Stockport at Chester Cathedral

12th September Trinity 15

9.30am Holy Communion at St Mary’s

11.00am Holy Communion at St Peter’s

19th September Trinity 16

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary’s

11.00am Holy Communion at St Peter’s

26th September Trinity 17

9.30am Holy Communion at St Mary’s

11.00am Morning Prayer at St Peter’s

**Pastoral Visiting**

To enable us to work in a safer way and use travel distance more economically the clergy will resume pastoral visiting by prior arrangement.

Travelling from house to house is not the best way to protect people’s health and many calls are to homes where people are out.

If you would like a member of the clergy to visit please contact the Vicar. Home Communions will resume from September onwards by prior arrangement.

**For your Prayers**

Baptism

 Matilda Gerrard

Weddings

 Timothy Wheeldon & Claire Ruddiforth

 Thomas Keene & Alice Grove

Departed

 Gillian Bennett

 Jean Astley