

The United Benefice of Shere, Albury & Chilworth



Morning Prayer 6th September The 13th Sunday after Trinity

Opening Responses

(c) Thom M. Shuman

May the God of the lost be with you.

And also with you.

People of God, lift up your hearts to the
One who searches for you.

We lift them to our God,
who does not give up on us,
but rescues us when we have wandered
away,
Thanks be to God!

Opening prayer

The night has passed, and the day lies open
before us;

let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you; now
and for ever. **All: Amen.**

Hymn

The Church's One Foundation

The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the Word:
from heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with ev'ry grace endued.

6 Yet she on earth hath union
with the God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

Confession

All say together: Great Shepherd, we
come to you today recognizing that,
like lost sheep, we have gone astray.
You have given us your word and
called us to live by your
commandments. Yet, seeking greener
pastures, we have squandered the
riches you have given us and lived
lives focused on ourselves. We have
failed to see the needs of others and
refused to offer forgiveness to those
who have wronged us. Remind us, O
God, of the gift of your Son. Empower
us with your grace, and call us to
rejoice as sheep who have been
returned to your fold. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Reading: Matthew 18:10-14

At end of reading:

This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon

Statement of Faith

Lord, You have always given
Bread for the coming day,
and though I am poor,

All: Today I believe

Lord, You have always given
strength for the coming day
And though I am weak,

All: Today I believe

Lord, You have always given
Peace for the coming day,
and though I am of anxious heart,

All: Today I believe

Lord, You have always kept
Me safe in trials,
And now, tried as I am,

All: Today I believe

Lord, You have always marked
The road for the coming day
And though it may be hidden,

All: Today I believe

Lord, You have always lightened
This darkness of mine,
And though the night is here,

All: Today I believe

Lord, You have always spoken
When time was ripe,
And though You be silent now,

ALL: Today I believe

*From the Celtic Daily Prayer:
A Northumbrian Office 1994*

Hymn Who would true valour see

Who would true valour see
Let him come hither

One here will constant be
Come wind, come weather
There's no discouragement
Shall make him once relent

His first avowed intent to be a pilgrim

Whoso beset him 'round
With dismal stories

Who but themselves confound
His strength the more is
No lion can him fright
He'll with a giant fight

But he will have a right to be a pilgrim.

No goblin nor foul fiend
Can daunt his spirit
He knows he at the end
Shall life inherit
Then fancies flee away
He'll fear not what men say
He'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim

Prayers

Intercessions

The response to:

'Lord open us to your prompting'
Is; **'Help us search for the lost'**

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God our Holy Shepherd, you are the hope of those who are lost, and joy of those who are found; please give us the will to utterly trust you. Save us from believing that we always know best, and call us back from those down-hill paths that lead to confusion and desolation. Bring us at last, with all your people, into that fold where nothing can ever be lost again. Through Christ Jesus our Saviour.

All: Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven...

Blessing & Dismissal

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We have been found by our God,
so now we will go to search for those forgotten by the world.

We have been welcomed by Jesus,
so now we will go to embrace the ones that people reject.

We have been gathered as a community
by the Spirit,

so now we will go to be a family for the people who long for hope.

....and the blessing of God Almighty
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you
all, evermore, **Amen**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

All: In the name of Christ, Amen