

Welcome to Bowthorpe Church



**Bowthorpe
Church**

NOTICES

See Mark's July letter

Quiz night: Tuesday 13th July at 7.30pm
via Zoom.

Wednesday Communion reverts back to
10am

NOTICES

Next Sunday, 18th July, Vicky and John Dyson are bringing their son Jack for a service of thanksgiving.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord God has told us what is right and what he demands: 'See that justice is done, let mercy be your first concern, and humbly obey your God.'

Hosea 6:8 (CEV)

SONG: Just as I am

<https://youtu.be/wrNfaqZa8PI>

OPENING PRAYER

Father, we pray that you would light a spark of true forgiveness and mercy in our hearts towards all those that have harmed or hurt us, whether deliberately or unintentionally, knowing that it is not only your will for us to show godly mercy towards

others but also that we become equal beneficiaries when our hearts are flooded with mercy and forgiveness. Root out we pray, any lingering bitterness or malice that is lurking within our hearts and may the godly fruit of mercy and love bud and

blossom into the true fruit of
righteousness, to your honour and
glory. This we ask in the name of
Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Father God, you take our confession, offered with hands outstretched, and gently, like the loving heavenly Father that you are, put it to one side to be forgotten. No grudges, no itching for judgement, no resentment or ill-will.

Not like us, who find it so easy to say sorry but so hard to forgive absolutely.

Let us say together a prayer for forgiveness.

Forgive us, Father, that we are often more willing to accept forgiveness than to forgive; more willing to accept your love, than to share it with those who have hurt us. Teach us to forgive, as you forgive us; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Merciful Lord, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Abundant God, we offer you these gifts in gratitude for your steadfast guidance in our lives. We pray that these resources will provide ministries to the suffering, food to the hungry, hope to the poor,

and a spiritual presence to the
needy. In the name of the one
who suffered for our sake, Jesus
Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

**Over the mountains and the sea
Your river runs with love for me
And I will open up my heart
And let the Healer set me free
I'm happy to be in the truth
And I will daily lift my hands
For I will always sing
Of when Your love came down.**

I could sing of Your love forever

**Over the mountains and the sea
Your river runs with love for me
And I will open up my heart
And let the Healer set me free
I'm happy to be in the truth
And I will daily lift my hands
For I will always sing
Of when Your love came down.**

I could sing of Your love forever

Oh I feel like dancing

It's foolishness I know

**But when the world has seen the
light**

**They will dance with joy like
we're dancing now.**

Oh I feel like dancing

It's foolishness I know

**But when the world has seen the
light**

**They will dance with joy like
we're dancing now.**

I could sing of Your love forever

READING: Matthew 5:1-7

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him,² and he began to teach them. He said:

³ 'Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and
thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SERMON: A BETTER LIFE (5)

True Godliness



Blessed are the Merciful



Matthew 5:7

**All my days I will sing this song of
gladness, give my praise to the
Fountain of delights;
For in my helplessness You heard my
cry, and waves of mercy poured down
on my life.**

**I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer,
I will sing of the blood that never fails;
Of sins forgiven, of conscience
cleansed,
Of death defeated and life without
end.**

**Beautiful Saviour, Wonderful Counsellor,
Clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life.
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the Risen One, heaven's
Champion
And You reign, You reign over all.**

**I long to be where the praise is never-
ending,
Yearn to dwell where the glory never
fades;
Where countless worshippers will share
one song,
And cries of 'worthy' will honour the
Lamb!**

**Beautiful Saviour, Wonderful Counsellor,
Clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life.
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the Risen One, heaven's
Champion
And You reign, You reign over all.**

**Beautiful Saviour, Wonderful Counsellor,
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Champion
And You reign, You reign over all.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son, our Saviour
Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence as our
Saviour has taught us.

**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.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord
our God.

**It is right to give thanks and
praise.**

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give You thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ the King of glory.

Born of a woman, He came to the rescue of our human race. Dying for us, He trampled death and conquered sin. By the glory of His resurrection He opened the way to life eternal and by His ascension, gave us the sure hope that where He is we may also be.

Therefore the universe resounds with joy and with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your
glory,
hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, send your Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break may be for us the Body of Christ, and the cup we share may be for us the Blood of Christ.

May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you, and be welcome at your eternal feast where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Every time we eat this bread and drink
this cup,
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he
comes.**

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, and after he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them saying,

“This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup and gave it to them saying, “This cup is the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.”

RECEIVING OF COMMUNION

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

Jesus Christ is holy,

Jesus Christ is Lord,

To the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**The Body of Christ keep you in eternal
life.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Lord, we have broken your bread
and received your life.**

**By the power of your Spirit
keep us always in your love
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

SONG: Mercy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vcps>

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CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

May God the Father prepare your
journey,

Jesus the Son guide your footsteps,
the Spirit of Life strengthen your body,

the Three in One watch over you,
on every road that you may follow.

Amen.

And now may the blessing of God
Almighty, Father Son and Holy Spirit,
be with us and all those we love, all
those we care for, and all those we
pray for, this day and ever more.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.

Amen.

Thank you for coming to
Bowthorpe Church today.

We hope to see you again soon.

