

Sunday 27th September 2026
The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Ian Taylor, A.C.I.B.S., B.D., Th.M., Dip. P.S.R.P.
Musical Director: Mr. Alan A. Craig, M.B.E., B.Mus., P.G.C.E.

Welcome & Intimations

- Please ensure all mobile phones are switched off or in silent mode during the Service.
- Please place your offering in the Offering Plates as these are uplifted during the Service.
- **Tea and Coffee** will be available after Church today in the **Cameron Hall**.
- **Tickets (£5) for the Guild Coffee morning on Saturday 24th October 2026 are on sale today, and then again on Sundays 11th & 18th October 2026.**
- There will be a **Vestry Hour at 10am Wednesday 30th September 2026**, followed by our midweek Service at 11.10am.
- **Next Sunday (4th October)** we will celebrate the **Sacrament of Holy Communion**. There will be a **Retiring Collection** in aid of the **Kirk Session Benevolent Fund**.
- The **Kirk Session** will meet on **Tuesday 6th October 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Cambridge Chapel**.

Introit

Call to Worship

Hymn 608 Spirit of truth and grace,

- 1 Spirit of truth and grace,
come to us in this place
as now in Jesus' name God's people gather.
Open our eyes to see
truths that will ever be,
and in communion draw us close together.

- 2 Spirit of joy and peace,
make all anxieties cease
with knowledge of the Father's perfect caring.
Then may God's children know
love that won't let us go
and joy that fills each day, beyond comparing.

- 3 Spirit of life and power,
revive us in this hour
and stir our hearts to praise with true devotion.
Fill us with heavenly fire,
and every heart inspire,
that we may serve the world with your compassion.

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Call to Prayer

Prayers of Approach and Confession

Children's Address

Hymn 174 God of great and God of small,

- 1 God of great and God of small,
God of one and God of all,
God of weak and God of strong,
God to whom all things belong,
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.
- 2 God of land and sky and sea,
God of life and destiny,
God of never-ending power,
yet beside me every hour,
- 3 God of silence, God of sound,
God by whom the lost are found,
God of day and darkest night,
God whose love turns wrong to right,
- 4 God of heaven and God of earth,
God of death and God of birth,
God of now and days before,
God who reigns for evermore,

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Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' ³ But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' ⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' ⁵ The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah^[a] and Meribah,^[b] because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was^[a] in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Anthem

St. Matthew 21:23-32

²³ When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father^[a] went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Hymn 50 The praises of the Lord our God, (Psalm 78)

- 1 The praises of the Lord our God,
 And his almighty strength,
 The wondrous works that he has done,
 We will show forth at length.
- 2 His testimony and his law
 In Israel he did place,
 And charged our forebears it to show
 To their succeeding race;
- 3 So that the race which was to come
 Might learn and know them well;
 And generations yet unborn
 Might their own children tell:
- 4 That they might set their hope in God,
 And not forget his ways
 but hold in mind his mighty works,
 and keep his laws always.

Anonymous, *Psalm 78* verses 4(b)-7 Used By Permission. Created by HymnQuest.com - HymnQuest ID: 62090

Sermon

The Offering (& Sung Doxology: Hymn 807)

Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. **AMEN.**

Hymn 702 Lord in love and perfect wisdom

- 1 Lord, in love and perfect wisdom
times and seasons you arrange,
working out your changeless purpose
in a world of ceaseless change;
you have formed our ancient nation,
guiding it through all the days,
to unfold in it your purpose
to your glory and your praise.
- 2 To our shores remote, benighted,
barrier of the western waves,
tidings in your love you sent us,
tidings of the cross that saves.
Saints and heroes strove and suffered
here your gospel to proclaim;
we the heirs of their endeavour,
tell the honour of their name.
- 3 You maintain your ageless purpose
every change and chance above;
still your holy Church is bearing
witness to your changeless love.
Grant us vision, Lord, and courage
to fulfil your work begun;
in the Church and in the nation,
King of kings, your will be done.

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Benediction

Choral Amen