



CHURCH OF CHRIST THE CORNERSTONE  
*Milton Keynes*

# TRINITY VI



# HOLY COMMUNION

*Sunday 16 July 2023 • 10.00am*

---

**LIVE STREAMED FROM THE CHURCH**

**LIVING  
STONES**  
*Oasis of*  
**HOPE**



PLEASE TURN  
OFF YOUR  
MOBILE PHONE

*Gathering music*

## WELCOME

—Revd Ernesto Lozada-Uzuriaga

As we come before you, Lord God, we prepare ourselves to receive your Word. May we be fertile soil for you, the mighty sower, ever casting your seed where it might take root. We seek to rid our souls of stones and thorns and all that hinders or chokes growth; may we dig deep, and be open and nurturing to receive your message to us today.

*Silence*

Welcome to the house of God  
**We have come from all the corners of the earth.**

Welcome to the hospitality of God  
**We come as we are; we bring, our life, our stories, our journey.**

Welcome brothers and sisters  
**We are the rainbow people of God**

Welcome chosen people  
**May God our companion bind us in his love. Amen.**

## HYMN

—Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty  
# 259 CHE

## A PRAYER OF APPROACH

Heavenly Father, you are a generous, loving God. Show us your work, reveal your character, and shape our lives that we might follow your pattern and share in your work. **Amen.**

## CONFESSION

Lord, we confess we are slow to tend the soil of our souls.

**Help us to prepare ourselves as we would prepare our gardens for planting.**

Let us contemplate the rocks that hinder growth.

**We gather them and cast them out, digging deep for fertile soil.**

Let us consider the thorns that choke new growth.

**We root out all the things that smother God's Word in us.**

Like soil turned over and ready to receive, we have confessed our shortcomings and await the sowing of your seed.

**We turn to you in penitence and expectation.**

*Silence*

We thank you, God, that we can turn ourselves around at any time; like bad soil made good by turning it over and tending, we can be ready to receive you. You forgive us and return to us in your constant striding of creation, ever casting widely, sowing your seed. We wait to see what will happen when we have tasted your forgiveness and the grace of your wild wisdom, a super bloom of surprise. **Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

God, you are the mighty sower, the good gardener, life-giving, constant in creation. Christ, you are the face of the Father, casting wisdom across the ages, your arm outstretched to sow. Holy Spirit, you are the wind that carries the seed and causes the fruit to flourish. Trinity of creation and salvation, we worship and adore you. **Amen.**

## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

—Romans 8: 5-9

### GOSPEL READING

—Matthew 13: 1-15

## MEDITATION

—Rev Ernesto Lozada-Uzuriaga

Silence

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in the Creator  
**The maker of all things**

We believe in the Son  
**The redeemer of our broken world**

We believe in the Spirit  
**The sacred wind that binds all things together in the family of God**

Creator Father, beloved Son and living Spirit. **Amen.**

## PRAYERS & INTERCESSIONS

### THE PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then the disciples were they glad when they saw the risen Lord.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

### HYMN

—Lord of Hopefulness # 386 CHE

## THE THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

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.**

Almighty God, good Father to us all, your face is turned towards your world. In love you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin and death. Your Word goes out to call us home to the city where angels sing your praise. We join with them in heaven's song:

**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.**

We bless the name of Jesus, bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh whose brokenness and suffering makes love real, who on the night in which he was betrayed took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, Take, eat. This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper he took the cup saying, drink from this, all of you, this is my blood given for you. Do this whenever you drink it in remembrance of me.

This is the mystery of our faith. [said]

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

Therefore, as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we acknowledge brokenness as a path to truth. We long for the bread of tomorrow: eternally broken and so able to nourish. We long for the new wine of the kingdom: continuously poured out that thirst may be quenched.

Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire.

May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power Be yours forever and ever. Amen.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER [said]

**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 forever. Amen.**

### THE COMMUNION

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

**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread. Amen.**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your spirit to give ourselves for others. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### NOTICES & OFFERING

#### Hymn

—Love Divine # 398 CHE

#### BLESSING

God grant to the living grace, to the departed rest, to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth and all people, unity, peace, and concord, and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Go in peace to love and served the Lord  
**In the name of Christ.**  
**Amen**