

Service Sheet for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost: 19 July 2026

Opening Hymn: ["Praise to the living God", Hymnal #372](#)

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading: Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19

There is no god besides you, whose care is for all people, to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly; for your strength is the source of righteousness, and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all. For you show your strength when people doubt the completeness of your power, and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it. Although you are sovereign in strength, you judge with mildness, and with great forbearance you govern us; for you have power to act whenever you choose. Through such works you have taught your people that the righteous must be kind, and you have filled your children with good hope, because you give repentance for sins.

Psalm 86:11-17 *Inclina, Domine*

- 11 Teach me your way, O Lord,
and I will walk in your truth; *
knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.
- 12 I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, *
and glorify your Name for evermore.
- 13 For great is your love toward me; *
you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.
- 14 The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a band of violent men seeks my life; *
they have not set you before their eyes.
- 15 But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.

17 Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; *
because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit*
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever! *Amen.*

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Gradual Hymn: ["The Lord will come and not be slow", Hymnal #462](#)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew (13:24-30,36-43)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ!

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the

weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

People Praise to you, Lord Christ!

Sermon Rev. Solomon Ezeiruaku

Closing Hymn: ["Come with us, O blessed Jesus", Hymnal #336](#)

Acknowledgments

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Text sources: The Book of Common Prayer, The Book of Occasional Services, Enriching our Worship, Common Worship (Church of England), The Hymnal 1982. Bible texts from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

This week at a glance

WEDNESDAY	11.00 am. Word & Worship (Zoom)
FRIDAY	8.30 pm. Compline (Zoom)
SATURDAY	11.00 am - 2.00 pm. Book Sale, Nearly New and Kaffeeklatsch 2.30 pm. Forum: "Faith in a Secular Society" with The Very Revd Professor Martyn Percy
SUNDAY	10.00 am. Holy Eucharist (no Sunday School)

Flowers:

Today's flowers were donated by her family in remembrance of Dorothea Payne for her birthday on 19 July: "Your memory is a cherished treasure we hold close to our hearts."

We welcome your flower dedications. Envelopes are available in the entrance area for your gift and dedication.

Sunday School and Creche

Are on summer break. Our creche/nursery will resume Sunday 23 August and Sunday School on Sunday 6 September.

Upcoming Events

- Tuesday 28 July, 6.00 pm. Berkshire Youth Choir
- Saturday, 1 August, 7.00 pm. The Loreleys
- Wednesday 19 August, 1.00 pm. Lunchtime Recital with Erika LeRoux
- Wednesday 26 August, 3.00 pm. Wise & Wonderful Circle (Undercroft)
- Sunday 30 August, 12 noon Church Picnic
- Friday 4 September, 6 – 10.00 pm. Night of the Churches

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Licenced Priest: The Rev. Solomon Ezeiruaku

Licenced Lay Preachers: Dr. Linda Bredvik, Dorothee Dziejewas and Audrey Shankles

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