

**Tuesday 6 September 2022**

# Allen Gardiner



Allen Francis Gardiner was born in 1794, to wealthy parents in Oxfordshire. He became an officer in the Royal Navy and had a distinguished career. After the end of the Napoleonic wars, he returned as an invalid in 1822.

Perhaps as a result of his naval adventures, he had long considered becoming a missionary first in Africa among the Zulu, then among the indigenous peoples of Chile (1838–1843). During this time, he founded the *South American Missionary Society*, SAMS.

A later expedition to the Falkland Islands failed, and all the expedition starved to death. Gardiner was the last survivor and probably died on this day in 1851.

**Sermon** © The Revd Denise Owen.

**Liturgy** © 2000 The Archbishops' Council.

**Bible readings** © the publishers of the NRSV translation.

**Prayers of intercession** © Catholic Church in the United States.

The liturgy assumes the service is Eucharistic.

The prayers of consecration appear at the end.

All the hymns are hosted on YouTube. Please click on the links to hear them.

To see service transcripts from previous weeks, please visit the page,  
<http://www.medlockhead.co.uk/resources/index.htm>

## Introduction and welcome

**HYMN 1 O Jesus I have promised** (please click on this link to hear the hymn)

**HYMN 1 O Jesus I have promised** (different version)

**HYMN 1 O Jesus I have promised** (instrumental version)

## The Welcome

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

**All Amen.**

The Lord be with you

**All And also with you.**

## The Preparation

**All Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,

with all your soul, with all your mind,

and with all your strength.’

And the second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**All Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus said to the apostles, ‘Go and make disciples of all the nations.’

Conscious of our failure to obey his commands,

let us call to mind our sins.

**All** Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** Amen.

## **The Gloria**

This Gloria is sung to the tune of 'Cwm Rhondda'. Click [here](#) for the tune.

**All** Glory be to God in Heaven,  
Songs of joy and peace we bring,  
Thankful hearts and voices raising,  
To creation's Lord we sing.  
Lord we thank you, Lord we praise you,  
Glory be to God our King:  
Glory be to God our King.

Lamb of God, who on our shoulders,  
Bore the load of this world's sin;  
Only Son of God the Father,  
You have brought us peace within.  
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy,  
Now your glorious reign begin:  
Now your glorious reign begin.

**You O Son of God are Holy,  
You we praise with one accord.  
None in heav'n or earth is like you,  
Only you are Christ the Lord.  
With the Father and the Spirit,  
Ever worshipped and adored:  
Ever worshipped and adored.**

### **The Collect for Allen Gardiner**

Everlasting God,  
whose servant Allen Gardiner carried the good news of your Son  
to the people of South America  
grant that we who commemorate his service  
may know the hope of the gospel in our hearts  
and manifest its light in all our ways;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

### **First reading**

A reading from the First Book of Samuel

Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.' Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the Lord establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. *1 Samuel 1:21-25*

This is the Word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God.**

## Second reading

A reading from St Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

When any of you has a grievance against another, do you dare to take it to court before the unrighteous, instead of taking it before the saints? Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? Do you not know that we are to judge angels—to say nothing of ordinary matters? If you have ordinary cases, then, do you appoint as judges those who have no standing in the church? I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to decide between one believer and another, but a believer goes to court against a believer—and before unbelievers at that?

In fact, to have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded? But you yourselves wrong and defraud—and believers at that.

Do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived! Fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, male prostitutes, sodomites, thieves, the greedy, drunkards, revilers, robbers—none of these will inherit the kingdom of God. And this is what some of you used to be. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God. *1 Corinthians 6:1–11*

This is the Word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN 2 Come down O Love divine  
Come down O Love divine**

[\(click on this link to hear the hymn\)](#)  
[\(alto saxophone-led version\)](#)

## Gospel reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**All Glory to you O Lord.**

During those days, [Jesus] went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

*Luke 6:12-19*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All Praise to you O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

There used to be a phrase, perhaps some people still use it, 'in the mission field'. Such and such a person or family, is 'in the mission field'. This is exactly what we are remembering Allen Gardiner for today, people who left hearth and home and went to other countries and peoples, to preach the gospel. They were and are fulfilling the Great Commission found at the end of Matthew's gospel 'Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.' It was felt that anyone who died unbaptised and unconverted was in danger of their immortal soul, therefore persuading non-Christians of the truth of the gospel was imperative. This is what encouraged Allen Gardiner to South Africa and South America, like many others at the time, his efforts to convert the peoples living in these places were unsuccessful in his lifetime.

But, this may make us question what 'success' looks like, because although he himself saw no obvious fruit of his missions, the organisation he founded the *South American Mission Society* or SAMS is still active and still working among the people of South America. The small seed Allen Gardiner planted is flourishing and there are still people 'in the mission field' continuing his work.

We may these days be more wary of emphasising the conversion of non-Christians above other elements of mission but the Christian imperative to work with the poor and marginalised remains the same. And did you notice what you've just read? The poor and marginalised. We know that across the world millions, if not, hundreds of millions of people are living in extreme poverty, trying to exist on less than two dollars a day. Yet, we also know that there are increasing numbers of people in this country who are slipping into poverty; children who go to bed hungry, families and the elderly worried about heating their home, people who can't afford to rent or buy a decent place to live and so become homeless. The

missionaries of today don't need to go very far at all to find 'a mission field', because the 'mission field' is all around us.

People like Allen Gardiner can be inspirations to us, they can even, perhaps, be called heroes of the faith, but the work he did in remote places is needed just as much in our own towns, cities, and streets. The work of evangelization is as necessary to day as it ever was. Faith in Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour is on the decline in this country, in fact some countries now send missionaries to the UK to teach and persuade, but as important as conversion is serving.

Allen Gardiner's organisation SAMS now provides services for those who can't afford them for themselves, and in this way demonstrates the love of God practically as well as speaking of the love of God to those who need to hear of it. We are also called to this kind of mission. Our 'mission field' is most probably to those around us. The principle is the same, it's just the place that's different.

There are, I'm sure, plenty of people we could attempt to 'convert', or more helpfully put, speak to about the love of God. Friends, neighbours, work colleagues? There are, definitely, many people in our communities who are in need of what we would once have called Christian charity. The local foodbank? A local charity trying to help the homeless or struggling families? How far are we prepared to go to help? Are we ourselves prepared to sacrifice a simple comfort or treat in order to help by donating the money it would have cost? Again, consider the sacrifice those missionaries of the past who left home for years on end with a real prospect of dying in the process.

The idea of our own particular and personal mission is for us to take to God in prayer, but we should absolutely believe and know that we have a mission in the world, we have a field in which God is asking us to work. We have people to speak to and people we can help. This is the essence of missionary work, in that as I've said, we are no different from Allen Gardiner, less glamorous and less exotic, but equally important.

The last thing I want to say is that Allen Gardiner didn't settle and become comfortable. He moved from South Africa to South American looking for new opportunities. We should look to do the same. God calls God's people onward into new pastures, into new insights and new visions for mission and service. Getting too comfortable in our service to others, or our hope to share the gospel is never helpful. With missionaries like Allen Gardiner, we should be on the look out for the next opportunity, the next person the next act of charity.

Amen.



## The Creed

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
the source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**All We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**All We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**All We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

## Prayers of intercession

For a personal encounter with Jesus Christ, who is alive in the Church, that the Holy Spirit will guide our catechetical formation for mission, and that our love for the Church's mission, which is a passion for Jesus and a passion for His people 'grow ever stronger,' let us pray to the Lord.

For all missionaries and martyrs who give their lives to tell the glory of the Lord among the nations, especially martyred Allen Gardiner, a voice for the indigenous peoples of the America and a faithful servant of the Gospel, that they may be loving, wise and holy witnesses of Christ, our Saviour.

Let us pray to the Lord.

For the leaders of nations, that they may be committed to justice for all peoples—especially indigenous peoples and those persecuted for their faith, that our leaders may also be dedicated to preserving our common home and building a world at peace. Let us pray to the Lord.



For an increase in missionary charity, that our spiritual and financial sacrifices may help the message and love of our Lord be made known to the ends of the earth. Let us pray to the Lord.

For those who are ill or who live in spiritual loneliness, that they may unite their sufferings with the Crucified Christ for the redemption of the world. Let us pray to the Lord.

Merciful Father,

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

## The peace

We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God, through Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace to those who were far off and those who were near.

The peace of the Lord be always with you,  
**All** And also with you.

**HYMN 3** [Go forth and tell!](#) (please click on this link to hear the hymn)

The liturgy of the Communion Service appears below

## The Dismissal

May God, whose glory is reflected in the lives of his saints, pour upon you the riches of his grace, and equip you and strengthen you to proclaim his word. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**All** Amen.

**HYMN 4** [We have a gospel to proclaim](#) (click on this link to hear the hymn)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All** In the name of Christ. Amen.

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### Eucharistic Prayer (prayer E)

The Lord be with you

**All and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christ has never ceased to call disciples;  
he sends them to bring salvation to the nations  
by the light of the gospel.

For this work your servant Allen Gardiner was set apart by the Spirit;  
in faith and obedience he went to peoples far away.

You called him to be all things to everyone  
as a minister of your word,  
so that in your sight the nations might become  
a holy sacrifice, acceptable to you.  
And so we join with all your saints  
to sing of your great glory  
in this their joyful hymn of praise:

**All 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 praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with Allen Gardiner and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

**All Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All 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.**

## Breaking of the Bread

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

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

**All Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

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.

**All** We do not presume  
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy  
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.  
But you are the same Lord  
whose nature is always to have mercy.  
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him,  
and he in us. Amen.

Communion is distributed.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Holy Father,  
who gathered us here around the table of your Son  
to share this meal with the whole household of God:  
in that new world where you reveal  
the fullness of your peace,  
gather people of every race and language  
to share with Allen Gardiner and all your saints  
in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** Amen

**All** Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work  
to your praise and glory.  
Amen.