



St Anne with Holy Trinity,

Readings and Notice Sheet 7th Sunday after Trinity 26th July 2020

**We meet in the name of God who is
(+) Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

The Collect

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Our first reading today is from the first book of Kings. "Ask me, what would you like me to give you?" Solomon is at the crucial beginnings of his kingship when God poses this generous question. The divine question is particularly meaningful when considering the circumstances regarding the royal succession from his father David. Solomon was not the heir apparent to the throne.

1 Kings 3:5-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?'

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.'

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Our Second reading

This week we continue our readings from the letter to the Romans. This reading includes some of the most familiar and comforting words we have from the apostle Paul. Nearly every sentence is a new way of stating the promise that God has not abandoned "us," and is in fact working—across the past, present, and future—on our behalf. (While the first person plural verbs originally referred to Paul and those he calls "brothers and sisters" in 8:12, succeeding generations of Christians have of course understood themselves, also, to be directly addressed by the words.)

Romans 8:26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Gospel reading is Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52. Today we hear more parables. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us how something so small that it is invisible to the eye can grow rapidly and exponentially into a destructive force that consumes all our attention and resources, as individuals, communities, nations, and as a world. The passage for this lection offers a counter-image to this destructive force. The parables describe how the kin(g)dom of heaven emerges from something almost invisible to the eye and grows exponentially, offering us sustenance, a treasure worthy of all our attention and resources.

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

This is the Gospel of our Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

After you have read today's readings you may like to spend some time reflecting on what God is saying to you!

Intercessions

We come with our prayers for all the world, for our community and for those who are on our hearts at this time.

Holy God,

who reminds us that from a tiny seed, a large tree grows.

Unite our voices in your love and hope as we

pray for your Church, that it might share your healing throughout the world.

We pray that as we prepare to return to our churches for worship

we will be focused on you, the one to be worshiped and not on ourselves.

We prayer especially for Bishop's Sarah and Pete

and all who offer leadership in these challenging times

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Gracious God, invites us to flourish.

We pray for the world, created by your love,

for its nations and governments especially those struggling with injustice and conflict; and all who are working to overcome the Pandemic.

We remember all who face discrimination and exclusion each day,

may we truly see each other as made in your image.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Holy God, who encourages us to grow.

We pray for all who are in need at this time.

For those who struggle with pain and grief;

for the lonely, the bereaved, the sick and the dying.

For all who are fearful at this time.
Breathe on all the breath of life and bring them your mercy and grace.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer

We pray for those who are on our hearts and minds, and those who have asked for our prayers. Amongst them we remember before you Helen, Yvonne, Rute, Patience, Ron, Evelyn, Linda, Richard, John, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth. We pray for all who are in need of your love and grace.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer

God who at the last welcomes us into your eternal Kingdom. We give thanks for your promise as we pray for all who have died including Chief Mrs Modupe Dosumu and those whose anniversaries fall at this time including David O'Hagan, Emily Skears, Ivy Catlin and Arthur Templer.

Bring us all to the promise of your eternal love and peace.
Rest Eternal Grant unto them O Lord
And let light perpetual shine upon them
May they rest in peace
And rise in glory

Gracious God, in this time of stillness we bring our own prayers before you...

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

Post Communion Prayer

While there is no Eucharist at present, the post communion prayer sums up many of the themes in the readings of the day.

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may live:
may we so receive within ourselves
the power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup,
we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Notices

The Rev'd Natasha Woodward will be licensed as the Interim Minister at Christ Church. At 8pm on the 2nd September.

***When you come to church remember to stay close to God
and a safe distance from each other!***



Closure Service for St Andrew's and LIFC

A huge thank you to all who assisted with our special service last Sunday to mark the closure of St Andrew's URC and the London Inter Faith Centre. Your assistance was very much appreciated.

Prayer windows

The prayer windows are coming along nicely—thanks to those who have already contributed prayers. You are invited to continue to contribute prayers which might be displayed to show that the church is still at work. Hand written prayers of postcard size would be great. Feel free to decorate if you would like, or cut into a shape. Some are already in the shape of candles and flowers. Prayers can be left through letter box of the church or vicarage and we will attach to windows. If you would rather, you can email you prayer requests to Mo C, and she will ensure they make it to the window.



Joint Service with Christ Church to mark St Lawrence's Day

On Sunday 9th August our service will be at **Christ Church at 10am** when we will join with them to mark St Lawrence's Day. This will be a chance for us to worship together. If you would like to bring a picnic to have after the service, while we cannot share food or drink, we can each our picnics in each others presence!

Congregational Giving

It might be strange to talk about giving at a time when the church building is physically closed, but like all organisations and families the financial commitments of the church continue. Thank you to all who give by Standing Order, some others may like to consider electronic payments while we are unable to meet in church. If you need details please let us know and we can forward them to you. For those who have envelopes, you may like to put them through Vicarage door and she will pass them to Treasurer. Please do not put money through church door.

Daily Hope 24hour phonline

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

Clothes Donations!

Many of us have used the lockdown to clear out cupboards, but this is now placing a great deal of stress on the charity sector. At present many local charity shops have more than they can handle, and Laurence's Larder storage is over flowing. If you are able to store clothes till they are needed that is really helpful, if not please search online for shops that are not at capacity! Please do not just leave clothes either out Christ Church or local shops—this creates a great deal of work for volunteers– and encourages foxes!

Keeping in Touch

You can phone Mo C—020 7624 5306 or email her at motherchristinenw6@gmail.com



For our prayers Helen, Yvonne, Rute, Patience, Ron, Evelyn, Linda, Richard, John, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth and for those who have died recently including Chief Mrs Modupe Dosumu and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including David O'Hagan, Emily Skears, Ivy Catlin and Arthur Templer

*As we return to church, we are now asked to wear a mask and to keep a safe distance. You will be asked to wash your hands, or use hand sanitiser as you arrive! The Priest will do the same! But we do ask that you maintain a safe distance and follow the guidance of the stewards. **Stay close to God and a safe distance from everyone else!***

Services this coming week starting 26th July

Tuesday 28th July 8.30am Morning Prayer at St Anne's (Max 3 people) - also on **Zoom**.

Wednesday 29th July —7pm Evening Prayer on **Zoom**.

Thursday 30th July - 8.30am Morning Prayer at St Anne's (Max 3 people) - also on **Zoom**.

Sunday 2nd August — 9 am Facebook -*thought for the Day*

10am Eucharist at St Anne's

5pm Zoom Service

THE BALLOON

WAYS TO RETRIEVE IT FROM THE RAFTERS

