



St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Readings and Notice Sheet **Sunday 30th August 2020** **12th Sunday after Trinity**

**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

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

These verses come in the middle of the poetic material commonly called Jeremiah's "laments" or "confessions." The timeframe is the late seventh and sixth centuries BCE. These are the years on either side of the destruction of the kingdom of Judah by Nebuchadnezzar. When Jerusalem was destroyed, many of the people were deported to Babylonia. Those not taken into exile were subjected to imperial rule in the homeland. Jeremiah had struggled, before this destruction, to warn the people about the consequences of their complicity in a sinful society. On the one hand, God's judgment in allowing the Babylonians to destroy the kingdom is attributed to the people's failure to worship the LORD alone; too often, they put their trust in earthly power and material things. On the other, the prophets clearly state that the people also betrayed the LORD through acts of violence and injustice. Those who know and understand Israel's God know that the LORD delights in and acts with "steadfast love, justice, and righteousness" (Jeremiah 9:24). To worship this God means to act—as nearly as humanly possible—in a similar way.

First reading - Jeremiah 15: 15-21

O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation.

Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. Therefore, thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter

what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Our Second reading

Today we continue our readings from Romans. Like any other Pauline letter, Romans 12:9-21 focuses on the humanization of the gospel and the church. According to Paul, the gospel affirms all human beings and its preaching in the church must equip people to appreciate diversity in all its forms. Having cautioned Christian practitioners to be transformed and renewed in their minds, attitudes, and entire conscience, the Apostle Paul makes a clarion call around the essence of love, and summons readers of the letter to employ love as an instrument that opens the door of hospitality and faith.

Romans 12: 9-end

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Gospel reading is Matthew 16: 21– 28

As Matthew's narrative unfolds, the solid rock on which the church will stand malforms into a stumbling block that threatens to obstruct Jesus' mission. Just moments ago (in narrative time), as they walked in the region of Caesarea Philippi, Peter and the disciples pondered Jesus' question: "Who do you say that I am?" Not limiting himself to the options offered by "others," Peter proclaimed his answer: Jesus is the Messiah, the son of the living God. Peter got it right. But in the next instant, Peter gets it wrong. Wrong enough, Jesus suggests, for him to be in league with Satan. Jesus puts his life on the line ahead of all who follow him. Whether to the forsaken places of the wilderness or the centers of human might and authority, Jesus is there.

What does it look like to trust God in this context? How might the Messiah's presence enable today's disciples to follow "behind Jesus," even when the prospects are frightening or the personal costs are high?

Matthew 16: 21-end

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

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.

God at times it is hard for us to follow where you lead.
As we seek to follow your path, help us as we
pray for your Church, that it might continue to follow you.
Give us courage to be your people.

We pray especially for Bishop's Sarah and Pete
and all who offer leadership in these challenging times
Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

God you show us new ways to live
even when we think we have been following you.
Help us as 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 struggling in these extraordinary times.

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, you remind us of what is truly important.
Help us as 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.

Breathe on all the breath of life and bring them your mercy and grace.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

God who knows the secrets of our hearts. Help us as 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, 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 recently including Earlyn Edwards, Richard Simms and Eileen Dunford; and those whose anniversaries fall at this time including Philip Southwood, John Cairns and Beverley Ramsay.

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

The post communion prayer sums up many of the themes in the readings of the day.

God of all mercy,

in this Eucharist you have set aside our sins

and given us your healing:

grant that we who are made whole in Christ

may bring that healing to this broken world,

in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Notices

The Rev'd Natasha Woodward will be licensed as the Interim Minister at Christ Church this Wednesday the 2nd September at 8pm. This will be a ticketed event as only 30 people can be present. Only those who have been informed they have a ticket should come. The event will be streamed live on Facebook. You can view it here—<https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbrondesbury/live/> Please pray for Christ Church and for Natasha as they get to know each other in the coming weeks.

Moving Forward

This week marks another change for St Anne's. Once Mo. Natasha has been licensed, Mo Christine will no longer have responsibilities at Christ Church; though she will remain the Priest relating to Christ Church School. This week will also mark the time when we begin being a single parish, not in an ecumenical partnership and all that went with this. We have many things to discern as we listen for where God is leading us next. With this in mind from the 1st September we are going to 'revert to factory settings' - so to speak; or revert to some of our service patterns pre-pandemic. In the coming months we will consider things like service times and styles. We will have the freedom to explore options. One of the positive outcomes from being lockdown is that we have had to learn how to do things differently, and to be more flexible. I hope we can continue to embrace this attitude as we move forward.

What all this means in practice is that from **Sunday 5th September** we will return to a Sunday pattern of Morning Prayer at 8.30am; and **Eucharist with Sunday School at 9.30am**. We will continue to have a 'Thought for the Day' on Facebook on Sunday morning, as well as a Zoom Service most weeks at 5pm.

During the week we will have morning prayer at 8.30am on Tuesday and Thursday which will continue to be available on Zoom. We are also hoping to have the Sunday morning service uploaded on Youtube!

I ask that you are flexible with all of this as we learn what these things look like within the current guidance; and also what will work for us now and what God might be asking of us. We may also need to make more changes as the guidance adapts over time.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

We have planned to have our Annual Meeting in March; but it needed to be postponed due to the Pandemic. We now need to hold our APCM during September. This will take place on **Sunday 20th September** immediately after the service. It will take less than 1 hour. We will need to redo any nomination forms previously completed. We need people willing to be on the PCC, as well as Deanery Synod Representatives and Church Wardens. Forms are available. We are also revising the Electoral Roll, if you are not on it, please can you complete a form.

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.



For our prayers Helen, Yvonne, Rute, Patience, Ron, Evelyn, Linda, John, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth and for those who have died recently including Richard Simms, Earlyn Edwards and Eileen Dunford; and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Philip Southwood, John Cairns and Beverley Ramsay.

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

Services this coming week starting 30th August

Tuesday 1st September **8.30am** Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom

Wednesday 2nd September **8pm** Licensing of Rev'd Natasha at Christ Church (ticketed)
or you can watch on Youtube

Tuesday 3rd September **8.30am** Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom

Sunday 6th September

8.30am—Morning Prayer in the Chapel and on Zoom

9am—Thought for the Day on Facebook

9.30am—Eucharist with Sunday School and on Youtube

5pm Zoom Service for the day

*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!***



CHURCH MEETINGS ARE BRILLIANT