



St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Readings and Notice Sheet **Sunday 17th January 2021** **Second Sunday after Epiphany**

As we enter another national lockdown many of us will be worshipping at home. There are lots of options, but this service sheet provides prayers and readings for Sunday, alone with notices for the coming week.

The Collect

Eternal Lord,
our beginning and our end:
bring us with the whole creation
to your glory,
hidden through past ages
and made known
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading from the Book of Samuel

The story of the calling of Samuel is a familiar one. What is discussed less, however, is how the calling of Samuel signals tectonic shifts in Israelite society and religion, and inaugurates a period of prophetic critique of Israelite leaders. Samuel and Eli both witness God's removal of Eli's family from power and the transfer of that power to Samuel.

The spiritual context of this passage is immediately clear in Scripture: "The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread" (1 Samuel 3:1). The Israelites are no longer witnessing God lead them, and they no longer hear God's laws or prophecies. The blame for that, at least in 1 Samuel, is largely laid at the feet of one man: Eli the priest.



Samuel was called by God and served in the temple from childhood. He was the last of the Judges.

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said,

“Here I am!” and ran to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Our Second reading from the first letter to the Corinthians

Throughout 1 Corinthians, the Apostle Paul encourages the Corinthian congregation toward unity, urging them to “be united in the same mind and same purpose” (1:10). Likewise, while Paul recognizes the different giftings of the members of the congregation, he uses the metaphor of a body to capture both the distinctives of individual members alongside the fundamental unity that they share in Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-31). Here in 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, Paul takes another approach to the unified body metaphor by instructing the Corinthians about how their individual actions may be negatively affecting the whole of the congregation.

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your

own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel is today taken from John

Having just invited Andrew and Peter to go to Galilee with him, Jesus “found” Philip. “I once was lost, but now am found.” Interesting to ponder the way the mobile God finds people who are not particularly on the hunt for God. And then Philip “found” Nathanael. One of the ways God finds people is through God’s people—although notice Philip claims to have done the finding himself: “We have found him” (verse 45).

Jesus finds not one, not even two, but four, and eventually more. He does not seem interested in solo spirituality, or the lone believer. We believe to find ourselves in Jesus’ community, together. We need one another, we need good company. We need friends. These men probably were friends prior to Jesus materializing. They certainly knew Zebedee and his sons, James and John. All from the same small hometown, Bethsaida. But their friendship changes, and they move into a relationship of serving each other.

John 1:43-51

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Take some time to reflect on the readings set for today—what might they be saying to you? What might they be saying to us as a community?

Intercessions

We pray that Christ may be seen in the life of the Church.

You have called us into the family
of those who are the children of God.
Gracious God, may our love for our brothers and sisters
be strengthened by your grace.
Help us to be a community which serves you and each other.
We pray for Bishops Sarah and Pete and all who lead us in these
challenging times...

(allow moment of silence)

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

You have called us to be a temple
where the Holy Spirit can dwell.
Help us to reflect you light and hope in the world around us.
Bring help and support to all those who live in pain.
Heal the divisions of the nations,
guide us to care for all your creation
and inspire us all to bring hope to the world.

(allow moment of silence)

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

You have called us to be a light to the world,
so that those in darkness come to you.
May our lives shine as a witness
to the grace you have given for all.
Guide us in these times of struggle, and give to all who need it
strength in the face of the pandemic. For those who work in frontline
services, for those who are isolated and afraid, and for all who despair.

(allow moment of silence)

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

You have called us to be members of your body,
so that when one suffers, all suffer together.
We ask for your comfort and healing power

to bring hope to those in distress.

We particularly pray for Piers, Bill, Peter, Pearl, Yvonne, Rute, Ron, Evelyn, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth....

(allow moment of silence)

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

You have called us to be the Bride,
where you, Lord, are the Bridegroom.

Prepare us for the wedding feast,
where we will be united with you for ever.

We pray for all who have died recently including Derrick Bone and Ann,
as well as those whose anniversaries fall at this time including Albert
Laurencin, Geoffrey Walter and Bill Webb.

Rest Eternal, Grant unto them O Lord

And may light perpetual shine upon them.

May they rest in peace

And rise in Glory

Jesus, Lord of the Church,
you have called us into fellowship with all your saints.

We unite our prayers with theirs
and ask for grace to serve you with joy
as we pray in the words you taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give
us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen**

Notices

Response to National Lockdown January 2021

As you may know, the lockdown regulations allow for places of worship to open where the local community feels that it is safe to do so. The St Anne's PCC met last night to consider what we felt was best for our community. We reflected not only on what might be legal; but the plea from our community leaders to stay home as much as possible; and also the feedback from members of our congregation who work in frontline services. We also reviewed the guidance from the Church of England.

We have therefore decided to **close St Anne's for in-person services**. Instead we will be offering services online via Zoom, as well as other ways to connect with each.

We are committed to the 'Stay at Home' message and the need to stop the spread of the virus. We acknowledge and share the sadness many are feeling at not being able to meet together as we would usually do at the moment. We are committed to praying for an end to the pandemic, and look forward to better times ahead.

We will not be opening the Church at all, but if you need someone to speak to, or prayer with, please contact Mo C either by email or phone and she can arrange to see you safely in person; or talk with you over the phone or Zoom.

We also are aware that with winter this is an even more of a challenging time. If you would like to be part of a small group of others from church who speak regularly, and support one another, do be in touch and we will set this up.

**St Anne's and St Andrew's will remain closed to all groups.
The Nursery may be open and is following the Early Years Guidance.
The building will remain closed.**

In a longer statement Bishop Sarah made following request:

"I would urge everyone in our churches to pray for those on the front line in our public services - the NHS and those working in social care, for schools and many others on whom we depend; and for parents and carers of children at this anxious and stressful time.

"There is hope. The vaccination programme is underway and, as Christians, we have a deeper hope in God that comforts us beyond fear itself. As we have been remembering this Christmas Season, even in the midst of our darkest fears, that hope brings light."



Prayer Window

We are once again creating window of prayers in the rotunda at the front of the church. If you would like to contribute a prayer, either drop in through the letter box at the church or vicarage—postcard size or smaller is best. (*current prayers are on heart shapes, but any shape is fine*) **OR** email you prayer request to Mo C and she will ensure that it is added to the window.

News from Laurence's Larder and Sufra

Laurence's Larder will remain open on a Thursday for a takeaway - though they are currently not cooking on site. Guest will get food to takeaway however. Donations can be left in the green box by Mo C's front door, or at the Larder on a Thursday Morning. Please see their website : **<https://www.laurenceslarder.org.uk>**

We are also sharing our food donations with Sufra. You can read all about what they are doing during this period on their website <https://www.sufra-nwlondon.org.uk/> They are also looking for extra volunteer drivers.

Be part of the **NHS Volunteer Responder scheme.** This allows you to volunteer from home. They really need more! See <https://nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk/> **We have some wonderful volunteers from St Anne's supporting both Laurence's Larder and Sufra.**

We are also looking to set up a 'phone call' network within St Anne's, to help us to support one another. If you would like to be involved in this please let Mo C know.

Also, if you need assistance getting to an appointment, or you need things off, we have some drivers who are willing to help.

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.**



For our prayers Piers, Bill, Peter, Pearl, Yvonne, Rute, Ron, Evelyn, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth....and for those who have died recently including Derrick Bone and Ann; and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Albert Laurencin, Geoffrey Walter and Bill Webb.

Services this coming week starting 17th January 2021

Monday 18th—2pm Christian Contemplation on Zoom

Tuesday 19th—8.30am Morning Prayer on Zoom

Thursday 21st— 8.30am Morning Prayer on Zoom

Friday 22nd — 3pm Afternoon Coffee Chat Zoom Room

Sunday 24th January—3rd of Epiphany

8.30am—Morning Prayer on Zoom

9am—Thought for the Day on Facebook

9.30am— Morning Service on Zoom

5pm—Service for the day on Zoom

Sunday 31st January for our morning service we will join Christ Church for their 10am Zoom Service to celebrate Candlemas together.

"Find Philip" Search and Find Activity Sheet

