



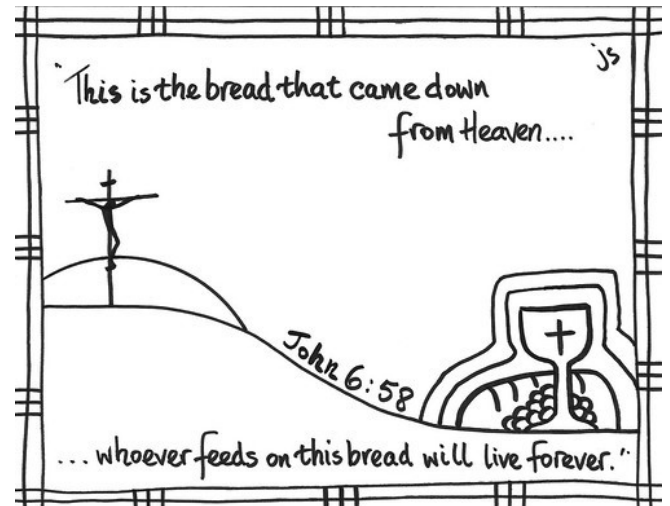
St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Readings and Notice Sheet 12th Sunday after Trinity 22nd August 2021

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than
we to pray and to give more than either
we desire or deserve: pour down upon us
the abundance of your mercy, forgiving
us those things of which our conscience
is afraid and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of 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. Amen.



Old Testament reading—

Our first reading contains one of the most familiar lines from the Old Testament, Joshua's charge to "choose this day whom you will serve," combined with his own response, "but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15). Probably less well remembered are the context in which Joshua makes the charge and the people's astonishingly positive rejoinder. The story is without a doubt one of the true high points in the history of the Israelites' faith. How do we have such faith?

A reading from the book of Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. "Now therefore revere the Lord, and

serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord.

Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

As the letter to assemblies of believers in Ephesus and throughout the great cities of Asia Minor draws to a close, the author offers a final extended metaphor for how a person of faith in Jesus as God's own anointed one, Lord over all, might shape the life of believers.

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians 6:10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.

With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep

alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel reading from John

Today's Gospel reading is John 6: 56-69 . Although Jesus' words "I am the bread of life" are familiar to many Christians, in this passage the disciples declare this to be a "hard saying." Jesus is teaching in the synagogue (John 6:69), where he is interpreting a passage of scripture that was introduced by the crowd in verse 31. They ask Jesus for a sign similar to the one Israel experienced in the wilderness, "as it is written, 'he gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Jesus goes on to interpret this verse about the manna, and he continues on the same subject through verse 58. In verse 60, Jesus' own disciples declare his teaching to be "hard," and in verse 66 many of them turn away from him. What is it about Jesus' teaching that they find difficult? At many levels we still struggle with Jesus teaching, and to abide within the faith—would we answer like Peter—or are we like those who struggle to stay? Jesus invites us to consider to listen and re listen to what is being said.

John 6:56-69

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he

said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

This is the Gospel of our Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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 of wisdom, you draw us to abide in you,
even at times when we feel fearful or unsure.
Teach us to be your church;
that we might be sustained by you and each other.
We prayer for Archbishop Justin, Bishop's Sarah and Pete.
We pray also for the Willesden Episcopal area as it discerns who might
be our new Bishop....*(allow a time of silence)*

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer

Almighty God, creator of all
Help us to trust in your vision for a world of peace and justice.
We pray for all who suffer hardship, uncertainty or pain.
We pray for Afghanistan, for Haiti, and for all communities who are
struggling to understand the situations they find themselves at this time.
We pray for generous and compassionate hearts amongst all nations as
we respond...*(allow a time of silence)*

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer

Loving God, the living bread.
Where would be go if not to you?
Help us to act in wisdom;
to discern how to love our neighbours and ourselves.
Guide all those who make decisions that effect the lives of others;
And guide each of us in the decisions we make... *(allow a time of silence)*

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our Prayer

Loving God,

We pray for all who on holidays at this time:

for those in need of rest and refreshment;

for all who are sick or in pain,

For all making plans for the future;

For those who are celebrating,

and those who are mourning.

We pray for all who on our hearts including amongst them we pray for Michael, Joyce, Megan, Fr Robert, Jean, Isobel, Peter, Pearl, Rute, Ron, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth. Nurture in each of us life and hope.

...(allow a time of silence)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Eternal God, who promises hope,

we pray for all who have left us and now rest with you in eternity. We give thanks for their lives and the mark they have left on ours. Amongst them we remember Philip Southwood and John Cairns ... (allow a time of silence)

Rest Eternal Grant unto them O Lord

And let light perpetual shine upon them

May they rest in peace

And rise in glory

In the stillness of this moment we lift our own before God. ... (allow a time of silence)

God of all mercy,

who forgives us, and has 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.

who taught us to pray saying:

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.**

Notices

Bishop Peter's Farewell

As I am sure you know Bishop Pete will be moving on after 20 years as Bishop of Willesden and at the end of September. There will be a farewell service (details yet to be finalised) on Saturday 25th September at 7:00pm at St John West Ealing. If you would like to contribute to a collection for +Pete and Sarah, email Mo C and she can provide bank details—alternatively you can place cash in an envelop and mark it collection for Bishop Pete. Bishop Pete will also be with us on the 19th September for a service of Confirmation.

Looking Forward—Dates for your diary!

As we come out of the summer break we have many things to look forward to as a parish. Here are some things to be aware of, and some dates to have in your diary.

Confirmation—Bishop Pete will be with us at 9.30am on Sunday 19th September for a service of confirmation. There will be reception afterwards.

Creation Season— will be celebrated each Sunday in September in the lead up to **Harvest Festival on 3rd October**. Creation Season is a time when we focus on the gift of God creation and our need to care for it. This year this will also include contributing to a visual display of prayers for our environment. (see <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/season-creation>).

(The PCC also agreed earlier this year that to complete the paperwork to allow us to be part of the **Eco-Church movement**. As a congregation we have always been committed to this, but we wanted to make this more formal). If you would like to see more now—<https://ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk/>

Harvest Supper and Harvest Festival.

Saturday 2nd October in the evening there will be Harvest Supper and Quiz night; with Harvest Festival being celebrated at 9.30am on 3rd October.

Kingdom/ Remembrance Season will begin on 31st October and will last until Advent and will include a number of events.

Advent will begin this year with a Social event on either the 26th or 27th November—we are still confirming details but we are hoping to host an event to mark the start of the new season.

St Anne with Holy Trinity Brondesbury
Guidance from 19th July 2021

Within the Church we believe that everyone is known and loved individually by God and that as many members within one body we are called to be responsible to and for one another, respecting the more vulnerable whose suffering is our suffering (1 Cor 12:12-27). The move to step 4 means we are being asked to take even more personal responsibility around coronavirus than when we were compelled to adhere to Government restrictions.

St Anne's PCC has considered what guidance we as a congregation will continue to have in place, respecting the above. We are also very mindful that we are now entering the summer period when the church is much quieter for worship and for usage. For this reason, we have decided to take these next steps slowly and cautiously; and will review them as the new academic term begins in September.

Coming to worship

- ⇒ As soon as you enter the building **please continue to either wash your hands or use the sanitizer provided.**
- ⇒ We would ask, that if you can **please wear a face mask** until you are upstairs and seated in your chair. It is then your choice if you remove your mask, but please do respect those close to you or keep a distance from them.
- ⇒ Chairs will remain as they are for now, giving space for people who wish it. If you want to sit next to someone who is not in your household, and they agree, please do so.
- ⇒ **We can now sing!** And we will be introducing some singing back into our services, though not everything at once. Again, this is partly as caution, and partly because singing is often hard during August anyway with smaller congregation.
- ⇒ **Hymn books** will now be available to those who want them, but the screens will also be used. Individuals can choose. Please do return your book to the stand when you leave, please, so no one else has to touch it!. This will also be the case with service sheets.
- ⇒ The peace may take place. As it is hard to know who would welcome a handshake; the suggestion is that during August we continue as we are – smiling, waving or bowing, and then adapt as we move into September. Similarly, the offertory bowl will remain at the door rather than being passed around.
- ⇒ **Communion** will continue to be administered in the same way, with members of the congregation coming forward, and then everyone receiving

together once we have returned to our seats. Mother Christine will continue to wear a mask for distribution, and we would ask you to do the same. However, this is your choice.

We are aware that for some these changes will feel too fast, for other too slow. We will continue to take small steps over the coming weeks, and will review the next steps.

Summertime

Over the coming weeks many of you will be away on Summer Holidays. We love getting your postcards or emails letting us know where you have prayer on your journey. Once again we will have a special 'we have prayed here' board out on a Sunday morning to share some of our travel experiences.

Laurence's Larder

You can still leave your donations, tinned fish or any non perishable food in the basket at the top of the stairs. You can see updates on this work at <https://www.laurenceslarder.org.uk>



For our prayers—All who are on holidays, Michael, Joyce, Megan, Fr Robert, Jean, Isobel, Peter, Pearl, Rute, Ron, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth . We remember those who have died and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Philip Southwood and John Cairns.

There will be no week day services during the remainder of August or 5pm Sunday Evening Service

Sunday 29th August 2021- 13th after Trinity

8.30am—Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom

During the morning -*Thought for the day*

9.30am — Eucharist in Church



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