



St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Readings and Notice Sheet **13th Sunday after Trinity** **29th August 2021**

The Collect

Almighty God,
you search us and know us:
may we rely on you in strength
and rest on you in weakness,
now and in all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Old Testament reading—

Moses will never enter the land of promise. He will climb a mountain east of the Jordan, and from that height he will survey the wide and good land God is giving to Israel (Deuteronomy 3:27). And then he will die (4:22). He will never cross the river Jordan, and the children of the people who marched with him out of Egypt will bury his body in a valley in Moab. They will not mark his grave, or perhaps God will hide it, so that no one will be tempted to bring him into the land of Canaan (34:5-6). Moses belonged to the wilderness generation. They were almost the land-of-promise generation, but in the wilderness their faith faltered. At Deuteronomy's beginning Moses recalls for their children, now grown, the painful story of failure.

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am

setting before you today? But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children—

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

James 1:17-27 is not a single argument, the passage contains at least three arguments, one of which begins far earlier than 1:17. Each of these arguments in James 1 introduces later portions of the letter of James. James 1 serves both as a precursor to the rest of the letter, and as a succinct exposition of what James calls "pure and undefiled religion." James begins by contrasting children of desire with children of God (James 1:12-18) an argument that ends with 1:17-18, the first two verses of this lection. This theme will recur at the end of James 3 and through most of James 4. Following this, he contrasts human sharp-tongued hot-headedness with God's justice (James 1:19-21, 26), the focus of most of James 3. Finally, he differentiates between those who hear and those who do God's word (James 1: 22-25), the primary subject of James 2.

A reading from the letter of James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for

orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel reading from John

In the Gospels, it seems that Jesus saves his sharpest words, his most pointed criticism, for the most religious.

It is not the tax collectors and other notorious sinners who are reproached by Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes, the experts in God's law, the high achievers in religious piety. In the text before us, Jesus calls them hypocrites and says that they abandon the commandment of God for the sake of human tradition.

We have been taught to view the Pharisees and scribes as self-righteous hypocrites and to distance ourselves from them, and passages like this one tend to reinforce that perception. It is important to "debunk" the popular misconception that the Pharisees and scribes thought they were earning salvation by their obedience to the law. In fact, they understood that God's choosing and calling of Israel was a gift. They also understood that God gave them the law as a gift, to order their lives as God's people. Their observance of the law was meant to be a witness to the nations around them, to give glory to God. The problem with the Pharisees and scribes, according to Jesus, was that they had become so focused on the externals of faithfulness that they neglected to examine their own hearts. Their efforts to live faithfully were putting up walls of alienation instead of drawing them closer to God and to their neighbours.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me,

teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.” Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

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 who knows the true motives of our heart
even we are not honest about them to ourselves

We come to you in prayer
seeking your hope and love.

We pray 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; and to be mindful of our own motivations which might distract from your vision.

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...
(allow a time of silence)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Loving God,
Help us not only to hear your word
but to live it out every day of our lives.
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 this holiday weekend
and for those returning from holidays
and all preparing for the start of the new academic year.
We pray for all who are moving or starting new schools or jobs.
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 Ngo, Takashi Kitahara, Kay, 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 owns 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 prayer 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

Gardening Day

On **Saturday 18th September from 10am—12noon** we will be having BIG GARDENING WORKING BEE—to get the carpark and garden ready for Autumn and for the Bishop's visit on Sunday 19th. Your help would be very much appreciated as there are lots of little jobs to do!

Confirmation

Bishop Pete will be with us at **9.30am on Sunday 19th September** for a service of confirmation. At present we have three candidates. If anyone else would like a chance to confirm their faith, or would like more details please speak to Mo C. On Sunday 19th there will be a reception after church.

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 envelope and mark it collection for Bishop Pete. Bishop Pete will also be with us on the 19th September for a service of Confirmation.

David Till Concert - David will be performing on a Concert—***Lost in the Stars—Sunday 12th September at 4pm.*** You are all welcome.

Other Dates for your diary!

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.

From September 1 to October 4, the Christian family celebrates the good gift of creation. This global celebration began in 1989 with the Ecumenical Patriarchate's recognition of the Day of Prayer for Creation and is now embraced by the wide ecumenical community. Prayer is a powerful experience and tool to raise awareness and foster transformational relations and ministry. ***This year our theme is A Home for All? Renewing the oikos of God.*** 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.arocha.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.

Wreath making workshop will take place on Saturday 11th December.

Covid Guidance from 19th July 2021

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.

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 Ngo, Takashi Kitahara, Kay, 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 5th September 2021– Creation 1

8.30am—Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom

During the morning -Thought for the day

9.30am — Eucharist in Church

5pm Zoom Service of the Day



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