

St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

14th Sunday after Trinity and Creation Season 2023 10th September 2023

Welcome to St Anne's today — it is great to have you with us. St Anne's is the local Church of England parish church, and we are a diverse group of people. We hope that you will feel welcome in our worship today. If you are new, please do say hello — we would love to get to know you. If you are unsure where to find something, or about what is going on, please do ask. We will be happy to help. Our worship style is quite formal, but we hope relaxed—as we come to worship God in our midst. All the words for the service will be on the screens at the front however, if you would prefer to have a printed copy in your hands, or a large print copy, or a hymn books, they are on the landing.



The Prophet Amos cries out: "But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5: 24) and so we are called to join the river of justice and peace, to take up climate and ecological justice, and to speak out with and for communities most impacted by climate injustice and the loss of biodiversity. As the people of God, we work together on behalf of all Creation, as part of that mighty river of peace and justice.

A Priest will greet us. Please stand when the bell is rung. We sing our Processional **Hymn 387 – Jesus is lord, Creations' voice** as the Clergy enter.

The Gathering

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

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Lord be with you and also with you.

The President will introduce the service followed by a time of confession after which silence is kept:

Let us confess our greed and repent of the ways in which we have damaged God's good creation:

Holy and merciful God,

we confess that we have failed to honour you by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures. We have walked heavily on your earth, overused and wasted its resources, taken for granted its beauty and abundance, and treated its inhabitants unjustly, holding future generations hostage to our greed. Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin. Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and intend, with grateful and compassionate hearts, through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

We sing together.

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

We are reminded of God's forgiveness.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, (+) pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We sing our praise in the words of the Gloria Refrain: Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship You we give You thanks, we praise You for your glory. *Refrain*:

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. *Refrain:*

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the most high Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, In the glory of God the Father. *Refrain*.

The Collect

The Priest introduces a period of silent prayer and then says: Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the powerful who oppress and dominate Creation, so you never forsake your creatures who live in harmony with nature's order; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word (please sit)

We hear a reading from the Old Testament

This exert reminds Ezekiel of his call to be a watchman over the house of Israel. His prophetic task is to call Israel to repentance when she falls short of her covenantal responsibilities before God. While this task involves declaring God's judgment for Israel's sins, it also means inviting Israel to repent in light of the lovingkindness of God. In Ezekiel, divine justice is restorative

not punitive. It is to remove the cancer eating at the nation and bring her back into health so that she can embody the holiness of God in her life and witness. Without this holiness, there can be no justice or righteousness. In this Creation season we are reminded that God demands our prophetic voice for justice.

A Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel (Ezekiel 33:7-11)

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Our Second reading

Paul's letter to the Roman believers is saturated in the Scriptures of Israel—Torah, Prophets, and the Writings. Their voices reverberating through these allusions have become the witnesses in the court of testimony pointing to the God of Israel's justice-work in the Jewish Messiah.

Paul's ethical instruction in 13:8–14 sounds like generic Judeo-Christian decree. This may be surprising precisely because of how Paul has postured the Torah in the development of his gospel message.

A reading from the letter to the Romans (Romans 13:8-14)

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbour as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We sing our Gradual **Hymn 152 – Dear Lord and Father of Mankind** during which the Gospel is processed

The Gospel is announced.

The text for today is surrounded by others that are designed to shape conduct within the community of believers. From the call to humility to the need for faithful disciples to cultivate care for one another and indeed all creation. The need to forgive and to not cause others to stumble.

Within this set of practices is perhaps the most difficult one to address—conflict. If there is one thing we can be sure of in the era of rapid social changes that affect church life, it is that conflicts will arise. The question is: how will we deal with it not only between people, but conflicts between creation and humanity?

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

(Matthew 18:15-20)

"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

The Gospel is carried back to the Altar. We sit to listen to the sermon. After the sermon silence is kept.

We stand to affirm our faith in the words of the creed.

We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation. We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water. We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God.

And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

We believe in one God; Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

Amen.

We kneel or sit as we prayer for the Church, the World and for this community.

During the prayers we use the response:

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We may also use the response:

Rest Eternal Grant unto them O Lord

And let light perpetual shine upon them

May they rest in peace

And rise in glory

At the end of the prayers we say:

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

Liturgy of the Sacrament (please stand)

You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace in a manner that is comfortable to you.

We share the peace with those around us in a way we are comfortable until the offertory Hymn is announced. We sing the offertory Hymn **302 – Here in this place** during which a collection is taken.

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now united on this table in bread and wine, so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you, **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise.

The preface continues until we sing.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

After the Consecration
Great is the mystery of faith
Christ has died;
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

At the end of the Eucharistic Prayer we join the priest saying: **Amen.**

We join in the prayer that Jesus taught his friends to say in our preferred version and language.

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.

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

We sing the Agnus Dei.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

The Elevation

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father

We receive communion, during which we listen to Sam play. All who are baptised are welcome to receive communion. We receive God's grace in one kind or two, so we ask that you don't dip the bread (host) into the chalice). You may also like to come forward for a blessing.; and you may wish to light a candle.

At the end of communion, the priest will lead us in a period of silence, and then a short prayer:

God of life, in your grace we receive what we need each day. As you have met us in the ordinary things of bread and wine, meet us in our homes and places of work. In our gardens and places of recreation, renew, nourish and sustain us, inspiring within us a deep love for your creation.

We pray together

Gentle Creator,
May your Spirit enable us to bring healing and hope to a world that longs for it;
bring justice and new ways of being to a world that craves life and love.
May we go out in joy and be led forth in peace, that the mountains and hills may burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field once more clap their hands. Amen.

We listen to the notices about our community life.

The Dismissal (please stand) The Lord be with you

And also with you

May God who established the dance of creation,
Who marvelled at the lilies of the field,
Who transforms chaos to order,
Lead us to transform our lives and the Church
To listen to the voice of all creatures
That reflect God's glory in creation; and the blessing of the (+)
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

We sing our final hymn **146 – Creation sings!** during which the clergy depart.

Please do join us downstairs for morning tea.

Our Community Life Together and Dates for your Diary

Finance—St Anne's

Our current monthly target for congregational giving is £2180. In July we raised £1880. Thank you to everyone for your generosity!

Laurence's Larder

As you know Laurence's Larder serves meals and food bags. They continue to welcome Tuna but can also use **sardines and long-life milk** – though any non-perishable everyday food items are great!

Queen's Park Day 2023

Queen's Park Day is on the 17th September. We need to ensure that we have things to sell as well as people to help. There is now a sign-up sheet to help out at QPD at church – please do take time to volunteer. We also need to be collecting good quality clothes and toys to sell, paperback books, and we will be looking for people to make cakes ready for the 17th.

Creation Season and Harvest Festival

From Sunday 10th September we will be celebrating creation season in the lead up to Harvest Festival on the 24th September. During this time we give thanks for all God's creation and pray that we will be care for this earth. Please do start bringing in non-perishable items and planning them in the box at the back of church so we can create a display on the 24th.

Back to School Help

With decreasing school budgets, local schools, including Christ Church, are asking families to provide stationary for each student. *Pencil*, *ruler*, *rubber*, *sharpener*, *purple pen*, *whiteboard pen all in a small pencil case*. It would be helpful to be able to provide some 'spares' for students or families who are unable to do this themselves. If you would like to donate a completed pencil case with the items listed, please drop it off to Mo C.

Adult learning at St Paul's Cathedral

My Spirit Rejoices: Mary, the Mother of Jesus -September 26th; 6.30 – 8pm Tickets are free but you do need to book. Mary the mother of Jesus is a polarising figure. Is she Queen of Heaven, the New Eve, an ordinary person called to do extraordinary things, the ultimate good girl, a feminist foremother, or is her story altogether more complex? She is also the subject of countless paintings, poems and works of music, sometimes overlaying our sense of her presence in the Bible. Rowan Williams and Paula Gooder will consider contrasting aspects of Mary's story in the Gospels and the church, her place in our faith, and why she still matters so much.

The evening will include live music performed by members of the St Paul's Cathedral Consort, and plenty of time for questions and answers.



For our prayers—Joyce, Guy and Renate, AnneMarie and Marion, Emma, Peter and Rhona, Florret, John and Josephine, Harriet, May, Mavis, Kay, Comfort, Jean, Peter, Pearl, John, Cecilia and Ruth. We remember those who have died recently including Kathleen O'Connell and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Roy Edward Dunford and Betty Dass.

Services during the week 10th September 2023

Tuesday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel and on Zoom

Thursday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity ChapelFriday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

9.30am My Moves Play Group

2pm Tea and Chat

Sunday 17th 9 am Morning Prayer in Chapel and Zoom

15th after 10am Sung Mass with Sunday School

Trinity Queens Park Day

Office: 020 76043053

website: www.st-annes-brondesbury.org.uk

email: stannesnw6@gmail.com