



St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

15th Sunday after Trinity and Creation Season 2023

17th 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.



**Let Justice
and Peace Flow**

Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

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 334 – I heard the voice of Jesus say** 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:

O God, because in our ignorance and selfishness we so often fail to care rightly for your Creation, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may soften and unite our hearts with all living beings who suffer; 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

The inclusion of Genesis 50:15–21 among the gospel reading from Matthew 18-21-35 and the epistle to the Romans (14:1–12) is intended to link it thematically to the imperative to forgive those who sin against us and to refrain from judging one another since God not only forgives all our iniquities but also does not repay us according to our sins. Thus, headings in our

Bibles typically have such titles such as “Joseph forgives his brothers.” However, a close reading of this passage complicates that narrative. Genesis 50:15–21 is part of a larger literary unit sometimes referred to as the Joseph cycle (Genesis 37; 39–47; 50). Due to its length and stand-alone content, Joseph’s story has been regarded as a novella or historical fiction. It is focused primarily on Joseph’s time spent in Egypt – and we need to bring this knowledge to interpretation of this text.

A Reading from the Book of Genesis (Genesis 50:15-21)

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph’s brothers said, “What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?” So they approached Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this instruction before he died, ‘Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.’ Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Our Second reading

An English proverb says, “Faults are thick where love is thin”; but God demonstrates the opposite and to a greater extent: “faults are thin where love is thick.”

In the first half of the letter to the Romans, Paul focuses on God’s love for believers: “God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

Now, in the second half of the letter Paul emphasizes the love that believers must show towards each other because of the

love they have received. For example, “Owe no one anything except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law” (Romans 13:8-10). The exhortations of chapter 14, however, suggest that in this community, love is thin because faults are thick.

A reading from the letter to the Romans (Romans 14:1-12)

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.” So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*We sing our Gradual **Hymn 413 – Just as I am without a plea** during which the Gospel is processed*

The Gospel is announced.

Chapter 18 of Matthew presents the fourth of five major discourses of Jesus in this Gospel. The chapter offers practical wisdom on relationships within the community of disciples Jesus is forming. The culture of this community will feature humility (verses 1-5), mercy or forgiveness (verses 12-14, 21-35), and accountability (verses 6-10, 15-20, 23-35). The interplay between the demands of mercy and justice forms an intriguing challenge for the interpreter who works with the parable of the forgiven, unforgiving servant (verses 23-35), together with its narrative setup in a dialogue between Jesus and Peter about the limits of forgiveness (verses 21-22).

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 18:21-35)

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he

refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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 **623 – Praise my soul the King of Heaven** 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 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 172 – **Father, Lord of all creation**
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 – its today!!!!

Thank you to everyone who has agreed to help.

Monthly Gardening

At the PCC meeting we decided to set aside one Saturday Month between 10am – 12noon for 'Gardening'. This will be the 2nd Saturday, and will begin on the 14th October!

Thank you too for those who bought in stationary items for Christ Church school, they were really appreciated.

Creation Season and Harvest Festival

We are currently 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.

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.

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—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 Joyce, Kathleen O'Connell and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Eddie Wright and David Robert Brown

Services during the week 17th September 2023

Tuesday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel and on Zoom

Thursday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

Friday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

9.30am My Moves Play Group

2pm Tea and Chat

Sunday 24th 9 am Morning Prayer in Chapel and Zoom

Harvest **10am** Sung Mass with Sunday School

Festival

Office: 020 76043053

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

email: stannesnw6@gmail.com