

WELCOME

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1ST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

14th June 2020

COLLECT

God of truth,
help us to keep your law of love
and to walk in ways of wisdom,
that we may find true life
in Jesus Christ your Son.



READINGS

NT: Romans 5: 1—8

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through

the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.
⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.
⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.



GOSPEL: Matthew 9: 35—10: 8

³⁵ Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; ³⁸ therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'

10 Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness.

² These are the names of the twelve

apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶ but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷ As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near."

⁸ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.



PRAYERS

Loving God, we ask you to guide your people especially when differences amongst us seem to threaten our life together. We face each other, but often do not see each other's face. We too easily make "an other" of one another. Help us now to look again, to see Jesus in the face and to recognise hopes, aspirations and desires.

Lord in your Mercy.....

Creator God, we are part of the tensions and injustices of the world: heal the resentment and fear between people, and help us to work for reconciliation in the world's conflicts. Help us to walk humbly with you and when we come to the crossroads and have to choose which way to go lead us onto the path of justice and righteousness whilst steering us away from the road that leads to selfishness and hate.

Lord in your Mercy.....

Mother, Father God, help us to be gentle, with others and with ourselves. Give us, the calm that makes for consideration and the respect for others that makes us courteous. Help us to celebrate our differences. Take from us hard words and cynical looks. Let us be to others as we would wish them to be to us and when we fail, forgive us and heal us.

Lord in your Mercy.....

Compassionate God, we pray for all those who are afflicted by physical, emotional or mental trouble especially those caused by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and racial injustice and oppression. Help us to keep our eyes fixed on you, help us to be Christ to one another and give us the courage to face the trials that are to come.

Lord in your Mercy.....

Holy God, your love reaches across all time and space. At the end of our days be with us and with those we love and with those whom we love and have gone before us. We pray now for those who have died recently; especially any whose lives have been cut short by Covid 19 and those who have become victims of authoritarian brutality. We pray for all those bereaved by their passing.

Lord in your Mercy.....

Gracious God, we thank you for hearing our prayer and as we move into the coming week help us to remember Jesus' words as he sent his friends out into the world "As you go, proclaim the good news, the Kingdom of Heaven has come near".

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

Please pray this week for: Bud and Jean. Please remember the family of TJ who died this week. We give thanks with Graham and Joy who welcomed their first grandchild this week!

Let's say the Lord's Prayer together.

**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.**

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Good morning everybody this is Ray Turpin, I hope you are all keeping safe and well. We are living in very difficult times, times like no other, although someone a few weeks ago said to me it was like the last war. I can assure you it is nothing like World War Two. I was a young boy during that war and remember well that we were never in lockdown we just had to listen out for aircraft overhead and when we heard that sound we ran for cover. After that war the country brought in conscription which meant that every able bodied man aged eighteen had to enlist in one of the forces and serve for two years.

At the age of eighteen I elected to go into the Royal Air Force I chose the RAF as my friend was stationed in Stanmore Middlesex and came home at weekends. After several weeks of training I was sent home to await my posting, as I lay in bed my mother came in with a brown envelope, all excited that I had received my posting. I quickly tore open the envelope and almost fainted to see the words: "you are being posted to RAF El Hamra, Egypt in the Middle East, near the Suez Canal.

The reason I am telling you this is that in a way us Air Force chaps were like Ambassadors for our country. Although on active service we did meet Arabs especially those working on our camp site. The Arabs that I saw were living in absolute poverty. And in this country due to the Corona Virus we now have many more in living in poverty.

In our Gospel today we heard how Jesus sent his disciples out to help those in trouble. We, Mary and I have experienced disciples of today asking if they can help us by doing shopping or helping in any other way. We have seen so many people out clapping in support of our National Health Service.

In the reading from Romans, "we are justified by faith and have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Peace often seems a very long way off, however there is one bonus and that is that very many people are working towards peace and in these troubled times neighbours have gathered together to bring peace and happiness by offering help. Just as Jesus sent out his disciples very many people in this country are out doing things for others such as shopping for those who should not or cannot get out of their house or flat.

We live in an age of uncertainty where people have ceased to be sure about anything. The one thing we can be certain about is that Jesus is at work in so many people. You will recall that Jesus was moved with compassion by the world's pain.

He was moved with compassion for the sick and suffering. When we listen or look at the news we can see that compassion at work in so many people. God is always looking for hands to use." God is always saying, "Whom shall I send." Jesus did not compel them to do his work, He did not pressure them, Jesus does not make conscripts; he seeks volunteers.

The task of the twelve disciples was not confined to speaking; it involved doing deeds, they had to be beside people, healing people. If they were to do his work in the world they must live in his presence before they went out into the world; from the presence of Jesus to the presence of people. They were called to be Apostles.

The word apostle literally means: one who is sent out; it is the word for an *envoy or ambassador*. It is not enough to talk about our Christian faith, we must also be able to show people our faith by living it. I read once that most people meet Christ by meeting Christians.

This is a good example: A writer who lived in India wrote this: "I remember a British battalion which like most battalions came to parade services because they had to, sang hymns they liked, listened to the preacher if they thought him interesting, and left the church alone for the rest of the week. But their rescue work at the time of the Quetta earthquake so impressed a Brahmin that he demanded immediate baptism, because only the Christian religion could make men behave like that." The thing which taught that Brahmin what Christianity was like was Christianity in action.

Jesus was moved to compassion by the pain of the world, he saw how people were sick and suffering. Jesus was moved to compassion for the sorrow of the world. We hear every day how so many people are suffering in the world with this awful virus and so many in the world who have died and are still dying. Jesus was moved to compassion by the world's loneliness.

All this sounds so familiar for all of us to this very day. In Romans chapter 5 it reads: *"Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God."*

My last words are of encouragement; so many are working harder than ever to care for the sick and dying, so many are helping others during these troubled times. Keep them all in your prayers and keep safe and keep well. AMEN.

Ray Turpin

NOTICES

Giving—From Simon Taylor, Treasurer

Good morning everybody - I hope we are all staying safe. Just a few words to say thank you to everybody for supporting the church at this difficult time. There has been much generosity since the lockdown began and it is really appreciated, given that some of us may face their own financial uncertainties. Our congregation's generosity, and the fact that some expenditure has reduced is definitely helping our position and I and Richard are very grateful. There will obviously be financial challenges over the coming months, but so far we are meeting them.

Cash, envelopes, cash or cheques can be delivered through the vicarage letterbox in Vancouver Road. If you would like to contribute electronically, you can pay into the church account our details are: St George with St Michaels & All Angels PCC National Westminster Bank plc 61 Sydenham Road London SE26 5HW Sort Code 60 21 12 Account 37302337. If you'd like to set up or amend a standing order with your bank, then email me at simont388@gmail.com and I can provide a form. I can also provide a Gift Aid form / advise if we hold one already (for income tax payers this enables the church to get an extra 25%). Thank you once again for your support. Simon

Supporting St George's School

Several families with children at St George's school, really struggle financially. Some of those children are finding life especially hard during lock down .We have decided, to support some of these families by supplementing the very small amount of emergency aid they receive from the government. If you feel you would like to support church efforts to help these families, please make a donation to St George's church either with cash through the vicarage door, direct bank transfer into the church account (let us know you've done it!) or a cheque payable to St George and St Michael PCC (also through the vicarage door). Thank you.

Lewisham Foodbank

...are in need of food every week as the pandemic makes things even more difficult for people living on the edge. Their Facebook page updates with their needs and this week they are asking for 500g bags of rice, tins of kidney beans, rice pudding and fruit cocktail, nappies, soap, squash drinks, halal food and washing detergent - tablets only please! Call them on 07938 071854 or email them on info@lewisham.foodbank.org.uk.

Links!

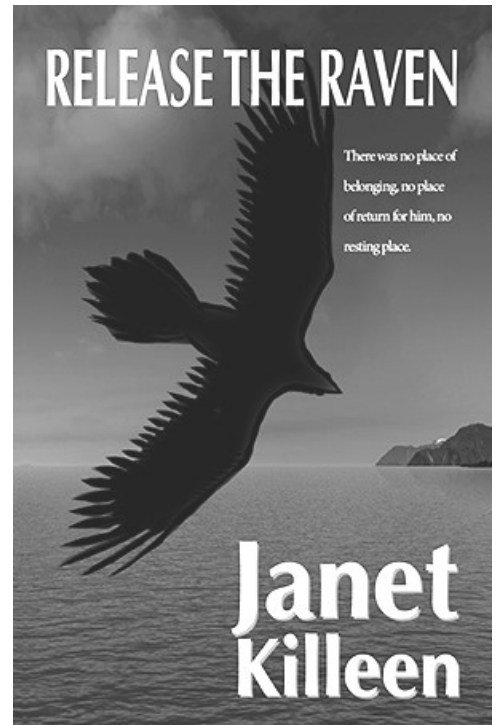
Becki Wilkins sent in a link to Max Boyce reading 'When Just the Tide Went Out' which you can see here: <https://tinyurl.com/y7ydmsaf>

And here's some John Donne: No Man Is An Island: <https://allpoetry.com/No-man-is-an-island>

Release the Raven by Janet Killeen

Our very own author Janet Killeen has just published her second novel 'Release The Raven.' It is available to buy on Amazon in both paperback & kindle versions. Follow this link to find out more: <https://amzn.to/3dolakH>.

Even though it is a follow-up to her first novel, 'After The Flood', you don't not need to have read the prequel to appreciate 'Release The Raven'! However if you wish to have a look at that novel too then you can find that here: <https://amzn.to/2MtV6yI>



LOCKDOWN LINGO!

Contributed by Pat Russell

Covidiot or **Wuhan-ker**: One who ignores public health advice or behaves with reckless disregard for the safety of others can be said to display “covidioy” or be “covidiotic”. Also called a “lockclown” or even a “Wuhan-ker”.

Goutbreak: The sudden fear that you've consumed so much wine, cheese, home-made cake and Easter chocolate in lockdown that your ankles are swelling up like a medieval king's.

Antisocial distancing: Using health precautions as an excuse for snubbing neighbours and generally ignoring people you find irritating.

PODCAST & SERVICES

Each week the ministry team is producing something to listen to as well as read. You can find it here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-238594520/sets/podcast>

Ifeanyi is hosting Zoom services every **Sunday at 10:00** and you are welcome to join in. See the website for details and liturgy: <https://www.stgeorgeandstmichael.org.uk/st-michaels-online-services/>

The Church of England have set up **Daily Hope**, a 24h FREEPHONE number to call for prayers, reflections and hymns: 0800 804 8044.



BLESSING

Spirit of Life and Love,

Be with us today, as people suffer, as parents grieve, as violence rages.

Be with us who feel the pain of loss, who feel anger at injustice.

Be with the oppressed and change the heart of the oppressor,
for we know that all are joined in our humanity, no matter how often we forget it.
Help us remember the hope we had, the hope we have, and the hope we will have.

And the Blessing of God,

The One who makes us one,

The One who stands next to us all in our humanity,

The One who lives in fire at the heart of all people together,

Fill us with love, hope and a burning desire for justice and peace,

This day and always.

Amen