



A 9.30 am service from 2 August

Today is our second **9.30am service at St Mary's Church**. Many of us have missed the sense of being together in worship and - while there are considerable restrictions such as no singing and no refreshments - this is a significant step to restore our 'embodied community'. This service is not a 'replacement' for either the 8am BCP service or the 10.30am service, but a shorter service for everyone. Please find all details and answers to questions in the Q&A page on our website: www.denhamparish.church/ninethirty

If you are worshipping with us in person today at St Mary's, we're so glad you are here! To keep everyone as safe as we can, we will give clear instructions on movement of people during and at the end of the service.

Please pray for ...

- those on holiday and those whose holidays have been cancelled.
- those who have lost their job or are afraid of losing it.
- those who are bereaved.

ONLINE AND ON THE PHONE

Our online and telephone services will continue in August.



Online: Sundays 10.30am
Stream any time afterwards:
tinyurl.com/youtube-denham



Telephone: Available any time for a week,
Sun to Sat: **01895 714013**



Do you ever find yourself wishing your life had a "RESET" button? The current crisis can be an opportunity for a personal "reset". Today we are starting a series of talks as part of our Sunday worship - online, on the phone or at St Mary's Church:

Sun 9 August: **RESET your family**
Sun 16 August: **RESET your money**
Sun 23 August: **RESET: Finishing well**
Sun 30 August: **RESET your online life**
Sun 6 September: **RESET your job**
Sun 13 September: **RESET God**

ONLINE DONATIONS



If you wish to make a donation to Denham Parish Church, please scan this code with the camera or QR app on your smartphone and follow instructions.



PAROUSIA

Weekly News and Service Sheet

9th August 2020

9th Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to this new-style Parousia! This news and service sheet is one way of keeping in touch and worshipping together.. The inside pages provide you with a simple service so you can worship at home. Please check our website or Facebook page on a regular basis and do contact our church office if we can help in any way.



Last Sunday Christoph helped us think through the Healthy Habit of Fellowship. We need each other. Because we have a loving Father we also have a loving family. We always need to nurture that sense of close community. For those who were able to attend the 9.30 am service last Sunday - being together at St Mary's again last was joy beyond words. From the 15th March to the 2nd August is a huge gap without Sunday worship in our beautiful building. But the heart-linking relationship of God's family has never ceased and in some ways has grown stronger during this lockdown experience.

My brother in law is in the habit of going to church even when on holiday abroad. He was in Germany and decided to pop into the local Lutheran Church for worship even though he doesn't speak the language. There was an atmosphere of warmth and friendship and he felt at home even though he understood nothing.

As he listened, he noticed a word that was frequently used which sounded like 'gamineshaft.' In his internal reverie he thought to himself, "That sounds a little bit like 'mineshaft.'" He continued his internal dialogue and reflected that a mineshaft is something that goes down deep to bring up something precious! It was just a random set of thoughts that slipped into his mind. After the service he asked an English-speaking member of the congregation what the word meant and he was told, 'It means fellowship.' He thought to himself 'my thoughts were quite appropriate since fellowship is something that goes down deep to bring up something precious.' And so it is. God brings us together for purpose. The writer to the Hebrews says, 'Let us consider one another so that we may be stirred to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together.' (Hebrews 10:24-25a) The word *consider* has the thought of discovery. We can discover something of God in one another, opening our eyes to see Jesus in one another so that we can stir one another to love and good deeds. That quality of fellowship is rich and enriching.

It is indeed something that goes down deep to bring up something precious. *(Ian Jennings)*

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STAY SAFE • STAY CONNECTED • STAY HOPEFUL

HYMN

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven!
To his feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King!

Father-like he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows!

CONFESSION

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence,
through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry,
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

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.

COLLECT

Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BIBLE READINGS

Colossians 3. 17-21

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is your acceptable duty in the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, or they may lose heart.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Luke 2. 36-52

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him. Now every year his parents went to

Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

REFLECTION (or read page 1)

PRAYERS

Merciful God, we entrust to your unfailing and tender care those who are ill, in pain or grieving. May they know that whenever danger threatens, your everlasting arms are there to hold us safe. Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray the LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me
save that thou art;
thou my best thought
in the day and the night,
waking or sleeping,
thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom,
be thou my true word,
I ever with thee
and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father;
and I thy true heir;
thou in me dwelling,
and I in thy care.

THE BLESSING

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep our hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and
remain with us always. **Amen.**