

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones

He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied -
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood
of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand:
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

THE BLESSING

The God of all grace, who called
you to his eternal glory in Christ
Jesus, establish, strengthen and
settle you in the faith; and the
blessing of God almighty, the
Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, be among you and remain
with you always. **Amen.**

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PAROUSIA

Weekly News and Service Sheet

18th July 2021

7th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY



Welcome to St Mary's Church! We are so glad you are here. If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello to the service leader or a member of the welcome team so we can welcome you personally. If you read this at home, please find a simple service on the inside pages, which you can use to guide your prayers.

Christoph Lindner, Rector

Food to sustain us when the challenge is huge

It was a surreal moment. The disciples were worn and weary so Jesus suggested that they go to a quiet place for much needed rest and recuperation. They had been giving out so much they felt spent. They needed stillness, peace and rest. But word spread like wildfire so that by the time they arrived at their destination huge crowds had already assembled. It would have been pardonable if Jesus had said, "Where did you all spring from? Just give us a little break!!" Not for a moment. Jesus looks at the multitude and is moved with compassion - he sees them as sheep without shepherd and draws upon inner resources of strength to continue ministry to harassed and hurting people.

Where did that strength come from? Not from his attributes of Godhead. Philippians 2 tells us that, 'He did not think that equality with God was something to cling to but emptied himself and took upon himself the form of a servant.' Remember him seeking out a poor, ashamed and despised woman in the midday heat at the well. Her heart opened as she realised that her encounter was with 'the one who would come.'

When the disciples arrived they were concerned for Jesus and said, in effect, "You need to eat." Jesus replied, "I have meat to eat that you know nothing about."

They wondered how he had got hold of food but Jesus said, "My meat is to the will of him who sent me." Doing the will of the Father is food enough to sustain him even when the challenge is huge. Of course it's important to have our Sabbath Rest - see my article about this in the current parish magazine. We need to build that into our week. But there are times when the call of the Kingdom is immediate and action is called for. That's when we need to be ready for action - whole life discipleship requires it and the Holy Spirit enables it.

Ian Jennings

FROM AUGUST: HYBRID CHURCH

From August 1st, our morning service at St Mary's Church will move from 9.30am to 10.30am. During August and September we will trial 'hybrid church' - the service at St Mary's will be streamed live on the internet, so everyone can take part in the same service - whether you are in church, at home or anywhere else in the world with an internet connection. This will also allow us to extend the length of the service a little as Christoph and Edda won't have to rush back home to start the online service!



Let's pray together

- For the courage to speak out against injustice and oppression.
- We remember those whose lives are filled with pain, anxiety or sorrow and ask you to come alongside them.
- That our heart may be set on heavenly things, not on things of earth.

ONLINE DONATIONS



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phone: 01895 832771

STAY SAFE • STAY CONNECTED • STAY HOPEFUL

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

(Psalm 119.41-45)

Let your steadfast love come to me,
O Lord, your salvation
according to your promise.
Then I shall have an answer
for those who taunt me,
for I trust in your word.
Do not take the word of truth
utterly out of my mouth,
for my hope is in your ordinances.
I will keep your law continually,
for ever and ever.
I shall walk at liberty,
for I have sought your precepts.

HYMN

All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance
he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tow'r and temple, fall to dust.
But God's pow'r, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tow'r.

Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

CONFESSION

Lord our God, in our sin we have
avoided your call. Our love for you is
like a morning cloud, like the dew
that goes away early. Have mercy on
us; deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord enrich you with his grace,
and nourish you with his blessing;
the Lord defend you in trouble
and keep you from all evil;
the Lord accept your prayers,
and absolve you from your offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our
Saviour. Amen.

COLLECT

Generous God, you give us gifts and
make them grow: though our faith is
small as mustard seed, make it grow
to your glory and the flourishing of
your kingdom; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

READING - Mark 6. 30-34,53-end

The apostles gathered around Jesus,
and told him all that they had done
and taught. He said to them, 'Come
away to a deserted place all by
yourselves and rest a while.' For
many were coming and going, and
they had no leisure even to eat. And
they went away in the boat to a
deserted place by themselves. Now
many saw them going and recognised
them, and they hurried there on foot
from all the towns and arrived ahead

of them. As he went ashore, he saw
a great crowd; and he had
compassion for them, because they
were like sheep without a
shepherd; and he began to teach
them many things.

When they had crossed over, they
came to land at Gennesaret and
moored the boat. When they got
out of the boat, people at once
recognised him, and rushed about
that whole region and began to
bring the sick on mats to wherever
they heard he was. And wherever
he went, into villages or cities or
farms, they laid the sick in the
market-places, and begged him that
they might touch even the fringe of his
cloak; and all who touched it were
healed.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

HYMN

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want,
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,
And He anoints my head with oil,
And my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me,
and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know.

PRAYERS

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

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.

HYMN

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought
and storm.
What heights of love,
what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled,
when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.