

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Christ with Adam and Eve - former Church of Christ, Chora - Istanbul

Weekly devotions, prayers and news The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity 11 October 2020

Dear Friends,

Welcome! Herewith our weekly sheet and devotions. If you wish to receive this, together with the accompanying email, please join via the church website or contact Gill - htcuckfield.churchoffice@talktalk.net - and you will be added to the circulation list. Please note that you can unsubscribe at any time.

At present we ask that you use the online ticketing system if you wish to attend the Sunday 9.45 Parish Eucharist in church. This service is also livestreamed on the Zoom link. The 8.00 is not ticketed, and the weekday services are on Zoom rather than in the church. If you are unable to access the ticketing system, please contact Gill in the Church Office (01444 456461)

Please do join us. We would love to see you either in the church or online!

With every blessing,

Michael (Vicar)

Please check the church website for details of services, etc:

www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Trinity 18 (11 October 2020):

8.00: Holy Communion (in church)

9.45: The Parish Eucharist CW Proper 23 (in church—see website to book tickets)

11.30: Annual Parochial Church Meeting and election of Churchwardens (on Zoom)

Services during the week:

Tuesday: 7.30pm Licensing of the Reverend Michael Windridge by the Bishop as Associate Priest (at Bolney)

Wednesday: 10.30am Holy Communion (Common Worship) Readings: Galatians 5: 18-end; Luke 11: 42-46

Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) **Teresa of Avila** Readings: Romans 8: 22-27; Luke 11: 47-end
3.00pm - Wedding of Simon and Cheryl

Friday: 10.00am Interment of ashes—Cyril Dixon

11.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Readings Trinity 18

Next Sunday: TRINITY 19 (18 October 2020)

8.00: Holy Communion (in church)

9.45: The Parish Eucharist CW Proper 24 (in church—see website to book tickets)

4.30: IGNITE—worship for the young and young at heart. Guest speaker: Jess Beaumont (on Zoom)

All services (other than the 8.00) live on Zoom: Click the blue link on the front page of the church website before services, entering a waiting 'area' before joining everyone.

The Collect for Trinity 18

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth
and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with confidence in the salvation
which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Post Communion Prayer:

We praise and thank you, O Christ,
for this sacred feast: for here we receive you,
here the memory of your passion is renewed,
here our minds are filled with grace,
and here a pledge of future glory is given,
when we shall feast at that table
where you reign
with all your saints for ever Amen

Isaiah 25: 1-9

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Philippians 4: 1-9

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me,

Matthew 22: 1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. 'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'" For many are called, but few are chosen.'

A thought

The Church's year is drawing to a close: in a few weeks we will be thinking as we do every year very clearly about the end of time, and just what that means. Today we have a preview. The parable of the banquet is a link between the Gospel readings of recent weeks (their theme: 'Just who is going to be saved?') - yet also knowing that God's mercy is unsearchable and unknowable. The big danger is complacency: we are baptised, we go to Church (in one way or another in these strange times), we have our invitations to the wedding feast. But when the big day comes, will we be ready for it? Or will our thoughts be on the other things of life? In other words, whilst longing to know God further, we shouldn't judge others by seeing ourselves as people on one side of a divide. We are rather called to be bridges of grace - the grace made known through Jesus Christ. Jesus speaks of himself as the Bridegroom, and today points out to those who think that they are chosen people that they are in danger of missing the celebration. Our faith should be lived in anticipation that the Bridegroom will greet us and draw us further into the heart of God's Love—the banquet of joy which has no end.

Our job? To be signs of the love of the Bridegroom, joyous members of the Bride - the Church!

A prayer for this time of anxiety:

God of all compassion, your love never fails. Help us to listen to the tranquillity of your presence within our lives, so that we may grow in the knowledge that your Son, Jesus Christ, walks beside us, and your Holy Spirit comforts us at the heart of our being; for you are One God, world without end. Amen

Please remember those for whom we pray:

Immediate Need: Stuart, Rev Sandra Hall, Jo Kells, Marilyn Archbold, Jenny, Reg Ruddock, David Dennis, Jane Terry, Heather Hollis, Carol Shepherd, Siân

Long Term Need: Young Georgia, Young Joshua, Julia Settle, Young Reggie, Ros Ayling, Wendy, Ann Went, Jean Simmons, Dave Cox, Jenny, Julie Sadler, Becky & Mark Parker, Tony Burbidge, Christopher, Jenny, Marjorie Chilton, Anne Norris, Alan Prebble, Stephanie Gilpin, Jill Rockey, Janet Card, Jocelyn Bentley, Yvonne Godsmark, Michael Hilton, George Snashall, Eileen Knight, Mary Todd, Gracie & Lucy Neiff,

Please remember the recently departed and their families:

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 11th Audrey Cowen, Glydwr Goldfinch, 12th Winifred Hounsell, Frederic Pyle, James Swain, 13th Marjorie Smith, Oliver Binns, Daisy Rhodes, Monica Harvey, Janet Windmill, Richard Sharp, Eileen Weir, 14th Margaret Prebble, Mabel Shakespeare, John Penny, 15th Len Beard, Margo Dixon, Gilbert Went, 17th Francis Woods