

# HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

*Joyfully serving Jesus*



*Weekly devotions, prayers and news*

## Fourth Sunday after Trinity

27 June 2021

**'Do not fear, only believe.'**

My dear friends,

Last week's Sunday readings led us to consider God's presence in the face of human suffering. Both Job and the disciples of the Lord found God's abiding presence in the midst of storms, and I also used imagery of the boat on Galilee providing an analogy of the Church. This week however we firmly see the presence of God directly in the heart of human suffering. The woman who has suffered for so many years; the grieving parents of the little girl who has died; Jesus is there in the midst of commotion, sorrow, sickness and death - Jesus - the abiding presence of God through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Sometimes we may feel our hearts breaking at things we experience or even hear and read about. Yet God is there, bearing that suffering, feeling the mental anguish, yet longing for us to open our hearts to know evermore how deeply the divine love is borne for us through Jesus Christ. This might not lessen the pain, but we find that we are never alone.

The world - the fracturing society in which we dwell - needs the knowledge of God's presence as almost never before. We, as well as knowing this blessing, must convey the words of the Lord to bring healing; **'Do not fear, only believe.'**

With love,

Michael (Vicar)

Church website: [www.holytrinitycuckfield.org](http://www.holytrinitycuckfield.org)

## Fourth Sunday after Trinity (27 June 2021)

**8.00 Holy Communion** (in church) Reader: Roger Edmonston

**9.45 The Parish Eucharist** (in church and online - see website to book

Readers: Carolyn Ponder & Peter Graydon; Intercessor: Revd. Stephen Caple

**1.00pm Holy Baptism**

### Services during the week:

**Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion** Readings: Genesis 21: 5, 8-20; Matthew 8: 28-end **in church and online**

**Thursday: 9.00 Holy Communion** (Iona/Celtic) Readings: Genesis 22: 1-19; Matthew 9: 1-8 **online only**

**Friday: 11.00 Holy Communion** (Book of Common Prayer) Readings: Fourth Sunday after Trinity **online only**

## Next Sunday: Fifth Sunday after Trinity (4th July 2021)

**8.00 Holy Communion** (in church)

**9.45 Parish Eucharist** (in church and online - see website to book)

**11.15 Family Praise** a short joyful service (outside if fine, in church if wet)

Please note that Choral Evensong will take place on the second Sundays in July and August

**All services live on Zoom marked: Click the blue link on the front page of the church website before services, entering a waiting 'area' before joining everyone.**

### The Collect for Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Gracious Father,  
by the obedience of Jesus  
you brought salvation to our wayward world:  
draw us into harmony with your will,  
that we may find all things restored in him,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
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:

Eternal God,  
comfort of the afflicted  
and healer of the broken,  
you have fed us at the table of life and hope:  
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,  
that all the world may acknowledge  
the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

**Wisdom of Solomon 1: 13-15; 2: 23-24** God did not make death, and he does not delight in the death of the living. For he created all things so that they might exist; the generative forces of the world are wholesome, and there is no destructive poison in them, and the dominion of Hades is not on earth. For righteousness is immortal. For God created us for incorruption, and made us in the image of his own eternity, but through the devil's envy death entered the world, and those who belong to his company experience it.

**2 Corinthians 8: 7-end** Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking. I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something—now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have. I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. As it is written, 'The one who had much did not have too much, and the one who had little did not have too little.' But thanks be to God who put in the heart of Titus the same eagerness for you that I myself have. For he not only accepted our appeal, but since he is more eager than ever, he is going to you of his own accord. With him we are sending the brother who is famous among all the churches for his proclaiming of the good news; and not only that, but he has also been appointed by the churches to travel with us while we are administering this generous undertaking for the glory of the Lord himself and to show our goodwill. We intend that no one should blame us about this generous gift that we are administering, for we intend to do what is right not only in the Lord's sight but also in the sight of others. And with them we are sending our brother whom we have often tested and found eager in many matters, but who is now more eager than ever because of his great confidence in you. As for Titus, he is my partner and co-worker in your service; as for our brothers, they are messengers of the churches, the glory of Christ. Therefore, openly before the churches, show them the proof of your love and of our reason for boasting about you.

**Mark 5: 21-end** When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered round him; and he was by the lake. Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet and begged him repeatedly, 'My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.' So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. Now there was a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years. She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, 'If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.' Immediately her haemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' And his disciples said to him, 'You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, "Who touched me?"' He looked all round to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.' While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, 'Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?' But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, 'Do not fear, only believe.' He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. When he had entered, he said to them, 'Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.' And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, 'Talitha cum', which means, 'Little girl, get up!' And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

**A thought** Jesus's power to heal is the power of perfect love – the love that moves him to bring his healing and life-giving power to bear. It is this same love that will move him to mount the wood of the Cross and pour out his blood to cleanse the entire world of sin. Jesus Christ is the true temple, and like the earthly temple that symbolised him, that infectious power of sin did in a certain way infect him. It killed him. It tore down the temple of his body. Yet as we know through his resurrection life—open to all—Jesus reveals that that love is stronger than death. His healing is for all people and nations.

**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:** Barbara Booth, Wendy Boys, Carla Spear, Wendy Hibling, Justine, Sheila Mitchell, John Bernardi (priest), Kate Malby, Becky Parker, Jenny Burke

**Long Term Need:** Young Georgia, Young Joshua, Young Reggie, Anne Greenhill, Ros Ayling, Wendy, Ann Went, Dave Cox, Julie Sadler, Mark Parker, Tony Burbidge, Christopher, Janet Card, Yvonne Godsmark, George Snashall, Eileen Knight, Mary Todd, Gracie & Lucy Neiff, **Those in Care Homes:** Anne Norris, Alan Prebble, Stephanie Gilpin, Jill Rockey, Jean Simmons, Mary Watts, Ruth Baker

**Please remember the recently departed and their families: Rodney Pratt, Angela Stirner, Marjorie Chilton**

**In our Book of Remembrance** this week we remember: 27th Constance Salter, James Perkins, 28th Angela Titheradge, Robert Mumbray, 29th Norah Cooper, 30th Joyce Forest, Frances Carter, Leslie Bousell, Evelyn Rhodes, 1st Anna Titlow, Florence Parker, Raymond Smith, 2nd Sherrie Williard, Anthony Bray, 3rd Luke Morris, Peter Marshall