

# HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

*Joyfully serving Jesus*



*Weekly devotions, prayers and news*  
**First Sunday after Trinity**  
*19th June 2022*

June has been a particularly busy month so far, with celebrations, festivals and musical extravaganzas. It may come as a bit of a relief to know that we are now in a period of the church's calendar known as Ordinary Time; the long season that continues all the way to Advent. The liturgical colour for Ordinary Time is green, representing the time of growth and expansion of the church following the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. So, rather than resting on our laurels, Ordinary Time is a time for reflection, growth and action. Just like all the other liturgical seasons, we are called to be active participants. Participating in Ordinary Time means participating in the everyday life of Jesus, which is anything but ordinary. But the power of this season cannot be fully unleashed unless we play our own, unique part in it.

Jane & Brian

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

## **First Sunday after Trinity (19 June 2022)**

**8.00 Holy Communion** *(in church)*

*Readers: Ralph Colbran & Margaret Thistlethwaite*

**10.15 Festival Choral Mass** *(in church and online)*

*Readers: Robyn Brotherton & Valerie Poxon; Intercessor: Tony Lawrence*

*Hymns: 7, 591, 506, 358, 769*

### **Services during the week:**

**Wednesday: 10.30** Holy Communion (C. Worship)

*Readings: 2 Kings 22: 8-13, 23: 1-3; Matthew 7: 15-20*

**Thursday: 9.00am** Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) *Readings: 2 Kings 24: 8-17; Matthew 7: 21-end*

**Friday: 11.00am** Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) *Readings: First Sunday after Trinity*

## **Next Sunday: Second Sunday after Trinity (26 June 2022)**

**8.00 Holy Communion** *(in church)*

**9.45 Parish Eucharist** Bishop Ruth Bushyager Presiding *(in church and online)*

**6.00 Sung Evensong** *(in church and online)*

**For services live on Zoom: Click the blue link on the front page of the church website**

### **The Collect for First Sunday after Trinity**

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,  
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 Father,  
we thank you for nourishing us  
with these heavenly gifts:  
may our communion strengthen us in faith,  
build us up in hope,  
and make us grow in love;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### Isaiah 65: 1-9

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am', to a nation that did not call on my name. I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; who say, 'Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.' These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the Lord; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. Thus says the Lord: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it', so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

### Galatians 3: 23-end

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

### Luke 8: 26-39

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me'— for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

### **A thought** Luke 8.26-39

The movement of God always goes the other way. The movement of God respects diversity. It brings together and binds up diverse experience in a cohesive whole. It constantly invites into community those who are outside the cultural norms: women and men, Jews and Greeks, slaves and free, us and them. And that's often frightening.

When the demons had left, and the man was sitting at the foot of Jesus "clothed in his right mind" the people were afraid. Yes, real relationships are scary. Especially those that strive to be icons of the relationship between Christ and those who sit at his feet—the Church.

Relationships often feel safer when we're around people who are similar to us. People who like us, and whom we like. Yet, the walk with Jesus is constantly asking us to open up that circle and to accept, and even love, people who aren't like us. Not by chaining them to us, but by allowing and loving the expanses between us. God is constantly moving us from "even them?" Even the Greeks? Even the slaves? Even the ones who live in the tombs.

Even them? To: Yes. Even them.

Relationships are tricky, and these are the kinds of relationships we as Christians are called to. Neither a radical isolation nor an undifferentiated togetherness, both of which lead to suspicion and the breaking of community. We are called to relationships where a marvellous living side by side takes place. We're called to love the expanses between all of us, and to seeing ourselves and all of God's children as whole, and complete and gathered together before an immense sky.

### **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, John Bernardi (priest), Paul Simpson, Martin Packham, Val Thompson, Ralph Wilkins, Martin Simmonds, Becky Parker, George Snashall

**Long Term Need:** Young Georgia, Joshua and Reggie, Wendy, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Christopher, Wendy Hibling, Yvonne Godsmark, Carla Spear, Pam Sagar, Eileen Knight, Maureen Griffiths, Carol Cox,

**Those in Care Homes:** Alan Prebble, Jill Rockey, Jean Simmons, Mary Watts, Ruth Baker, Keith Thompson, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card

### **Please remember the recently departed and their families: Peter Bellenger, Betty Woods, Andrew Thurgood, Wayne Debnam, Richard Knowles**

**In our Book of Remembrance** this week we remember: 16th Angela Stirner, 19th Kenneth Bunker, 20th Elsie Matthews, Gordon Mitchell, 21st Mary Walton, 22nd Alfred Thurston, Connor Mahoney, Rene King, Jessica Beecher, Eileen McNeill, 23rd Ian Ross, Merrill, 24th Mary Goddard, Marie Atmore