

Sunday 16th June 2024

Third Sunday after Trinity and Father's Day

- 8.00 a.m. BCP Communion
10.00 a.m. Morning Worship
4.00 p.m. Tea-time Church
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Collect for Today

God our saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold us fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen

Service Readings

Ezekiel 17:22-end (*p.796*), 2 Corinthians 5:6-10(11-13) (*p.178*) and Mark 4:26-34 (*p.37*)

Please pray for

- ... Dave Barclay, Kat Gillett, Jan & Mark Knott, Del May and Jean Read.
... the family and friends of Frances Dienes and Jennifer Thorne whose anniversary of death is at this time.
... those who live and work in The Oval, The Quadrangle and The Square.
... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.
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Post Communion Prayer

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Donations

These are the ways we encourage everyone to give:

- The collection during the third hymn
- The collection plate at the back
- The contactless donation machine at the back
- The QR code to take you to our online giving page
- By setting up a standing order to All Saints

Don't forget to Gift Aid if you can! Thank you.



Dear Friends

Today in our readings from the Bible, there are three parables about plants and seeds. Two of them come from Jesus, and one – more unusually – from the prophet Ezekiel. Ezekiel writes, ‘The Lord says, I will take a shoot from the very top of a cedar and plant it. On the mountain heights I will plant it, and it will produce branches and bear fruit and become a splendid cedar. Birds of every kind will nest in it, and find shelter in the shade of its branches’ (17:22-23). There are echoes of Jesus’ parable of the mustard seed, from our Gospel reading for today. Here too a tiny seed is planted, and grows into an enormous shrub, providing shade for birds to nest in.

Our Gospel reading also contains a less familiar parable of Jesus too, and one which is only recorded in Mark’s Gospel – The Parable of the Growing seed. Here a man plants a seed; and whether the man sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows – even though the man has no real idea how or why this happens.

Parables have a particular relevance in our post-modern world. They draw us into a different world, leading us to question and to explore the meaning being conveyed – rather than presenting us with ‘absolute truth’. Parables lead us to explore the identity of the speaker: Who is he? What does he know? And in that exploration, we find our own identity revealed. Parables encourage to examine just one story, rather than whole metanarratives of the universe. And parables about seeds – tiny beginnings that grow into something much greater – give us a place to start.

We’ll be exploring these parables today, and seeing where they lead us.....

Beverly

Mission Focus for June: Mosaic Middle East (MME)

MME works primarily in Baghdad, northern Iraq and Jordan. In Baghdad, it supports the work of St. George’s church in providing a Christian haven, where it is the only Christian church. It runs a clinic which provides free medical care to people of any religion or none. In northern Iraq, MME runs a programme for accelerating the education for Yazidi children, and in Jordan, the Olive Tree project helps young refugees to acquire new life skills. For more information, please visit the MME website - mosaicmiddleeast.org; it is well worth it!

Notices

Father's Day: at Tea-time church, join Jo as she helps us to consider our privilege to stand alongside Jesus and call God "Abba, Father".

Songs of Praise followed by Strawberry Teas & Produce Sale: NEXT Sunday 23rd June at 4pm, we'll be having a Songs of Praise service in church. Please let Beverly know of your favourite hymns or songs (videos also possible!) After, there will be a Strawberry Tea & Produce Sale in the Vicarage garden. It would be great if you could donate garden produce, jams, chutneys, cakes etc!

Mosaic Middle East: next Sunday, 23rd June, we'll be joined by Helen Jackson, an Executive Director at Mosaic Middle East. Helen will be sharing with us the work they do, the current needs and challenges in the Middle East and how we can continue to pray for their work.

Hard of Hearing: TOMORROW, 17th June. At 2pm there will be a chance to have a one-to-one about your hearing-aids. Please phone Trish (563173) about this so that she can book you a slot. At 3pm we'll have a cup of tea and some chat – perhaps about memories of D-Day!

Godparents Sunday, Altogether Worship 7th July: Following a successful 'Godparents Sunday' last year, we'll be offering a similar service this year. It will take place within our Cafe Style Altogether Worship service at 10am on the 7th July, and we'll be inviting all those who have been baptised at All Saints to come along, and bring their godparents with them. We'll be renewing our baptism vows, and giving godparents an opportunity to remember and renew the promises they made on behalf of their godchildren. Bring your baptism candles and please do invite your godparents, and bring them along to this special service! Beverly

ZERO HOUR: The Eco Vision group would like to draw your attention to an item in the current Diocesan Parish Brief, which is circulated to all parishes in our diocese: "Both Bishop Andrew and Bishop Paul have signed a campaign called ZERO HOUR, which is building support during the election period for legislation coming through Parliament next year to protect nature and act on climate". You may wish to consider signing up as an individual to show your support www.zerohour.uk/.

Pet Service: Sunday 14th July at 4pm followed by tea and cake. All pets are welcome to celebrate all that they mean to us and to receive a blessing. If your pet is too shy, then please come along with a photo!

Diary for the Coming Week

Morning prayer Mon, Tues, Weds 9.15am in the Reading Room and Zoom.

Thurs Holy Communion at 9.30am in the Reading Room.

- Mon 17th Women's Bible Study Group, 12.30pm
Hearing Clinic, Reading Room, 2.00pm
Hard of Hearing Group, Reading Room, 3.00pm
Big Build Steering Group, Vicarage, 7.30pm
- Weds 19th Dray Court Service, 2.30pm
- Thurs 20th Holy Communion, Church, 9.30am
Young Adults Study Group, 6 Scillonian Road, 7.30pm
Choir Rehearsal, 8.00pm
- Friday 21st Baby & Toddler Group, Church, 9.30am
- Sun 23rd Family Communion with Children's Church, 10.00am *with a guest speaker from Mosaic Middle East*
Songs of Praise, Church, 4.00pm
Strawberry Teas & Produce Sale, Vicarage, 4.45pm

Daily Readings for the coming week

- Mon 17th Ps. 21, Judges 8:22-end, Luke 15:1-10
- Tues 18th Ps. 73, Judges 9:1-21, Luke 15:11-end
- Weds 19th Ps. 77, Judges 9:22-end, Luke 16:1-18
- Thurs 20th Ps. 78:1-39, Judges 11:1-11, Luke 16:19-end
- Fri 21st Ps. 55, Judges 11:29-end, Luke 17:1-10
- Sat 22nd Ps. 76, Judges 12:1-7, Luke 17:11-19

Service Readings for Sunday 23rd June: Trinity 4

Job 38:1-11, 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 and Mark 4:35-end

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