

28th June, Trinity 3, 2020 Facebook live

Welcome and Introduction

Good morning and a warm welcome to All Saints' and to this service on third Sunday after Trinity.

The Weekly sheet is on the All Saints Website together with regular updates about church life and various resources. Please feel free to 'like', and 'share'....we greet each other, we can also add own prayers in the comments....

Two readings: We are in God's house. God welcomes us and he is the host. The readings today have a theme of welcome and hospitality. In the first, from the OT, the prophet Elisha is welcomed into a home and gospel speaks of welcoming all. Whoever we are , God welcomes and forgives and heals, so let us....

Lord, you came to heal the wounds of sin and division. Lord have mercy.

Lord, you came to help us to see one another, not as strangers, but as sisters and brothers in God's family.

Christ have mercy.

Lord, you help us to make room in our hearts for the lost, the lonely, and the rejected.

Lord have mercy.

Absolution: May almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent. Have mercy upon you. Pardon and deliver you your sins. Confirm and Strengthen you in all goodness and bring you to eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Amen

In a moment of silence let us bring to God our hopes and concerns for today and the days ahead....

Collect: Almighty God,

you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your
service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God; through
Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and
reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Reading : 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16

⁸ One day Elisha was passing through Shunem, where a wealthy woman lived, who urged him to have a meal. So whenever he passed that way, he would stop there for a meal. ⁹ She said to her husband, "Look, I am sure that this man who regularly passes our way is a holy man of God. ¹⁰ Let us make a small roof chamber with walls, and put there for him a bed, a table, a chair, and a lamp, so that he can stay there whenever he comes to us."

¹¹ One day when he came there, he went up to the chamber and lay down there.

¹⁴ He said, "What then may be done for her?" Gehazi' his servant, answered, "Well, she has no son, and her husband is old." ¹⁵ He said, "Call her." When he had called her, she stood at the door. ¹⁶ He said, "At this season, in due time, you shall embrace a son." She replied, "No, my lord, O man of God; do not deceive your servant."

This is the word of the Lord

Gospel: Matthew 10:37-42

Here the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew: Jesus said:

³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

⁴⁰ "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

This is the gospel of the Lord,

In the name....

Step by step we are gaining more freedom. Pubs and restaurants will open soon and we can have greater freedom to meet friends and family. It is as if we have been in exile, from our usual lives, and now we can start to return home.

How wonderful it is to be able to meet again and enjoy company – particularly of those we find open, friendly, warm and hospitable. Hospitality is a characteristic of the Christian life.

Jesus urges us to be hospitable.

(There were days when neighbours left their doors unlocked and people popped in and out. Now, we have alarm systems, locks and cameras.

The last 3 months has shown there is more need for hospitality and friendliness. There is much loneliness and barriers can be created against those who come from the wrong place, or have a different colour or faith.

Hospitality to friends is no big deal, but what about hospitality to those who are different? This is a big deal and we may feel there is a risk involved.)

Since Pentecost, our gospel readings have challenged us to think about mission. The Holy Spirit was given, and now the question is: How do we move into the world to help Christ's kingdom grow?

We have been reminded to follow the apostles into the world, to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed, that the fields are ready for harvest, and to pray for more workers. We have been warned that we will not be treated well on our mission and that it will create division even in our own homes.

Now, in the third week, we learn that our role in the mission is not only as those who are sent out but also as those who receive others on the mission. The focus is on welcoming. Jesus uses the word "welcome" six times in this brief passage and points us to the importance of hospitality in furthering Jesus' Kingdom. We are called to consider more deeply what it means to welcome one another.

Jesus said, 'whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward'.

A cup of cold water is a symbol of the small kind deed. Little deeds may not look much but they mean a huge amount. This is mission – it does not have to be something scary or for professional religious people. Kind deeds such as making a phone call to ask how a friend or stranger is doing, dropping off shopping for the elderly or isolating, reaching out to the lonely and most vulnerable in the community.

Christians are called to promote compassionate welcome that inspires us to trust, to be open, and to share.

At the same time, we need to exercise caution to avoid manipulating others and seeking personal gain.

Christ calls us to reach out. And there are rewards – the growth of understanding, friendliness, and cooperation, things we really need in communities around the world at this time.

For Christians, hospitality is not a nice extra to our private time with God, it is at the heart of the gospel. Whoever welcomes the stranger, welcomes Christ himself.

Hospitality is more than open doors it's about open hearts.

Yes, there is a risk , one can get hurt, but it is the path to the fullness of life, and the welcome God gives to his heavenly kingdom.

In the name of the Father.....

Intercessions: In the power of the Spirit and in Union with Christ, let us pray to the Father....

Ray Wright, Claire Wood, Sandra Gait, Louise Pike

Lord, in your mercy..

We pray for those who have died, those who have lost family members or friends due to the virus,

Our Father.....

Concluding prayer and Blessing:

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.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**

May God who loves you keep you in his fatherly care;
May Jesus who dwells with you guide you on your way;
May the Holy Spirit who lives in you bring peace to
your hearts, and blessing of God almighty, the Father,
the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain
with you always. Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Evensong 5.30 pm, OoS on the website

Church opening, 3 to 5 pm
Prayer group on facebook

Eucharist 11 am Tuesday Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2069378522?pwd=WkVWMUpZRO1ieXE3dFFVK2ZVcHVkQT09>

Updated OoS on the website (covid 19 page) Ordinary time

Prayer Group 7 pm Thursday, Zoom
Coffee morning 11 am Saturday, Zoom
Access details have been sent by email

Future Sundays – opening up - 10.30 and 5.30

<https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsPeterborough/>

Daily Hope the line, which is available 24 hours a day on
0800 804 8044, If you know of someone who isn't on
internet, let them know, ...

Online collection:
<https://allsaintspeterborough.org.uk/about/giving/>