



St. George's, Brockworth

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021

## **Notices and updates**

### **Worship**

As England prepares for the easing of lockdown on Monday 19th July we, too, are exploring what this looks like for our church, worship and family life at St George's.

While some of us want to fling wide the gates and hug everyone in sight, we're conscious that others might shudder at the thought and need time to readjust. So, the main headline is that we will take things very slowly and not rush into any big changes, regardless of what's happening across the rest of the UK. Whatever you're feeling, we hope you're looking forward to opportunities in the not-too-distant future to reconnect again without face-masks, physical distancing and without the tight restrictions we've been living with for so long.

So, what next? Well as things stand, and unless we hear otherwise from the government, Church of England, and the diocese, this is what we propose for our Sunday church gatherings from Sunday 25th July:

**Booking:** it will no longer be necessary for you to email or contact the church office before attending a Sunday service.

**Face coverings:** please continue to wear face coverings while moving around inside the church buildings, but these can be removed, if you wish, while you're seated. We will review this in early August.

**Distancing:** we will continue to direct the seating around the church and church centre, but are keen to take a more relaxed view of sitting at a distance from friends. Our advice would be to check before you sit. For example, before sharing a pew with someone else, or sitting very close to someone, please be sensitive to them and check they're happy before sitting down and removing your face covering. We will review this at the start of August.

**Communion:** we will continue to serve and share communion as we have been doing, and we will review this at the start of August.

**Singing & Church reopening during the week:** we will await guidance before reviewing singing during the service, and our ability to open St George's for private prayer during the week.

As we become familiar with the new guidelines, with its opportunities and challenges, let us be mindful and respectful that others may be in a different place to us.

Finally, once again can we stress that these are only proposals, based on the current information that we have received from Government this week. We may need to change these again should the need arise.

Thank you for your patience and understanding in these matters and keep praying with our eyes fixed on Jesus.

With thanks & prayers, Linda, Chris, and Mike. (Wardens and Vicar @ St. George's)

**Keep connected with each other & with God.**

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**As we express our joys and concerns to God this week...**

Let us be thankful and pray for our vergers, sidespeople, servers and those that read lessons or lead intercessions. Thank you to all those that contribute their time and skills to make the church what it is.

Let us pray for anyone from Brockworth who is homeless. That they shall receive shelter, aid and comfort and be given kindness and respect in abundance. Lord, please give them your guidance and love.

Let us pray for healing and wholeness in mind, body and spirit for Heidi, Jean Corless and Bob Mawson. Pray they would know and experience the peace, presence and comfort of Jesus.

Let us continue to pray for God's blessings on Sam & Hannah, Thomas & Megan, Ashley & Natalie who are to be married at St George's this month. May love and laughter fill your hearts and your homes for all the days of your lives.

Let us pray for the family and friends of Peter Norman, Mavis Bennett & Tom McCredie; pray they would know and experience the peace, presence and comfort of Jesus.

## **The Seventh Sunday After Trinity**

We worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Sing:** *(click on the song title, and it should open up and play in YouTube)*

[Dear Lord and Father of mankind](#)

We meet to celebrate the coming of Christ into the world. The word was made flesh and dwelt among us ... and we beheld his glory.

**Almighty God,  
To whom all hearts are open,  
All desires known,  
And from whom no secrets are hidden:  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
That we may perfectly love you,  
And worthily magnify your holy name;  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

Gathering our thoughts, we remember and confess:

**Our Lord Jesus Christ said;  
The first commandment is this;  
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.  
You shall love the Lord your God  
With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind  
And with all your strength.'  
The second is this, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'  
There is no other commandment greater than these.  
On these two commandments  
Hang all the law and the prophets.**

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy  
forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly,  
love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

May almighty God have mercy on us and forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

*Take a few moments to sit and think about receiving that unconditional offering of forgiveness through grace.*

### **Collect**

Generous God,  
you give us gifts and make them grow:  
though our faith is small as mustard seed,  
make it grow to your glory  
and the flourishing of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a (ESV)*****The Lord's Covenant with David***

Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, <sup>2</sup>the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." <sup>3</sup>And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, <sup>5</sup>"Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? <sup>6</sup>I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. <sup>7</sup>In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges<sup>[a]</sup> of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"' <sup>8</sup>Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince<sup>[b]</sup> over my people Israel. <sup>9</sup>And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup>from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. <sup>12</sup>When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup>He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. <sup>14</sup>I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son.

**Gospel Reading: Mark 6:30-34,53-56 (ESV)*****Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand***

The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup>And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. <sup>33</sup>Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. <sup>34</sup>When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things.

***Jesus Heals the Sick in Gennesaret***

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored to the shore. <sup>54</sup>And when they got out of the boat, the people immediately recognized him <sup>55</sup>and ran about the whole region and began to bring the sick people on their beds to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup>And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or countryside, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and implored him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

**We can explore our bible readings and how we can apply this to our day to day lives.**

Jesus taught His disciples to be distributors of His blessing and responders to those in need. He equipped them to represent Him on earth by involving them in the process of performing miracles.

In the feeding of the five thousand, the miracle of multiplication didn't happen when the food left Jesus' hands, but when it left the disciples' hands. Jesus blessed the five loaves and two fish, gave the food to the disciples, and they set out to do what seemed impossible: feeding a multitude with a boy's packed lunch. But as they did it, they experienced the miraculous.

When the Lord's blessing is on what we have, we'll succeed in spite of the challenges and obstacles we'll face. God has given each of us something that others need. But sometimes we fail to recognise it, or we doubt that it has any value. So we think, 'I don't have what it takes.'

The truth is, we do – but it's in seed form.

Jesus described it this way: 'First the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head' (Mark 4:28 NKJV). God has placed something within each of us that He wants us to recognise, nurture, and use for His glory. When He blesses what we have, we'll be amazed at the potential we've got.

A miracle began when a boy found an unmet need and decided, 'These people are hungry and need to be fed. I'm going to give what I have to help.' That's also when the disciples discovered what Jesus could do with what they had, even though it looked hopelessly inadequate.

So, let's take what God's blessed us with, and see what miracles He can work when we offer it back to Him to use for His kingdom. [UCB - Word for Today]

**Sing:** *(click on the song title, and it should open up and play in YouTube)*

**Father hear the prayer we offer**

Let us declare our faith with confidence:

**We believe in God the Father,  
who created all things:  
for by his will they were created  
and have their being.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who was slain:  
for with his blood,  
he purchased us for God,  
from every tribe and language,  
from every people and nation.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit:  
the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'  
Even so come, Lord Jesus!  
Amen.**

We pray with confidence as our saviour has taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

**Sing:** *(click on the song title, and it should open up and play in YouTube)*

**The King of love my shepherd is**

St. George's, Brockworth

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**Numbers 6:24-26**

May the LORD bless you and protect you.

May the LORD smile on you and be gracious to you.

May the LORD show you his favor and give you his peace.

Our worship has ended, but our service now begins. Let us go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**