

Parish of St. Thomas, Apostle & Martyr, Ipswich

Trinity Sunday - 7th June 2020

Collect for Trinity Sunday:

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Psalm 8

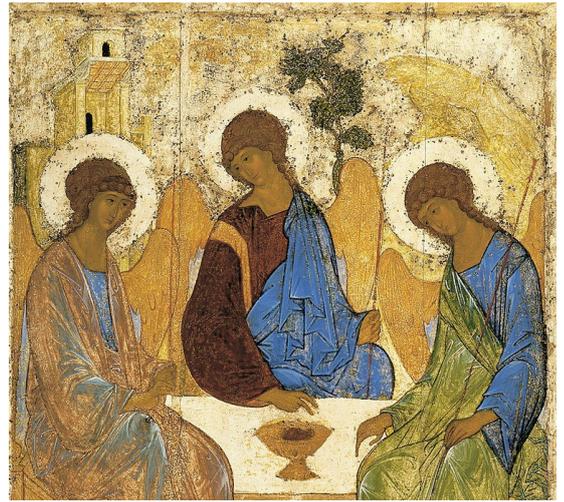
1 O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

2 Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

4 what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

5 Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honour.



6 You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,

7 all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

9 O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

A reading from the second letter to the Corinthians:

Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All God's people here send their greetings. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13.11-end)

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (28.16-20)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

This is the gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, o Christ.

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

Alleluia! The peace of the Lord be always with you.

Reflection:

We often start our worship with the words: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. And, we end our church meetings with the prayer known as the 'grace': 'The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all'. You may have noticed that we find both of these in our readings this morning. The 'Grace' concludes Paul's second letter to the Corinthians. In our gospel reading from Matthew Jesus instructs his disciples 'to baptize people from all nations in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'

These words are so familiar to us that we easily miss their profound meaning: they point us to the mystery of the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit showing that relationship is at the heart of God, a relationship of never-ending love. That's why we say with confidence 'God is Love'. Love only makes sense when there is 'another'. Love always wants to reach out and spill over; love wants to share, to create and is willing to make sacrifices for another. God is about love and relationship, and from that flows God's vision for the world and for human beings. 'Community is the deepest and most foundational reality that exists' (*Leonardo Boff*).

When Jesus, in Matthew's gospel, commands his disciples 'to go and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit', he is making perhaps the most radical request in history. He is saying: everybody, all the nations, are invited into this loving and life-giving communion of God, through the Holy Spirit. It's a vision for the world, in which everyone is equal and loved by God. We human beings, even as Christians, as the Church, struggle to take this on board as the appalling history of racial and other discrimination and oppression across the centuries shows.

This week again, we have been seen the terrible consequences of racial prejudice in the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, and the urgent call for justice and an end to racial discrimination across the USA. But, of course, racism, prejudice and discrimination are present on our doorstep here in Ipswich and in the UK.

Therefore, I am glad that church leaders are speaking out, and I have signed this **Joint Statement from Christian leaders in Ipswich in response to the killing of George Floyd** on behalf of St Thomas' Church.

'The killing of George Floyd was a tragic act of violence that has revealed the racial injustices that are still present across society. George Floyd was denied the fundamental right to life, and his killing is an insult to the God-given dignity of every human being. George Floyd's death has provoked anger across the world and we, as church leaders in Suffolk, join with those who call for justice.

Many people in our community face racial discrimination every day. This discrimination, expressed in many forms, all too often goes unchecked. We must unite to call out racism wherever we see it and hold one another accountable for our words and actions.

We reaffirm our commitment to eradicating all forms of racism in all parts of society because every human life is precious and honoured by God.

We ask you to join us to shine as lights in the darkness, to uncover the forces of prejudice and discrimination that still divide our community.'

In our Collect today, we pray: 'Holy God, enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love'. We add: so that we may live out your vision of community that values and honours the God-given dignity of every human being. Amen.

- Rev Jutta

Here are the words of two hymns you may like to sing or pray this week:

Affirm anew the threefold name
of Father, Spirit, Son,
our God whose saving acts proclaim
a world's salvation won.

In him alone we live and move
and breath and being find,
the wayward children of his love
who cares for humankind.

Declare in all the earth his grace,
to every heart his call,
the living Lord of time and place
whose love embraces all.
So shall his endless praise be sung,
his teaching truly heard,
and every culture, every tongue,
receive his timeless word.

Confirm our faith in this our day
amid earth's shifting sand,
with Christ as life and truth and way,
a rock on which to stand;
the one eternal Son and Lord
by God the Father given,
the true and life-imparting word,
the way that leads to heaven.

Renew once more the ancient fire,
let love our hearts inflame;
renew, restore, unite, inspire
the church that bears your name;
one name exalted over all,
one Father, Spirit, Son,
O grant us grace to heed your call
and in that name be one.



All creatures of our God and king,
lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, alleluia!

Bright burning sun with golden beam,
soft shining moon with silver gleam,

*O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Swift rushing wind so wild and strong,
white clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, alleluia!

New rising dawn in praise rejoice,
you lights of evening find a voice;

Cool flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for your Lord to hear,
Alleluia, alleluia!

Fierce fire so masterful and bright
giving to us both warmth and light,

People and nations, take your part,
love and forgive with all your heart;
Alleluia, alleluia!

All who long pain and sorrow bear,
trust God and cast on him your care;

Let all things their creator bless
and worship him in thankfulness,
Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three-in-One;

Call this number → for free,

for a greeting from Justin Welby,
Archbishop of Canterbury! Then listen
to hymns being sung, prayers, or re-
flections. Give it a go, it's a lovely way
to worship from home!



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers



A big 'Thank you' to everyone who contributed to the Pentecost video and weekly sheet supplement. If you haven't watched the video yet—it's amazing and will hopefully fill you with joy and hope!

And to the church band for contributing to the recording of 'Bless the Lord, o my soul', which is awesome!

Please pray for:

Those with chronic or long-term illness: Eric Dickerson, Rosemary, Sophie, Adam, Jenny, Andrew Barfield, Kathy Steele, Frank D., Andrew Derrett, Peggy, Pat, Natacha, Christine, Stephen, Julie, Samantha, Jill, Rex, Molly Johansen, Margaret Christian, Marion (Val's sister-in-law)

Those undergoing treatment or currently ill: Emily & family (9 years old with cancer), Juliet Adams, Gloria Elmer, Helen Harlow, Jean Dominy, Leslie Bloomfield, Pete Tancred (improving), Katie (cancer), Peter, Hazel Messenger (cancer, very ill), Jim, Richard (June's nephew), Sylvia Eley, Dougie, Robert

All who are affected by the Coronavirus in the UK and around the world: For the **International Rescue Committee and other aid agencies** working to curtail the spread of Covid19 in developing countries; **for all health care staff, esp. those in care homes.** Pray for our Schools, teachers & staff.

For racial justice and peace in the USA following the death of George Floyd

Those who have recently died, and their families mourning their loss, among them: Margaret Hewitt (*friend of Audrey*), Gavin, John, Jason Wilcox (*our deep sympathy and prayers for Amber & Natacha*), Donald Pratt (*Neil Pratt's Dad*).



Birthdays this week:

Edith Abbott, Shirley Vivian (10th)
Rev Cat (13th)

Pray for members of the St Thomas Congregation
(each week we will include a dozen names)

Lucy Drake, Keri & Justin with Kyle, Bradley, Millie & Wester, Roger & Gloria, Pam Everett, Chris Fisher (choir), Caroline Fisk (choir) & family, Alison & Malcolm

Online Church Services:

Sunday 7 June Trinity Sunday - 10am
ZOOM Worship St Thomas

Tuesday 9 June - 6.00 pm LiveStream
Meditation on
[facebook/StThomasPilgrimCommunity](https://www.facebook.com/StThomasPilgrimCommunity)

Wednesday 10 June:
10 am Livestream Eucharist
[facebook/StThomasIpswich](https://www.facebook.com/StThomasIpswich)

Sunday Worship Video & other Worship resources on the church facebook page.

Church Facebook page:

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

Church website:

<http://stthomasipswich.org.uk/>

**YOUR SUPPORT NEEDED FOR NWIPSWICH
FOODBANK organised by the Big Local Trust:**

Please drop non-perishable food at
Castlehill Community Centre, Highfield Road
on MONDAYS between 9.30 and 11.00am.

Contacts:

Priest in charge: Revd Jutta Brueck
m: 07958 360564

Email: jutta.brueck@cofesuffolk.org

Jutta's days off are: Fridays & Saturdays

Assistant Curate: Revd Cat Connolly
m: 07530 412988

Email: revcatconnolly@gmail.com

Cat's day off: Mondays

If you would like to chat, please do give us a ring:

Revd Jutta: 07958 360 564 Rev Cat 07530 412988

Roger Elmer 07810 274586 Sylvia Dickerson 07903 739487

Malcolm Gibbs 07906 663530

Mary Bullass 625135 Gloria Elmer 745590

Rev Jackie 07962172639 Revd Pat 01473 464748