

St George's, Tuffley with St Margaret's, Whaddon

Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering
'Growing God's Kingdom'



Sunday worship and weekly news
28 June 2020

Worshipping Together at Home

Generous God, Generous People

Dearly loved worshipping community

I have been thinking a great deal lately in occasional moments of despair and despondency in the midst of this current crisis about HOPE.

The dictionary definition of hope reads. A feeling of expectation and desire for something to happen.

I then moved on to thinking, in every crisis in life God calls us to trust, hope and to rest in his merciful hands despite the uncertainties and challenges we face and to raise our eyes to heaven rather than looking down in fear and despair. It is too soon to know what will emerge from this present crisis but my hope for the future is a fairer, kinder, loving and more thoughtful society.

I'd like to end with a prayer of hope:

Lord when we stand at the beginning of a new day. Bless us with the vision to see the best of things to come, wisdom to make good decisions and most of all, faith that you are walking with us every step of the way. Amen

Linda



Flowers in memory of Kath Senior from St Margaret's friends

Order of Service

We light a candle...



Prayer 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.

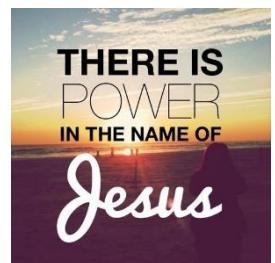
Hymn

All hail the power of Jesus' name;
let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem
to crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, ye martyrs of your God,
who from his altar call;
praise him whose way of pain ye trod,
and crown him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,
ye ransomed of the fall,
hail him who saves you by his
grace,
and crown him Lord of all.

Let every tribe and every
tongue
to him their hearts enthrall,
lift high the universal song
and crown him Lord of all.



Romans 6:12-end

Free to live by God's grace

Read by Dot Martin

Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions.¹³ No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness.¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.



¹⁵ What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means!¹⁶ Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?¹⁷ But thanks be to God that you, having

once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted,¹⁸ and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰ When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.²¹ So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death.²² But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life.²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Prayer: Lord help us choose to live only and always by your grace which brings perfect freedom. Amen

Psalm 13 God answers David's cry

Read by Lorraine and Pete Best

¹ How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
² How long must I wrestle with my thoughts, and day after day have sorrow in my heart?
How long shall my enemy triumph over me?
³ Look on me and answer, Lord my God!
Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,
⁴ and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him".
And my foes will rejoice when I fall.
⁵ But I trust in your unfailing love;
my heart rejoices in your salvation.
⁶ I will sing the Lord's praise, for he has been good to me.



Prayer: Gracious God, sometimes we fell like you are far away from us. Remind us when we fell that way that it is, we who have moved away from you and not you who has moved away from us. Remind us that we can always come to you and that you will always hear us. Amen.

Matthew 10:40-end Christ's call to hospitality

Read by Pete Best

Jesus said to the twelve disciples: "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."

Prayer: Thank you Lord, for you have equipped us to perform acts of kindness. May we seek to bless everyone who comes across our path each day. Amen

Let us proclaim our faith in God, the Holy Trinity

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Reflection from Helen McGeoch



How lovely it is when we plan for friends to visit. It's been a while since we've done that and it's something, we are all looking forward to again.

In our planning we would know when our friend would be coming, which friend it is, how long they will stay and what we will offer them by way of food and drink. Sometimes our planning is casual and sometimes our planning is excessive – I suppose it depends on the occasion.

But what if we didn't know who was coming?
Or maybe when they were coming?
Or even how long they would be staying?
Think about that for a moment.
Has panic set in yet?
What would our welcome look like?
How would we be prepared?
Jesus tells us we should welcome everyone as though they were Jesus himself.

Did Jesus made plans with people to visit – I imagine he just showed up. He told Zacchaeus as he was sitting in the tree that he would be going home with him for tea. That wasn't in Zacchaeus' plan. It was life-changing for him though. Jesus did a lot of things as the need arose.

Are we ready to do that? Are we ready to have our days – even our moments – interrupted by God and be prepared to give a welcome, share hospitality, kindness and love to the person God puts in front of us?

The picture in the service sheet here is of a young boy passing a snack to a person living on the street. I wonder if it was planned or whether the child just felt a nudge to do it? I wonder whether it was his snack originally or whether he purposely bought an extra one for his new friend? A nudge – that's often how it feels when God asks us to do something. Are you looking out for your day to be interrupted by God's nudging? Be ready to be a welcomer as Jesus asked us to be.



Heavenly Father, help us to be aware of your gentle nudges that encourage us to welcome and be kind to the people you bring to us in moments of our days. Give us generous and willing hearts that we may please you and bring honour to you. Amen.

Song:

God forgave my sin, in Jesus' name

I've been born again, in Jesus' name
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His love as He told me to.

He said:



'Freely, freely, you have received,
Freely, freely give;
Go in My name and because you believe
Others will know that I live.'

All power is given in Jesus' name,
In earth and heaven in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His power as He told me to.
Carol Owens Copyright © 1972 Lexicon Music Inc.

Intercessions from Lorraine Best



Heavenly Father, may we be as willing to receive, appreciate and share your gifts, as you in wisdom, love and generosity desire to give.

We thank you for your gift of this planet. We confess we have not treasured its resources, nor shared them fairly. Lord, give us also the will to make the lifestyle changes necessary to become better stewards of your creation.

We thank you for your gift of diversity. We confess we have sometimes allowed differences to lead to disinterest and disinterest to discrimination,

conscious or otherwise. Lord, give us also a fuller appreciation of the richness of humanity; the value and potential of each and every human life.

We thank you for your gift of Jesus, our Saviour, Lord and role model. We confess we do not always live up to the name we bear, nor trust the Holy Spirit to complete the good work you have begun in us. Lord, give us also the grace to seek your will, not our own; however hard the path may seem we want to see your kingdom come.

We pray for our Queen, political leaders and Church leaders, both nationally and locally. We pray for their health, their safety and their families, asking that they fulfil their duties with grace, wisdom and integrity.

We pray for the sick, the depressed, the bereaved, the overworked and the fragile. We pray for their most desperate need, to find the healing, hope, comfort, rest and encouragement found in you, all sufficient Lord. We name before you in these quiet moments those we are personally concerned about...

Lord as much as it lies in our willingness to serve you faithfully, may we be your instruments to bring healing, hope, comfort, rest and encouragement to our world, in your precious name.
Amen

Hymn

Only by grace can we enter,

Only by grace can we stand;
Not by our human endeavour
But by the blood of the Lamb.
Into Your presence You call us,
You call us to come.
Into Your presence You draw us
And now by Your grace we come,
Now by Your grace we come.

Lord, if You mark our transgressions,
Who would stand?

Thanks to Your grace we are cleansed
By the blood of the Lamb.

Gerrit Gustafson Copyright © 1989 Integrity's Hosanna! Music



This week's News

In memoriam:

John Wilkinson, John Harrison, John White, Kath Senior RIP.

We pray for all who are ill or in need at this time mentioning by name

Margaret Rowell, Mike, Ann and Steve, Eric and June, Mike, Jonathan, Bill, Julia, Brian, Mike and Laura, Dianne, Linda's friend Brian, Lynne

Anniversaries of death:

Robert Swankie, Peter Hutson, Keith Robins, Charles Le Strange, Audrey Baker, Robert Tiley, Ida Winkworth, Jayson Crandon, Doreen Carter, Connie Sallis, Clive Marks, Vera Williams, Eva Jordan, Chris Watts.

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Millie Fox 30th, Malcolm Martin 4th, Roger Meadows 5th.

100 Club Draw Winners

1st Prize Ann Humphris
2nd Prize Sarah Kingscote
3rd Prize Glenda Stevens

The next draw will be on Sunday, 13 September. Good Luck.

Churches re-opening for public worship:

After a recent Government announcement, we've started to assess the risks and see how to manage them well, so we can all return with confidence. We're also keenly awaiting guidance from the national church.

There'll be lots to do – including a great 'clean', so get ready to volunteer! Watch this space...

St Margaret's Church is already open, from 10.00am until 11.00am, on Thursday mornings for silent, private prayer. Church Wardens will be on the premises to assist and ensure all safety measures are carried out.

Other times may be available too. Contact Jonathan or Hans (528939) for more information.

If you'd like to use **St George's** for prayer, please see Bruce.

Tuffley Festival 4th July Countdown!



Just a few days to go now until the festival comes to you at home. Link coming soon!

We have fantastic contributions from our local schools, a dance group, choirs and so much more. Don't miss it! Meanwhile follow us on Facebook for latest news.

WHAT TO DO for THIS WEEK:

❖ Keep bringing items for the **Foodbank** – the vicarage porch is a safe drop-off point. Food is usually collected early Friday morning. Thank you!

❖ Borrow a good book (some are new) from Sarah's church library –in vicarage porch (we can deliver)

❖ Book yourself a comfortable spot and prepare some tasty snacks ready to watch Tuffley Festival Online

Know someone who:

- ❖ is stuck at home without support?
- ❖ can't make ends meet?
- ❖ Just wants to talk?

Then Contact **Gloucestershire Community Help Hub** on **01452 583519**



Pray with us

As the Church in Tuffley, we are continuing to pray for Tuffley. You can find resources to help on our website or pick up a booklet from the vicarage porch.

Keep picking up the phone!



People are finding phone calls with friends invaluable to combat loneliness. Thank you everyone; please keep up the good work!

CONTACTING US:

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Administrator: Glenda Stevens 01452 307456
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The Administration office is not open until further notice. Please contact the Church Administrator by email or leave a message on the office telephone and our Administrator will get back to you.

We are part of the **Church in Tuffley**, working in partnership with English Martyrs (Roman Catholic), Grange (Baptist) and St Barnabas (Anglican).