

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

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



**Sunday worship and weekly news
13 September 2020**

Welcome everyone

**We welcome our visiting priest
Revd Dr Sandra Millar**



When the first tentative steps to open the church for Communion on a Sunday morning were made it was stated there would be many changes for the protection of everyone.

We are now seeing a slight easing of lockdown regulations in that a few choir members are allowed to sing should they wish. **However, the congregation can't sing aloud.** We can only sing from our heart.

This slight thawing of lockdown is noticeable in St George's Centre too, as bookings are being accepted from outside organisations. A sure sign the public are feeling more confident about stepping out from behind their front doors and try to get their lives back to some form of normality.

If you are not able to return to church at present Jesus – who is the only judge that matters - understands and He will use His church to lovingly support you, until you are able to return. Stay blessed in the love of Christ.

Pete Best

To keep us all safe, we will keep doors open for ventilation.

Please:

**Use hand sanitiser
Stay 2 metres apart
Avoid touching
Sing with your heart – not your voice**

The Church of England "strongly advises that face coverings should be worn by all those attending worship remembering that they are mainly intended to protect other people, not the wearer, from coronavirus COVID 19 and that they are not a replacement for physical distancing and regular hand washing."

Order of Service

Jesus the one true judge

Processional Hymn

Thou, whose almighty word
Chaos and darkness heard,
And took their flight;
Hear us, we humbly pray,
And where the gospel-day
Sheds not its glorious ray,
Let there be light.



Thou, who didst come to bring
On thy redeeming wing
Healing and sight,
Health to the sick in mind,
Sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
Let there be light.

Holy and blessed Three,
Glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
Boundless as ocean's tide
Rolling in fullest pride,
Through the earth far and wide
Let there be light.

Prayer for Today

Merciful God,
your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy
and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness. Amen

Romans 14 Do Not Judge Another

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions.² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them.⁴ Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

**DON'T JUDGE
SOMEONE JUST
BECAUSE
THEY SIN
DIFFERENTLY
THAN YOU.**

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.⁶ Those who observe the day observe it in honour of the Lord. Also, those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me and every tongue shall give praise to God.'

¹² So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Prayer

Lord help us to welcome all regardless of difference. Amen

Psalm 114 A Song for Passover

¹ When Israel came out of Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of a strange tongue,

² Judah became his sanctuary,
Israel his dominion.

³ The sea saw that, and fled,
Jordan was driven back.

⁴ The mountains skipped like rams,
the little hills like young sheep.



⁵ What ailed you, O sea, that you fled?
O Jordan, that you were driven back?

⁶ You mountains, that you skipped like rams,
you little hills like young sheep?

⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

⁸ Who turns the hard rock into a pool of water,
the flint-stone into a springing well.

Prayer:

*Strike the rock of our hard hearts, O God,
and let our tears of joy and sorrow
mould us to bear the imprint of your love,
given in Christ our risen Lord. Amen*

Matthew 18 Forgiveness

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' ²² Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

²³ For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell

on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that



same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹ Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you."

³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

Prayer

Loving Lord, you have taught us to forgive our brothers and sisters, help us also to have the courage to call out injustice when we see it being done to them. Amen

Reflection from Revd Dr Sandra Millar

"Let it go" living out forgiveness.

I write this to you in the Year of Grace 2020.

That odd way of describing the year is a bit of a misquote from Treasure Island – and other writings of the time. It used to be very common and perhaps it is more needed that ever this year. Grace is one of those words that can become a bit 'religious', and we might forget that other words like graceful and gracious derive from the same word.

Today's readings remind us that grace is also related to those big words: judgement and forgiveness.

We are very at ease with judgement in our society: every day we probably judge somebody for something, and right now it's become so easy to point the finger. It is no longer about the kind of things St. Paul lists in Romans – whether someone is vegetarian or no, keeps Sunday special or not, – but about a whole plethora of behaviours we see every day. The judgement we make is 'they are doing it wrong' and of course implicitly, that means that I am doing it right. Which leads quickly to self-righteousness and then to being unforgiving.

Jesus challenges us to forgive and keep on forgiving. The problem with unforgiveness is that it's like holding on to something in our hands, carrying it with us all the

time, which means our hands are then not free to reach out to others. Forgiveness is letting go of the hurt that has been done. But it doesn't mean forgetting. It doesn't mean we don't need to work to change what is wrong in our lives and in the injustice of the world. It doesn't mean we stop to see God's kingdom of justice and joy flourish.

We need a year of grace: when you and I know we are forgiven and reach out to our world not with judgement but with the hope of new beginning.

Let us declare our faith in God
**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.**

Intercessions from Lorraine Best



Gracious Lord, You love each one of us. You are far more willing to forgive than we are to admit our faults. You are far more willing to guide than we are to be led. You are far more willing to challenge than we are to change. We pray that we may accept Your grace, and all its fullness, be willing to admit our failings, follow Your guidance, change our attitudes and actions.

Lord hear us.....

Gracious Lord You love those closest to us in both our natural and church families. We pray for those who are in need physically, emotionally, mentally, or financially..... We ask for healing, comfort, stability and provision.

Lord hear us.....

Gracious Lord You love all those who are in positions of leadership at this time; in our church, in our local government and in our national parliament. We pray that each one will receive God given wisdom and act with integrity and humility. We pray for our Queen, The Royal family and those who influence others through the media. May they value truth, seek the welfare of others and put aside personal agendas.

Lord hear us.....

Gracious Lord You love each and every person in the world; whatever their colour, nationality, religion,

education, ability, morals or finances. Every label we could use to differentiate or discriminate; You can over-stamp with the one word "Mine". We pray for justice and mercy to prevail. That those who love You will be salt and light in their communities. That those who suffer persecution will be strong and courageous. That this worldwide pandemic will be quickly curtailed and long term solutions found.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Offertory Hymn

Dear Lord and Father of mankind

Forgive our foolish ways;
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind;
In purer lives thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard
Beside the Syrian sea
The gracious calling of the Lord,
Let us, like them, without a word
Rise up and follow thee.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
Speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm.

Preparing to receive Holy Communion

After the priest says to us all: "the body and blood of Christ keep you in eternal life", we all respond
Amen
A steward will guide you forward.
We each receive a wafer, the priest alone receives the wine on behalf of us all.
We receive communion with arms outstretched, and in silence.
Please maintain a 2 metre distance at all times.

Final Hymn

You shall go out with

joy
And be led forth with
peace,
And the mountains and the
hills shall break forth
before you.



There'll be shouts of joy and the trees of the field
Shall clap, shall clap their hands,
And the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
And the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
And the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
And you'll go out with joy.

Stuart Dauermann (b.1944)© Lillenas Publishing Company

Please leave the building immediately after the priest and catch up outside.

This week's News

In memoriam:

Marjorie Griffiths RIP

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

Margaret, Julia, Brian, Susan, Mike and Laura, Dianne, Lynne, Baby Obi, Pat, Jeanne Wilson, June Young, Sarah, Christine, Darren and family, Ann and Steve.

Anniversaries of death:

Alfred Vines, Lilian Day, Stanley Jeffcutt, Sonia Smith, Connie Taylor, Edward Ellmore, Joyce Boulton, Leslie Garrett, John Weaver, Norman Holmes, Susan Miles, Dennis Wright, Richard Connell.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

None that we know of

DIARY DATES 13 September – 20 September

Sun 13	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion & 100 Club Draw
Tue 15	2.00pm	church	Mothers' Union with John Wesley DVD
	6.45pm	MH	Gardening Club Cttee
	7.30pm	zoom	Bible Course
Wed 16	8.15am	zoom	Morning Prayer
	3.30pm	MH	Slimming World also at 5.30pm & 7.30pm
	4.00pm	zoom	Vacancy Steering Group
	7.30pm	zoom	Refresh
Thu 17	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
Sun 20	10.30am		Parish Communion
	5.00pm	*	Evensong

MH = Main Hall, * = St Margaret's

MOTHER'S UNION

John Wesley was an English cleric, theologian and evangelist who was a leader of a revival movement within the Church of England known as Methodism. The societies he founded became the dominant form of the independent Methodist movement that continues to this day. Now is your chance to find out more because the Mothers' Union will be showing an DVD on his life in St George's Church on Tuesday 15 September at 2.00pm. Please speak to Sylvia Chamberlain for more information.

Visiting Preacher on the 20th September
Canon Mike Parsons

PCC Secretary

Since the retirement of Rosie Clifford, the Joint PCCs of St George's and St Margaret's are keen to appoint a new Secretary to the PCC. Willing volunteers - please speak to Hans Rackham or Roger Meadows.

WHAT TO DO for THIS WEEK:

❖ Keep bringing items for the **Foodbank; new collection point is the Church Centre hallway. Toiletries now accepted at the foodbank.**
Thank you!

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**

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:

Vicar: Vacancy (please pray for new appointment)

Reader: Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis

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Administrator: Glenda Stevens 01452 307456

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The Administration office is open on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9.00am until midday 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).



THE CHURCH IN TUFFLEY