

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



**Sunday worship and weekly news
25 October 2020**

Welcome everyone

**We welcome our visiting priest
Revd Canon Andrew Braddock**

Dear Friends,

That is how I would start a letter to you. I Thessalonians is one of the earliest examples we have of Paul writing to his friends. In the passage we have today Paul states, "Our coming to you was not in vain". Why? The church at Thessalonica was the proof Paul's ministry was approved by God.



In a similar way the faith, hope and love in the present day church is proof that Jesus' ministry on earth is approved by God.

By following the new covenant principles of loving God and loving our neighbours, we too can be confident of God's approval.

Lorraine 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."

**Next week we welcome the
Revd Ann Morris**

Processional Hymn

King of glory, King of peace

I will love thee;

And that love may never cease

I will move thee.

Thou hast granted my request,

Thou hast heard me;

Thou didst note my working breast,

Thou hast spared me.



Wherefore with my utmost art

I will sing thee,

And the cream of all my heart

I will bring thee.

Though my sins against me cried,

Thou didst clear me;

And alone, when they replied,

Thou didst hear me.

Seven whole days, not one in seven,

I will praise thee;

In my heart, though

not in heaven,

I can raise thee.

Small it is, in this

poor sort

To enrol thee:

E'en eternity's too

short

To extol thee.



Prayer for Today

Merciful God,

teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty,

that trusting in your word and obeying your will

we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

1 Thessalonians 2 Paul's Ministry in Thessalonica

¹ You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ² but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³ For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴ but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. ⁵ As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; ⁶ nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷ though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children.



⁸ So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Prayer

Lord, thank you for Paul's example of courage and self-giving. Help us to bring the good news to Tuffley in the same way.

Amen

Psalm 90

¹ Lord, you have been our refuge **from one generation to another.**

² Before the mountains were brought forth, or the earth and the world were formed, **from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

³ You turn us back to dust and say: **'Turn back, O children of earth.'**

⁴ For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday, **which passes like a watch in the night.**

⁵ You sweep them away like a dream; **they fade away suddenly like the grass.**

⁶ In the morning it is green and flourishes; **in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

¹³ Turn again, O Lord; how long will you delay? **Have compassion on your servants.**

¹⁴ Satisfy us with your loving-kindness in the morning, **that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

¹⁵ Give us gladness for the days you have afflicted us, **and for the years in which we have seen adversity.**

¹⁶ Show your servants your works, **and let your glory be over their children.**

¹⁷ May the gracious favour of the Lord our God be upon us; **prosper our handiwork; O prosper the work of our hands.**

Prayer

Almighty God, our eternal refuge, teach us to live with the knowledge of our death and to rejoice in the promise of your glory, revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Matthew 22 The Greatest Commandment

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?

³⁷ He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹

And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

The Question about David's Son

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴² 'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son, is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.' ⁴³ He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴ "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet'"? ⁴⁵ If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' ⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Prayer:

Lord may we know the supreme power of love as revealed in Your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

Reflection from Revd Cannon Andrew Braddock

The earth, my neighbour

In today's Gospel we hear Jesus' summary of the law. All Christian ethical teaching is focused on these commands to love God, and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

In Luke's version of this teaching, it is followed by a wealthy young man asking Jesus, 'Who is my neighbour?' Jesus responds with the story of the Good Samaritan, who is the good neighbour to the man who is attacked by thieves, bringing him comfort, healing, and shelter.

Today, we also need to ask that question 'who is my neighbour?' Yes, it is those with whom we share our daily life. Yes, it is those who, like the Good Samaritan, care for us. Yes, our sense of neighbourliness needs to have special regard for the vulnerable.



But there is another neighbour we need to love as well. That neighbour is the earth itself. As St Francis reminds us, we are to see the earth as our sister and mother, and the rest of creation as a brother on whom we rely. To love our neighbour as ourselves, must include loving our neighbours in the rest of creation. The exhibition of

Luke Jerram's Gaia at the cathedral – a wonderful 3D representation of the earth – is a potent reminder of our call to care for creation, just as creation cares for us in making human life possible.

We know there are many challenges in building a greener future and repairing our planet. Yet we can all make small steps, such as switching to green energy, or reducing, reusing, and recycling everyday products. Together we can make a difference. As we do so, we are broadening our horizons in response to Christ's command to love God, and to love our neighbour – including the planet - as ourselves.

We declare together our commitment to faith:

**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.**

Intercessions from Susan Scothern

Loving Lord, we bring before you our churches of St George and St Margaret, conscious that the church is the people, with all their joys and sorrows, hopes and doubts. We ask that you will be guiding all who are seeking to lead us at this time, and that you will grant wisdom as the search for a new minister begins. As we are unable to have many of our regular activities, we pray that those who are unable to join with us may still know that they belong to the family here and feel held in your loving arms. We pray too for greater unity with all the churches in Tuffley as we seek to share the good news of your love with all those who live in the area.

Living Lord, we bring to you the leaders of our country, as they make decisions that will have untold consequences. May they be open to your leading and look not to the benefit of one part of society, but to the needs of all, whether rich or poor, white, or black, living in the south or the north. Strengthen those who work in the health service and give peace to all who rely on their work.



Gracious Lord, we bring before you our own individual needs. We ask that when we feel down and missing family and friends, we will turn to you for comfort.

As we look into the coming week, and we face problems and maybe difficult decisions, we ask that we will look to you for guidance. And as we face change, of whatever form, we look to you for reassurance that you will be with us every step of the way, calling us to follow you as you lead us on to new pastures.

Offertory Hymn

Brother, sister, let me serve you
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace
To let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
And companions on the road;
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace
To let you be my servant, too.

*Richard Gillard (born 1953) ©
1977 Scripture in Song/Maranatha!
Music/Adm. by Song Solutions
CopyCare*



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

Thy hand, O God, has guided

Thy flock, from age to age;
Their wondrous tale is written,
Full clear, on every page;
Our fathers owned thy goodness,
And we their deeds record;
And both of this bear witness;
One Church, one faith, one Lord.

Thy heralds brought glad tidings
To greatest as to least;
They bade men rise, and hasten
To share the great King's feast;
And this was all their teaching,
In every deed and word,
To all alike proclaiming
One Church, one faith, one Lord.

Thy mercy will not fail us,
Nor leave thy work undone;
With thy right hand to help us,
The victory shall be won;
And then, by men and angels,
Thy name shall be adored,
And this shall be their anthem:
One Church, one faith, one Lord.

Please leave the building immediately after the priest
in view of the **Rule of 6** please do not linger outside

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

01452 502174

Pioneer: Helen McGeoch 07729 615993

Email: tuffleypioneer@gmail.com

Website: www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk

Facebook: St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

Administrator: Glenda Stevens 01452 307456

Email: stgeorgeschurch1@gmail.com

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

This week's News

In Memoriam:

Ian Baker, Philip Parker aged 103 years ex organist at St George's

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

Margaret, Angela, Susan, Mike and Laura, Lynne, Sarah, Baby Obi, Pat, Christine, Darren and family, Daphne

Anniversaries of death:

David Hines, Violet Collis, Joyce Hall, Lily Jones, Joyce Hall, Jean Smart, Neil Simpson, Arthur Huntley, Anthony Williams, Mavis Beard, Sally Kunz, Roy Winstone, Ralph Whittle, Peter Wathern, Terry Poole, Betty Richens, Mary Morgan.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Linda Lawrence 30th, Sue Scothern 31st

DIARY DATES – 25 October – 1 November

Sun 25	9.00am	St M's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion Crucifer: Jayne Readers: David & Sylvia E Intercessions: Susan
Tue 27	7.00pm	MH	Karate
Wed 28	8.15am	Z	Morning Prayer
	3.30pm	MH	Slimming World also at 5.30pm & 7.30pm
	4.00pm	Z	Vacancy Steering Group
Thu 29	10.30am	St M's	Parish Communion
Fri 30	2.30pm	St G's	Quiet Prayer Group
Sat 31	11.00am	MH	Karate
Sun 1			All Saints' Day
	10.30am	St M's	Family Praise
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion Crucifer: Roger Readers: Sylvia C & Linda M Intercessions: Helen
	4.00pm	St G's	Time to Remember

St G's = St George's, MH = Main Hall, St M's = St Margaret's, Z = Zoom

Time to Remember....

The service will take place at 4.00pm on 1 November at St George's Church. If you have not booked already and you wish to attend, you need to contact Helen.

Please note the 'Time to Remember' service will mean Evensong at St Margaret's is cancelled.

The Autumn leaves drift by the window....

We are well and truly into autumn. The temperature is noticeably cooler.

The guidance given us states we 'keep the doors open' while the church is occupied. To help ensure you don't feel the effects of the temperature drop we suggest one or more of the following:

- 1) **Wear extra layers of warm clothing.**
- 2) **Bring a blanket to wrap around yourself.**
- 3) **Fill a hot water bottle and bring it to Church.**

Carols by Candlelight at St Margaret's...

We are hoping to be able to stage Carols by Candlelight this year. However, before we start planning, we need to know if you are interested to attend. The thought is we stage the event on up to 4 evenings during Advent.

We will have to conform to Covid regulations so:

We believe we shall be able to accommodate 25-30 people each evening.

You would need to book, telling us how many people in your party and give your preferred date plus 2 alternatives in case your preferred date is fully booked.

Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Please note: If you don't book it is unlikely you will gain entry.

On the evening you attend you would be shown to your allocated pew.

The service would last about 25 minutes.

Sadly, the congregation can't sing.

But, on the positive side:

The church will be atmospherically lit by dozens of candles.

The church will be heated.

We need to know as soon as possible if you are happy to come. Before you leave church let a Warden know you are interested.