

Thy Kingdom Come



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



Sunday worship and weekly news
16 May 2021

EASTER 7

We welcome our visiting priest
Rev'd Canon Dr Sandra Millar



Having witnessed their Lord ascending to heaven, I wonder how the disciples felt as they walked back to Jerusalem. Some may have been thinking to themselves 'back to the day job' or wondering perhaps when Jesus would come again; little realising that ten days later the promised comforter would arrive.

For the moment however, their concern was to regroup. The vacancy created by Judas must be filled, and as was customary lots were cast and Matthias appointed.

There is no better time for us to regroup than under the banner of 'Thy Kingdom Come'. Praying from Ascension to Pentecost. Show Tuffley, Podsmead and Whaddon the church is alive to the glory of God.

Pete Best

Today's service on You Tube

The service can be accessed from the church website www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk on Monday. Click on the blue banner at the bottom of the page. Enjoy, and sing aloud to your hearts content.

Are there restrictions now we are open?

Sadly.... Yes! The same rules that applied pre lockdown will be in place i.e.

Wear a face mask

Sanitise your hands

No singing (except from the heart),

Observe Social Distancing – the 2m rule.

Socialising outdoors is now permitted, with no more than 6 people in the bubble. (Are you ready to give hugs tomorrow?)

Sorry to say the rules are necessary.

Next week the restrictions will be reviewed and adjusted in line with advice from the Diocese.

Next week we welcome
Rev'd Andrew Frearson

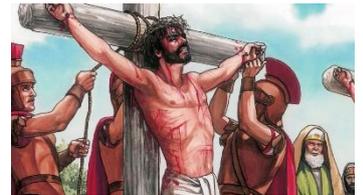
Processional Hymn

The head that once was crowned with thorns

Is crowned with glory now:
A royal diadem adorns
The mighty Victor's brow.

The highest place that heaven affords
Is his, is his by right,
The King of kings, and Lord of lords,
And heaven's eternal Light;

The cross he bore is life
and health,
Though shame and death to him;
His people's hope, his
people's wealth,
Their everlasting theme.



Prayer for Today

Risen, ascended Lord,
as we rejoice at your triumph,
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,
that all who are estranged by sin
may find forgiveness and know your peace,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen

Acts 1 Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, ¹⁶'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— ¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.'

²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Prayer: Lord, throughout your earthly ministry Joseph and Matthias were amongst those who followed you. Help us to be faithful in our own walk as we await 'Thy Kingdom Come'. Amen.

Psalm 1 The Two Ways

1 Blessed are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, **nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the assembly of the scornful.**

2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord **and they meditate on his law day and night.**

3 Like a tree planted by streams of water bearing fruit in due season, **with leaves that do not wither, whatever they do, it shall prosper.**

4 As for the wicked, it is not so with them; **they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

5 Therefore the wicked shall not be able to stand in the judgement, **nor the sinner in the congregation of the righteous.**

6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, **but the way of the wicked shall perish.**

Prayer:

Christ our wisdom, give us delight in your law, that we may bear fruits of patience and peace in the kingdom of the righteous; for your mercy's sake. Amen

John 17 Jesus Prays for His Disciples

⁶I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.



Prayer: Lord Jesus Christ, you prayed for your disciples that they might be one, as you and the Father are one; draw us to yourself, that in common love and obedience to you we may be united one to another. Amen

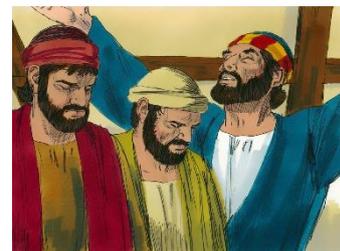
Reflection from Revd Canon Dr Sandra Millar

What are you waiting for?

It's a waiting game. The excitement of Easter has passed. Jesus has been seen amongst the disciples for weeks now – and with much worship and joy, he is gone from them, ascended to be with the Father. We marked that day on Thursday – and now the waiting game begins. It's so hard to wait when you really don't know the end of the story. We can all remember those car journeys when no sooner had we left the street a little voice would say, 'are we nearly there yet?'

Perhaps the disciples and all the others gathered in the upper room felt like that, wondering if they were nearly there, if the kingdom had nearly come, or Jesus was about to return. What they did in the waiting is pray. There's a lot of praying in our two readings. The disciples pray for wisdom as they make plans, and Jesus prays for us. He prays four things: for protection, for unity, for joy and for purpose. I wonder if the disciples modelled their prayer for 'Justus' Barsabbas and Matthias around these themes, as they pondered their decision. These are good things to pray for all those we know.

We're now in the middle of Thy Kingdom Come – the prayer initiative launched by Archbishop Justin in May 2016 which has now spread across the world. Each year we are invited to use the waiting days between Ascension and Pentecost to pray, and specifically to pray for five named people. We could pray for those people in the same ways as Jesus prayed for us – that they might be safe, find a place to belong, know joy and purpose. As we pray we will find our own relationship with God deepens, and in the waiting we discover the Holy Spirit is at work in our lives and in our community.



Are we nearly there yet? We don't know, but as we wait with Jesus, let's pray. Name your five – and begin.

We declare together our commitment to faith:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again, in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory, to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life who proceeds from the Father and the Son who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Intercessions from Linda Medwell



Lord as we approach this week help us to find joy in the midst of the mundane. Thank you for your strength, energy and grace that will sustain us.
Lord in your mercy...

Lord following the announcement from our Prime Minister and as we slowly and carefully emerge from this pandemic give us patience, caution and wisdom as we rejoice in the relaxation of the rules. Let us continue to protect and be mindful of ourselves and especially all those who are vulnerable in our community and society. We pray for all our local industries as they plan to reopen and we pray also for all our young people who have struggled and continue to find difficulty in finding employment at this difficult time. Be with them in their despair anxiety and depression
Lord in your mercy...

World

We pray for our troubled world. We are mindful of the difficult times we have recently faced over these past few months as we have witnessed the chaos of this global pandemic.

Lord our fragile world becomes further unsettled with violence, prejudice and threat.

We are mindful of millions of others who face their own world of suffering, the starving, the sick, the homeless, the broken and the scared. Jesus come into our world and bring your everlasting love and peace.
Lord in your mercy ...

The sick.

Lord we pray for all those who are sick especially those whose illness is long-term and demands much patience to bear. We remember before you the lonely and depressed, help us to be good listeners, give us the right words and help us to know what simple acts of kindness may help someone else.

Lord in your mercy ...

We pray now for all who have died. Lord we thank you for being our light in the darkness and our peace when sadness has all but crushed the life out of us.

Thank you for every memory of those we have loved and have now gone before us to be with you.

We remember especially today our own dear David Kent as our love and prayers go out to Angela and all the family in their sad loss.

Lord in your mercy ...

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

Offertory Hymn

Be thou my vision

O Lord of my heart,

Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;

Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,

Both waking and sleeping,

thy presence my light.

Be thou my breastplate,

my sword for the fight;

Be thou my whole armour,

be thou my true might;

Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:

O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.



High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright sun,

O grant me its joys after victory is won;

Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,

Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

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 dipped in wine.

We receive Communion with arms outstretched, and in silence.

Please maintain a 2 metre distance at all times.

Final Hymn

At the name of Jesus

Every knee shall bow,
 Every tongue confess him
 King of Glory now:
 'tis the Father's pleasure
 We should call him Lord,
 Who from the beginning
 Was the mighty Word:



Humbled for a season,
 To receive a name
 From the lips of sinners
 Unto whom he came,
 Faithfully he bore it
 Spotless to the last,
 Brought it back victorious
 When from death he passed.

Surely, this Lord Jesus
 Shall return again,
 with his Father's glory,
 with his angel train;
 for all wreaths of empire
 meet upon his brow,
 and our hearts confess him
 King of Glory now.

Receiving Communion

Since the Covid situation started, we have been unable to share the communion cup. Following a trial at St Margaret's, the PCC have agreed we will adopt a revised method of giving communion for both churches for the time being.

The Priest and Server will receive communion last. After the words of distribution are said, both Priest and Server sanitise hands and put on face masks. Nothing is said until communion ends.

Wearing masks, the communicants come up, maintaining social distance. The priest dips the edge of the wafer in the chalice. The intincted wafer is placed in the communicant's hand. The wafer should be consumed at an appropriate distance from the communion rail. The process ends with the Priest and Server receiving Communion in the same manner.

Please follow the directions of the wardens, so administration can proceed smoothly.

If you have any special needs, such as gluten-free bread, or non alcoholic wine, or no wine at all, please speak to one of the wardens.

Jonathan

WHAT TO DO for THIS WEEK:

❖ Keep bringing items for the **Foodbank**; **new collection point is the Church Centre hallway on a Friday morning from 9.30am – 11.30am.** **the Foodbank are requesting, Long Life Milk, Long Life Fruit Juice, Cup a Soups, Tinned Spaghetti and Shampoo.** Please note they have an abundance of Baked Beans, Dry Pasta, Dry Spaghetti and Tea.
 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 Friday mornings from 9.30am until 11.30am 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).



In Memoriam:

Hedley Ringrose (priest), John Perris, Robert Mayo, David Kent RIP

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

Margaret, Angela, Susan, Mike and Laura, Lynne, Bill, Pat, Daphne, Rosemary, Carol, Angela, Steve, Tony and Jean, Sylvia, Margaret & Mark, Albert.

Anniversaries of Death:

Raymond Wilson, Barbara Bayliss, Alan Holder, Mary Jenkyn, Olive Davis, Peter Minall (priest) Charlie Wild, Henry Venour, Margaret Dunn, Dorothy James, Olive Collier, Tracey Eroglu, Russell Heard, Gordon Aston, Judith Ford, Betty Boulton, Margaret Mills, Olga Ralphs, Ernest Marns, Lucy Wreford, William Willerton.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Linda Medwell 18th, Matthew Taylor 6yrs on 21st.

If you would like your birthday or anniversary mentioned in Signpost please let Glenda know.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Ist calling at St George's of Max Tanner & Elizabeth Hannah Short

May 13th - May 23rd

Join the global wave of prayer calling all Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to know the love and peace of Jesus Christ.

So many scriptures call us to pray.

Thy Kingdom Come prayer journals to assist with prayer focus are available from Helen. Do ask her for one.

Fun prayer TKC treasure maps have been sent to all our Messy Church families along with our Pentecost newsletter and craft pack this month.

More resources are available on the

website: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

Let's get excited about praying for our friends and family and seeing how God responds!

Email scams....

Several church members have had emails asking for a favour. The emails initially seem to be from someone we know. For example Jonathan M, however on closer inspection the senders email address was shown to be officennnnn@gmail.com (nnnnn = a number). If you mark the email as SPAM, open the SPAM folder, then select the message you can BLACKLIST the offending email address.

DIARY DATES

Sun 16			Easter 7
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion Crucifer: Roger Readers: Jonathan/SylviaC Intercessions: Linda M
	5.00pm	St M's	Evensong
Wed 19	8.15am	Z	Morning Prayer
	10.00am	Z	Mission Group
	3.30pm	MH	Slimming World
	7.00pm	St G's	Refresh; The Lord's Prayer
Thu 20	10.30am	St M's	Parish Communion
Sat 22	10.00am		Litter Pick. Meet at St G's car park
	11.00am	MH	Karate
Sun 23			PENTECOST
	9.00am	St M's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion Crucifer: Sylvia C Readers: David/Joceline Intercessions: Helen

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

Food Parcels

St George's Church, Grange Road, is now open for Food Parcel collections on -

Tuesday & Friday – 10.00am – 12noon

The parcel is FREE OF CHARGE

Please be aware of social distancing guidelines

Deanery Synod meeting and Questionnaire

Thank you to everyone who completed, or at least attempted, the Deanery questionnaire. Your efforts were appreciated.

The Deanery Synod met on Wednesday, 12th May 2021. A copy of the minutes will be available to anyone interested by contacting Derek Kingscote, St. George's or Lorraine Best, St Margaret's. A short summary of these meetings will appear in 'Crossroads' from time to time. Thanks again, Derek and Lorraine. Deanery Synod reps.

Funeral of David Kent RIP

Angela has kindly informed the church the funeral service for David will be held at St George's on Monday 24th May at 12noon.

Refresh

If the weather holds, we are planning to hold 'Refresh' **outdoors** at St George's on Wednesday 19th May at 7pm. The theme is 'The Lord's Prayer'. Come and join us and – proving we are able to remain outdoors – **sing**. (As we are hoping to host outdoors please select from the following list items you may wish to bring:- Refreshments, Garden Chair, Warm Clothing, Blanket and a Pen for the Word Search/Crossword/Quiz)