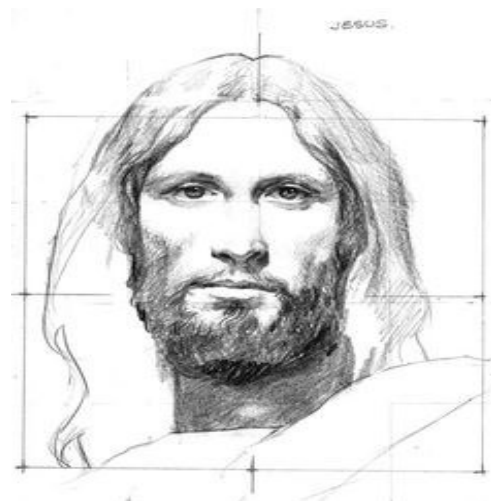


# HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

*Joyfully serving Jesus*



*Weekly devotions, prayers and news*  
**The Tenth Sunday after Trinity**  
*21st August 2022*

Dear Friends

For all the calm of the summer holidays most of us have an underlying sense of anxiety about just what the future will hold. How high are energy costs going to rise? How serious will the recession turn out to be? What will happen next between Russia, Ukraine and its allies? How polarised is our global society going to become? And of course, what will be the end result of climate change? All these questions have the same answer. We do not know. Yet they burden us with anxiety. We are also burdened by the pain and suffering of things going wrong in our own lives, be it illness, disappointing results, family breakdown or the loss of loved ones. There is a saying within the Cur-sillo movement and elsewhere, "Let go and let God." Let go of our pain and anxiety and let God carry us and our pain for a while.

Brian & Jane

Church website: [www.holytrinitycuckfield.org](http://www.holytrinitycuckfield.org)

## **Tenth Sunday after Trinity (21 August 2022)**

**8.00 Holy Communion** *(in church)* Readers: Ralph Colbran & Margaret Thistlethwaite

**9.45 Family Eucharist** *(in church and online)*

Readers: Eileen & Jim Knight; Intercessor: David Jamieson

Hymns: 766, 680, 675, 471, 566, 761

### **Services during the week:**

**Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion** (C. Worship) **Bartholomew the Apostle**

Readings: Acts 5: 12-16; 1 Corinthians 4: 9-15; Luke 22: 24-30

**Thursday: 9.00 Holy Communion** (Iona/Celtic)

Readings: 1 Corinthians 1: 1-9; Matthew 24: 42-end

**Friday: 11.00 Holy Communion** (Book of Common Prayer) Cancelled during August

## **Next Sunday: Eleventh Sunday after Trinity (28th August 2022)**

**8.00 Holy Communion** *(in church)*

**9.45 Family Eucharist** *(in church and online)*

**12noon Holy Baptism** Imogen Florence Joan Lloyd

**For services live on Zoom: Click the blue link on the front page of the church website**

### **The Collect for Tenth Sunday after Trinity**

Lord of heaven and earth,  
as Jesus taught his disciples  
to be persistent in prayer,  
give us patience and courage never to lose hope,  
but always to bring our prayers before you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen

### **The Post Communion Prayer:**

God of our pilgrimage,  
you have willed that the gate of mercy  
should stand open for those who trust in you:  
look upon us with your favour  
that we who follow the path of your will  
may never wander from the way of life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

## Jeremiah 1: 4-10

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying,

'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.'

Then I said, 'Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.' But the Lord said to me, 'Do not say, "I am only a boy"; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.'

Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me,

'Now I have put my words in your mouth.

See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.'

## Hebrews 12: 18-end

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, 'If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.' Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, 'I tremble with fear.') But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, 'Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.' This phrase 'Yet once more' indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

## Luke 13: 10-17

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' But the Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

## **A thought** 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity: 21<sup>st</sup> August 2022

Jesus heals a woman, a woman who does not call out to him, but one whom he sees and calls to himself, a woman who, because she was a woman and because she was disabled, would not be allowed into the synagogue, let alone inside the gates of the city in all likelihood. This seems to suggest which side of the exclusive-inclusive debate Jesus lived on.

Jesus shatters the status quo to announce a new way of doing God's business. In Jesus we see that God's Word is alive and active, not at all dead and static. Jesus is seen to be reinterpreting the Bible and the biblical tradition. Jesus, God's Word, is alive and active.

We cannot even begin to know the significance of this story without having the knowledge of the exodus saga, the Abraham saga, the prophetic literature calling us to care for those in need, the life, and the customs of Israel in the first century. That Jesus would touch an unclean woman in public is remarkable and causes division amongst the community of God's people.

We all want to know what the Bible says. But are we willing to put in the time necessary to become familiar its texts, its histories, and points of view? What it addresses and what it does not? All the personalities represented, and the possibilities and promises sometimes merely hinted at.

Are we willing to let the Bible, the Word of God, have its way with us rather than our trying to domesticate it to our own needs and desires?

### **A prayer for this time of Vacancy**

Send us your Holy Spirit at this time of change and uncertainty, to fill us with vision, energy and faithfulness in prayer that we may be true to our calling to bring new life to our community; and guide with your heavenly wisdom those who are to choose a new priest for this Benefice, so that the one whom we receive may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people, ready to serve us with joy, to build us up in faith, and to lead us by example, in loving obedience to your Son our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

### **Please remember those for whom we pray:**

**Immediate need:** John Bernardi (priest), Paul Simpson, Martin Packham, Val Thompson, Ralph Wilkins, Becky Parker, George Snashall, Eileen Macdougall

**Long Term Need:** Young Georgia, Joshua and Reggie, Wendy, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Wendy Hibling, Yvonne Godsmark, Carla Spear, Pam Sagar, Eileen Knight, Maureen Griffiths, Carol Cox, Liz Graydon

**Those in Care Homes:** Jill Rockey, Jean Simmons, Mary Watts, Ruth Baker, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card

**Please remember the recently departed and their families:** Alan Prebble, Martin Simmonds, Christopher Cripps, Paul Rowe, Marilyn Gander

**In our Book of Remembrance** this week we remember: 22nd John McNamara, Dennis Glaister, George Morrison, Dorothy Long, Kenneth Manvell, 23rd Max Laing, Ann Berry, Margaret Williams, 26th Richard Lindsey, 27th Peggy Higginson, Barry Heath, Marjorie Church, John Knight, Nicholas Bennett, Wendy Grover,