



## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July – Fourth Sunday after Trinity

### Welcome!

Dear friends of Christ Church,

Christ Church is now open for private prayer on Saturdays from July 4th. We will start by opening from 11am-1pm and see how popular it is. If you would like to be involved in welcoming and stewarding please let us know. As well as the 10am morning Sunday morning Eucharist streamed live on Facebook, (a reminder of the link is [here](#)), there is the 11am Thursday morning weekday Eucharist, a spoken 30 minute service with a mini sermon. Think of it as Sunday worship lite. Every weekday morning at 8am a group of us are saying morning prayer together on zoom. If you would like an invitation please email [lore.chumbley@me.com](mailto:lore.chumbley@me.com) It's perfectly possible to phone into this - you don't have to be on zoom to take part.

The Thursday evening Pilgrim Group has just started reading 1 John, a letter which seems to have been written by the community around John the Evangelist. Peter and Beryl Bowes are leading this, and we are enjoying it very much. It's open to all, every Thursday in July at 7.30. We will take a break for August before starting again in September.

Don't miss the virtual coffee after the 11am service on Sundays. There is usually a dozen or so and it is a chance to catch up, have an informal chat and relax after the service. You have to bring your own coffee, though.

This bulletin will be emailed out to those on our email list. As always, material for inclusion should be emailed by Tuesday evenings to Jude Bishop at [notices@christchurchbath.org](mailto:notices@christchurchbath.org)

Please forward this bulletin to anyone to whom you think it would be of interest.

Do please email or post or text prayer requests and we will try to include them week by week. But be aware that the service will be online and so be careful of the confidentiality of friends and loved ones.

The July Link will be available online very soon. If you have any articles you wish to be included in future copies please email Alex at [alexs@christchurchbath.org](mailto:alexs@christchurchbath.org). If you need a paper copy of the Link, let Lore know.

The weekly readings are to be found in the Link. All copies of the Link can be found on the website [here](#).

**If you are experiencing financial problems**, Christ Church may be able to help in small ways with day to day needs. Contact the Priest-in-charge in confidence.

### Sermon for Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

OT: Amos 7: 10-end

Gospel: Matthew 9: 1-8

The Lord says '*Prophecy*'. But you say '*Do not prophecy*' Amos 7:10-end

Amos didn't have an easy time. Prophets didn't in the Old Testament and don't today. Commanded by God to speak out against the regime in which he lived, he did so and was forbidden to speak and banished by the powerful men of his day. Earlier this week some of us heard Frankie Ward preach at Simon's celebration of his 40 years of priesthood, and on Sunday, Peter Bowes, our own retired priest who joined us with Beryl last year preached to us for the first time. Both Frankie and Peter spoke of the need for the church to be a prophetic voice in our time. When I say '*church*' they did not, or not only mean, '*Why don't our church leaders speak out?*' They meant you, me, us, the whole church. Amos didn't consider himself a prophet but a herdsman and a tender of sycamore trees. If we are truly a praying people, then we can expect God to speak to and through us. And prophets do not only make predictions. They also ask questions. Recently I was asked, '*What does it mean to be resurrection people?*' I believe that to be a prophetic question and one for all of us to ponder together over the next few months. By the grace of God and after a huge amount of work by all of you, in particular, fundraisers, administrators and the building work committee, our builders have been able to complete almost all of the work needed on Christ Church during Lockdown. As we slowly begin to return to our church building, I hope we will be able to prayerfully consider how we **now** grow not a **building** but a community. - A community of prophets who proclaim the resurrected Christ not only with our lips but in our lives; who live out a new and different life of love and equality and a commitment to justice and to preserving our precious,

created world. How can we increase the respect we show to minorities? How can we give a warm welcome when we may not share cups of coffee? How do we support those causes in which we believe? The answers to those questions are not simple and will take time to tease out. But I think that beginning to look at those questions and those posed by Peter on Sunday will, over time, lead us on the path toward becoming resurrection people leading resurrection lives.

## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July

### Today's online service at 10am

The readings will be:

OT: Zechariah 9: 9-12

Psalm: 45: 10-end

NT: Romans 7: 15-25a

Gospel: Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-end

The anthem today is "*Holy is the true light*" by William Harris (1883-1973)

The Voluntary is "*Cornet Voluntary*" by John Travers (c1703-1758)

## Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July

### Thursday's online Eucharist at 11am

The readings will be:

OT: Hosea 11: 3-4, 8-9

Psalm 105: 1-7

Gospel: Matthew 10: 7-15

**There is also Morning prayer available at 8am Monday-Friday.** If you would like to join this please email Lore, [lore.chumbley@me.com](mailto:lore.chumbley@me.com) or phone 07595 294146, for a Zoom invitation.

**In the meantime**, if you still haven't taken the plunge with Zoom or Facebook but would like to have a go, do phone or email Lore as above.

## Private Prayer in Christ Church progress report

On July 4th some of the restrictions of lockdown will lift and, after more than three months during which the church has been locked, we can welcome you back into Christ Church for private prayer. You will be coming into a transformed physical space, still recognisably Christ Church but with more space and light. The new curved platform step and communion rail are in place. The South chapel has been opened up, the floor sanded and the walls plastered. Because of your marvellous and continuing response to our '*Time and Talent*' fundraising challenge, we have ordered one of the two wooden tracery screens which will divide the South chapel from the rest of the church, providing a sense of enclosure within the chapel so that it feels like a safe space to pray. It's a leap of faith - we still have a gap of a couple of thousand pounds to bridge, so keep up the fundraising and bear in mind that we are still unfinished and painting and possibly plastering is continuing. But I think you will be uplifted by what you find when you come into church.

As I write this on July 1st, we are still awaiting the bishops' response to the government's advice that church services may restart. We don't want to lose all the advantages of online worship - and one way or another I very much hope we can continue to stream services after our return to the building in a way which doesn't interfere with the worship of those in church and importantly, those who perform the technical work of streaming.

Once it is clear what is and is not possible, we will put together a plan for re-opening in a timely, safe and appropriate way so that we can once again meet and worship together safely.

## Our Charity of the Month is Burlington House



This month our Charity of the Month is **Burlington House**, run by Bath DHI - Developing Health and Independence - which works with adults and young people to address drug and alcohol addiction, among other issues. Burlington House houses two community detox suites, where people can safely detox from drugs and alcohol in a controlled way, with medical care available, and provides a stable environment for people to recover with support on hand. DHI are working hard during this pandemic to continue to provide support to clients, mainly online and via the phone. Key workers are in regular touch with clients. More information can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Donations can be made at <https://localgiving.org/fundraising/XchCharityoftheMonthJuly/>

or contact Rebekah Cunningham on 01225 317329 or [rebekah.spanner@gmail.com](mailto:rebekah.spanner@gmail.com)

Please Gift Aid if you are eligible!

## Social action in Bath and Sustainable Food Partnership

The Compassionate Community Hub is now operational across the whole of B&NES, with large numbers of volunteers who are being asked to provide support to people in need in their local areas.

If anyone needs support with buying food or medicines, and there is no local group that they can turn to, then they should send an email with the subject "Support" to [compassion@3sg.org.uk](mailto:compassion@3sg.org.uk) and the team will pick up your query within 24 hours.

Alternatively, telephone the **Banes Covid/Compassionate Community helpline 0300 247 0050**.

People wanting to register as a volunteer with Compassionate Community Hub should complete the form via this link: <http://bit.ly/communityvolunteersignup>.

3SG & the Sustainable Food Partnership have produced a list of local providers offering food to people across Bath and north east Somerset. You can find a comprehensive list [here](#).



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

Please tell your older friends about **DAILY HOPE**. Daily Hope is a response to the nearly 3 million older people living in the UK who cannot access the internet and who now find themselves even more isolated and cut off from those around them. Many are struggling with anxiety and fear. Please tell older people who you know about Daily Hope. It's for people with no access to the internet. It's a FREE phone line so that they can listen to hymns, prayers, daily reflections, and a choice of church services. When you phone, the call is answered by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Try it now! Thank you.

## Time and Talent

A huge **'Thank you'** to all who have offered goods or services for this project and those who have taken them up. We are steadily raising funds as a result and are proud to announce that we now have over £2000 in the pot. We will update you on this on a regular basis.

Because of the number of offers we have decided to send out a separate **Time and Talent Update** with all offers. **This will be sent out on a Wednesday**, when we have something exciting to tell you. Please watch out for it as an email message from Mark Elliott. If you would like further information please contact Jonathan Stead, email [jonathanstead20@gmail.com](mailto:jonathanstead20@gmail.com).



## Good News for the charity of the month for June and result of the sweet quiz

The Junior Church would like to thank you everyone who supported Project 28, the Charity of the Month for June. The total raised was £690.50 and the charity was delighted to receive your donation. The concert was very well attended, and the children enjoyed taking part.



The winner of the Lockdown Sweets Quiz was Nick Wells! (All that time spent in the tuck shop was not wasted!)

Runners up were Rebekah & Greg Cunningham and David & Judith Bishop.

Thank you to everyone who took part.



## Finally, a Prayer by Chandra Devanesen

O Thou  
who hast given me eyes  
to see the light  
that fills my room,  
give me the inward vision  
to behold thee in this place.

O Thou  
who hast made me to feel  
the morning wind upon my limbs,  
help me to feel thy Presence  
as I bow in worship of thee.