



St Stephen with St John Westminster

www.sswsj.org

Weekly Notes

13th September 2020

(Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Today:

10:00am Parish Eucharist
6:00pm Evensong

Morning & Evening Prayer are said Monday to Friday, 9.15am & 6.00pm

BCP Wednesdays at 12:30pm.

Tea@3 on Thursdays. Please do join us and our friends from St Barnabas via Zoom

[Meeting ID: 876 875 6365](#)

Password: 657351

The church is now open for services on Sunday as well as the following times:

- Monday 11am to 5pm,
- Wednesday 11am to 2pm
- Thursdays from 11am to 5pm

Please note that we are currently abiding by the government's social distancing guidelines and all visitors to the church must wear a mask. The toilet will remain closed for the time being.

Helena Bickley-Percival is to be ordained deacon at St Paul's on Saturday 26th September at 2:30pm. Please pray for Helena, Percy and the church. A Zoom link will be provided closer to the time should you wish to participate.

John Blackburne is also to be ordained on Monday 28th September, please do keep him in your prayers.

Our AGM is now scheduled for 11th October, to be held after the Parish Eucharist at 10am. This will be held both in church and on Zoom.

Electoral Roll: If you have moved since March 2019, or are not currently on our electoral roll but would like to be, please download the form [on the website here](#), print, sign and mail in physical signed copy to the office address on the form.

Due to current circumstances, we cannot offer refreshments after the service. Please leave in a socially distanced manner by the West Door.

The minister welcomes the people

Prayer of Preparation

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Jesus Christ Our Lord.
Amen.**

The Introduction

Remain standing as the minister says

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit,

The Lord be with you,
and also with you.

Invitation to Confession

My brothers and sisters,
as we prepare to celebrate the presence of Christ in word and sacrament,
let us call to mind and confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen**

The Kyrie may be sung.

Lord have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

The Absolution

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
And keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on
earth. Lord God, heavenly
King, almighty God and
Father,
we worship you, we give you
thanks, we praise you for your
glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the
Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the
world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the
Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the
Holy One, you alone are
the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus
Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the
Father. Amen.**

The Collect for the Day

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: *Exodus 14.19-end*

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 114

When Israel went out from Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,
Judah became God's sanctuary,
Israel his dominion.

The sea looked and fled;
Jordan turned back.
The mountains skipped like rams,
the hills like lambs.

Why is it, O sea, that you flee?
O Jordan, that you turn back?
O mountains, that you skip like rams?
O hills, like lambs?

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
who turns the rock into a pool of water,
the flint into a spring of water.

Second Reading: *Romans 14.1-12*

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. 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. 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.

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. 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.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 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. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

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. For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.'
So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18.21-35

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

A verse may be sung

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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?’ Jesus said to him, ‘Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.’

‘For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; 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. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.” And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 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.” Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you.” But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. 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. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, “You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?” And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

All sit

Sermon

Profession of 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.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Respond to the words 'Lord in your mercy' with 'Hear our prayer'

Ending with:

Merciful God,
accept these prayers for the sake of
your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

In our parish cycle of prayer: Westminster Abbey and local fire service

For those who live in: Dean Stanley Street and Rutherford Street

As part of St Stephen's link with the Church in Myanmar:

the Government and people of Myanmar

We pray for our New York City link parish:

The Church of the Holy Trinity and their Rector, Revd John F. Beddingfield, praying particularly for their staff team and their needs

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Anglican Church of South America: Gregory Venables (Presiding Bishop, and Bishop of Argentina)

Capital Vision 2020 Ambassadors: we pray for administrators

Enfield Deanery: Stuart Owen (Area Dean), Nigel Asbridge, Stephen Coleman and Stephen Gallagher (Sub-Deans), Stephen Taylor (Chapter Clerk)

Deanery Synod: Sue Johnson (Lay Chairman), Richard Bunce (Treasurer), Diana Stansall (Secretary)

Among those who have asked for our prayers:

Robin Fairfax; Vera Godsall; Marian Hall; Jean Haswell; Dyfrig Jones; Alan Mack; Michael Pryce Jones; Miriam Lesmond; Pete Read; Henry Taylor; John Travis-Clarke; Gay Widmer; Anne Norman-Butler; Marian McHale; Amal Griffin; Fraser Copley and his dad, Kevin Copley; Pete Barney; Tom Robinson; Eddie Catton; Ramone, his parents Anne and Mo, and his brothers Liam and Raheem; John Turpin; the Blaiden family

For the Years' Mind of: Tracy Victoria; John William Parsons; Stephen Wilson Bonajee; William Thomas Shaw; Eileen Terry; David Lorne Loake (Priest); Marguerite Cholerton; Ronald Parker; Emily Irene Carter

The Peace

We are the body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life together.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Offertory

Offering is available online at CAF Donate, or please leave donations in the box by the North Door at the end of the service.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

The president praises God for his mighty acts and sings:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your
glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The president recalls the Last Supper, and one of these acclamations may be used

Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**
or

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our
death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

The prayer continues and leads into the doxology, to which all respond boldly

Amen.

or

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;**

on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power and the glory,
For ever and ever.
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one
body, because we all share in one
bread.**

Agnus Dei

The president says one of these invitations to communion

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord
Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink
in remembrance that he died
for you,
And feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.
Amen. or

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sins of the
world.
Blessed are those who are
called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to
receive you,
but only say the word and I
shall be healed.**

Please stay in your seats during the distribution of communion. The priest will bring communion to you.

Post Communion Prayer

The minister prays the post communion prayer:

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,

and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

We say together:

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you
our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

The minister gives any notices

The Dismissal

Final Blessing

The minister gives the following or another suitable blessing

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your heart and mind in the knowledge and love
of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

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