



The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

Weekly Newsletter and Service Sheet The Sixth Sunday of Easter 9 May 2021



Love is the meaning

In this Sunday's gospel reading we hear the familiar passage in which Jesus reminds us that we are his friends and that he has chosen us to bear fruit – fruit that will last. As his friends he urges us to love one another as he has loved us. The core of the Christian message is love. God loves each and every one of us. If we can grasp God's unconditional love for us and share it with others, life is a journey of joy. To accept that God loves us is also to accept the reality that God

loves all others in the same way. At the heart of all we do as followers of Christ is love. At the very end of her book, Julian of Norwich (whose Feast Day is this weekend - 8 May) reveals that for many years after her sixteen Revelations, she often wondered why they had been shown to her and what was their deeper meaning. After fifteen years of searching, she heard the answer.

I was answered in spiritual understanding, saying thus: "What wouldest thou know thy lord's meaning in this thing [the whole revelation]? Know it well, love was his meaning. Who showed it to thee? Love. What showed he to thee? Love. Wherefore showed he it to thee? For love. Hold thee therein, thou shalt know more of the same. But thou shalt never know therein other without end." Thus was I taught that love is our lord's meaning.

Love is indeed our Lord's meaning and I pray that we follow Jesus' command to us in all we do and say. With every blessing for the coming week,

Fr James

A Service of Eucharist for The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Organ Voluntary

Hymn

The hymn is sung by the choir. The congregation may sit.

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluya, alleluya!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam:

Refrain: O praise him, O praise him Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him! Alleluya!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice: *[Refrain]*

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluya, Alleluya!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest man both warmth and light: *[Refrain]*

Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, Alleluya!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them his glory also show: *[Refrain]*

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
O praise him! Alleluya!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in One: *[Refrain]*

The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Alleluia. Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Welcome *Words of welcome to those in church and those online are given.*

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 Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he lives to God. Let us renew our resolve to have done with all that is evil and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

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.

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 (*Choir at the Parish Church*)

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.

Collect

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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.**

Reading Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading John 15:9-17

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.** Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.' **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Creed

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

The response to the bidding, Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

At the end **Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

God is love and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a Covid-19 secure sign of peace.

The Preparation of the Altar

This hymn is sung by the choir

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.

At his voice creation sprang at once to sight,
All the angel faces, all the hosts of light,
Thrones and bright dominations, stars upon their way,
All the heavenly orders, in their great array.

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:

Bore it up triumphant with its human light,
Through all ranks of creatures, to the central height,
To the throne of Godhead, to the Father's breast;
Filled it with the glory of that perfect rest.

In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue
All that is not holy, all that is not true:
He is God the Saviour, he is Christ the Lord,
Ever to be worshipped, trusted, and adored.

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.
Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest;
make yourself known in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

These opening responses are sung. Please sit or kneel.

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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

(Choir at the Parish Church)

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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Andrew and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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 minister 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 *(Choir at the Parish Church)*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The communion is distributed. Baptised communicant members of any church are welcome to come and receive the bread alone. If you would like to receive a blessing please bring this service booklet with you, or keep your arms folded. A hymn is sung.

1 Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise,
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.

2 O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
A second Adam to the fight
And to the rescue came.

3 O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
Which did in Adam fail,
Should strive afresh against the foe,
Should strive and should prevail;

4 And that a higher gift than grace
Should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very self,
And essence all-divine.

5 O generous love! that he who smote
In Man for man the foe,
The double agony in Man
For man should undergo;

6 And in the garden secretly,
And on the cross on high,
Should teach his brethren, and inspire
To suffer and to die.

7 Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise,
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.

Prayer after Communion

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:
may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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.

Notices *The banns are read and announcements are made.*

The Blessing

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

Organ Voluntary



Prayer Intentions

THE CHURCH *Our Ministry Team* James Stewart, Taylor Wilton-Morgan, Nicole King, Jim Green (on placement) **Norwich East Deanery** St Peter Mancroft *Clergy:* Edward Carter, Fiona Haworth, Graham Kirk-Spriggs, Lorna Allies *Lay Minister:* Gill Persicke **Our Bishops** Graham, Alan and Bishop Designate Jane Archdeacons Steven Betts, Karen Hutchinson, Ian Bentley **Ecumenical** Deanery of Pitea in Lulea (our link diocese in Sweden) and Rural Dean Anna Piirainen Andersson **Anglican Communion** Anglican Church of Kenya.

THE WORLD *All those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic* particularly all our Schools – Dussindale Primary (Headteacher: Louise Norgate), Hillside Avenue Primary (Headteacher: Mr Phoenix), St William's Primary (Headteacher: Sarah Shirrass), Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form (Principal: Penny Bignell) **Vaccination** Giving thanks for those who have already received vaccines and the rolling out of the programme.

THE COMMUNITY

Streets of the Parish Oak Avenue, Old Chapel Way, Old Rectory Close
Our community All our civic leaders on Town, District and County Councils – our new Mayor, Sue Lawn and Deputy Mayor, Jane Fisher. Our new County Councillors: Ian Mackie - Thorpe St Andrew; John Fisher - Woodside; John Ward - Sprowston

THOSE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYER including Paul Carter, Mark Little, Graham and Monique Rowland, Jennifer Jones, Janet Fancy, Colin Hicks, Grace Howes, Peter and Gaynor Garrood, Rita Ward, Joy and Andy McCall, Jean High, Brother Gabriel, Craig Fransham, Anthony Travis, Mark King, Chloe Smith MP, Alan Fleming

THE DEPARTED *The recently departed* Ivan Brown (20 May), Alan Harrison (26 May), Anthony Boast (27 May), Wendy Franks, Harry Basford
Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time including Brenda Debenham (9 May), Mary Harris (15 May)

Other notices and announcements

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING - 16 May 2021 at 11.00am (PC)

The Annual Report with Financial Statements is available in church this week (in readiness for next week's meeting) but will also be sent out with these notices in the email communication. We are grateful for all those who have produced reports, but, in particular, for Sally Entwistle for the accounts, David Debenham for independently examining them and for Christine Cutting who has put them together. Please do come along to church for the service next Sunday and stay for the meeting. Nomination forms available from the Rector for Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and PCC members.

WELCOME TO JIM We are very pleased to welcome **Jim Green** who is Reader (Licensed Lay Minister) in training from St Francis, Heartsease, who is with us until the end of May.

 **Norfolk** County Council **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCILLORS!**

We wish all those well who have been elected as County Councillor, but in particular – Ian Mackie (Thorpe St Andrew), John Fisher (Woodside) and John Ward (Sprowston). May God bless them as they represent our community.

POP UP PLANT SALE 2021 ANNOUNCED After the success of our 2020 sale the gardening team is pleased to announce the Pop Up Plant Sale 2021! This will be held on **Saturday 5th June (11am - 3pm)** in the gardens of the Parish Church. Anyone who can donate plants or unwanted plant pots please contact Margaret Hope at church or on email: mehope7@aol.com

PARISH LIFE DISTRIBUTOR NEEDED We need a distributor to cover 10 addresses in Eastern Avenue/Crescent. Please contact Patience Skelton on 01603 701116 if you can help.

NORWICH EAST DEANERY ASCENSION DAY SERVICE This will take place at St Stephen's Church, Norwich at 7.00pm on Thursday 13th May 2021. Please support this if you can.

HARRY BASFORD RIP We are saddened to announce the death of Harry this week, who for many years helped with the Parish Church garden and was well known in our community. Please keep his family in your prayers.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2021 There will be a bucket collection on Sundays 9 (TODAY) and 16 May. Further details on www.christianaid.org.uk

100 CLUB – APRIL RESULTS Two prizes of £25 – Nicole King, Christine Rockett; two prizes of £15 – Patience Skelton, Alex Olney

SERVICES IN THE COMING WEEKS

These are subject to Government restrictions operating at the time.

Sun 9 May EASTER 6

9.30am Parish Eucharist – Parish Church (in person and streamed LIVE)

11.15am Eucharist – Good Shepherd

Sun 16 May EASTER 7 (THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION)

8.00am Eucharist – Good Shepherd

9.30am Parish Eucharist (in person and streamed LIVE) – Parish Church

11.00am Annual Meeting of Parishioners and

Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Parish Church

Sun 23 May PENTECOST

8.00am Eucharist – Good Shepherd

9.30am Eucharist - Parish Church (Streamed LIVE) – Parish Church

11.00am Café Church – St Andrew's Centre

Sun 30 May TRINITY SUNDAY

9.30am Parish Eucharist – Parish Church (Streamed LIVE)

Forthcoming Social Events

27 June Summer Concert and Strawberry Tea – Parish Church

17 July Summer Fete – Parish Church

4, 11, 18, 25 August – Lunchtime Organ Recitals

18 September Quiz Night – St Andrew's Centre

16 October Film Night – St Andrew's Centre

30 October Autumn Fair – St Andrew's Centre

20 November Music Hall Evening

Further details as and when we hear more information!

'Pop up' Plant Sale

in the gardens of
Thorpe St Andrew Parish Church
River Green, NR7 0EW

Saturday
5 June 2021
11am to 3pm



Further information

The Revd James Stewart

Tel: 01603 439160

email: rector@thorpeparishchurch.org

Covid-19 measures will be in place