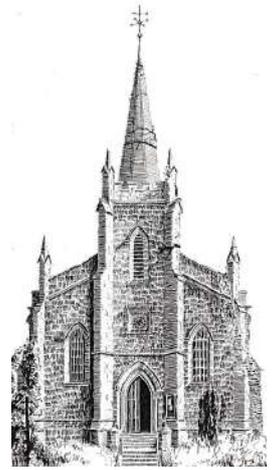


# St Mary the Virgin Riverhead with Dunton Green



## Sunday 13th September 2020 - 14th Sunday after Trinity

### *Jonah 3.10-4.11*

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, 'O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the LORD said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.' But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the LORD said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?' This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

### *Philippians 1.21-30*

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well – since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew Glory to you, O Lord.

### *Matthew 20.1-16*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

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

## **For your information**

**Team Rector** On the 8th of August the Revd Mark Bridgen was instituted and inducted as the new Team Rector of the West Sevenoaks Team Ministry, which comprises the churches of St Mary's Kippington, St Mary the Virgin, Riverhead and Dunton Green and St Luke's, Sevenoaks.

Mark can be contacted, for whatever reason, by email: [mark.bridgen@btinternet.com](mailto:mark.bridgen@btinternet.com)

By phone: 01732 452112

By mobile: 07375299944

As Team Rector he is available for all in the team and wants to make sure that he can be easily contacted by all.

The start of the process for the recruitment of the new Team Vicar posts in the West Sevenoaks Team Ministry

**From your Team Rector:** Dear friends, from September we will begin the process of the recruitment for the Team Vicars in the life of West Sevenoaks Team. I would like to thank all those from St Mary the Virgin and St Luke's who have worked tirelessly and faithfully to prepare parish profiles. Advertising, shortlisting and interviews will take us to the beginning of November. As we begin the process, I offer a prayer below for your personal and corporate prayers throughout this time. God bless this team and each of you. Mark

*Our gracious God, we thank you for your guidance thus far in the birth of our new Team Ministry. We pray now that you will guide us as we come to the recruitment of our new Team Vicars. Come alongside all those who will make applications and all those who will discern, that your will be done and your kingdom come. Amen.*

**West Sevenoaks Team** – Fortnightly Tuesday prayers by Zoom: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays

On every second and fourth Tuesday there will be half hour prayers offered for our new Team and an area, in turn, of the life of its ministry. People will be invited to join us care of Zoom and the meeting id and passcode will be:

Meeting ID: 974 868 8695

Passcode: 7bEsdU

People are invited to Zoom from 6:45pm for a 7pm start. We will always end at 7:30pm.

Dates this year are:

Tuesday 8th and 22nd of September; 13th and 27th of October; 10th and 24th of November; and the 8th of December. (No prayers on the 22nd of December)

## **BREAKING NEWS**

With joy in our hearts we hope to bring our Sunday 8am BCP Holy Communion Service back into Church in October. The 9.30am Sunday service will continue on Zoom for a little while longer. Further details will be given nearer the time when we are able to confirm our plans.

Saturday morning opening and Saturday All-Age Service – these will continue until the end of September.

\* A full risk assessment has been carried out and is available for viewing. Full safety measures have been put in place.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT WHENEVER YOU ARE ATTENDING THE CHURCH FOR ANY SERVICE YOU WILL NEED TO WEAR MASKS AND FOLLOW THE GUIDANCE

## **St Mary's Preschool – help required**

Currently St Mary's Preschool faces a challenge about finding new Trustees to help with overseeing the school. With Covid 19 restrictions and many who were Trustees having now left because their children have got older, the pre-school needs volunteers. As the pre school cannot function without such people they are really keen for help! The role is not arduous, only requiring attendance at a termly committee meeting alongside an involvement in helping to organize the fundraising of the annual Christmas bazaar, where all proceeds go into nursery funds to buy new equipment for the children to enjoy.

If you are able to help can you let Rev Mark know in the first instance and he can then pass your details onto Susan Shuttleworth at pre-school.

**St Lukes** are now holding an 8.00am BCP Holy Communion Service, people will be asked to enter and exit via the North Porch. At 10.15am there is also a Parish Eucharist which is being zoomed for those not able to attend, but the code is not generally circulated until Saturday afternoon as a new one is used each week for security purposes. For this later service people arrive at 10.00am and are ushered to a seat, leaving promptly at the end, but can distance chat outside. There is no criteria for attending and anyone is welcome.

### **St Mary Kippington – services**

#### **SUNDAYS**

8:00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10:30am

1st Sunday: Family Service, usually in the Parish Centre (or outdoors weather-permitting)

2nd Sunday: Holy Communion

3rd Sunday: Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)

4th Sunday: Holy Communion

5th Sunday: Holy Communion with Healing or Morning Prayer in the Celtic tradition

#### **THURSDAYS**

A Common Worship Communion service is held at the Church every Thursday from 10am. In the winter this service takes place in the Centenary Room – which is adjoined to the church

#### **Services for the week**

Wednesday Compline: from 7.45pm for 8pm start via Zoom. Service approximately 30mins. Usual link etc applies but copied below for ease of use:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6161461466?pwd=TnZxenFXRE1HYTNSMk84WWhxVFkzdz09>

ID is 616 146 1466

password stmarys

**Coffee following Services** Each Sunday for the time being we are staying on Zoom after the service - giving people a couple of minutes to pop out and make a coffee - and then come back and have a chat and catch up with some of the congregation you have not seen, just as we would if we were able to be in the church.

**Sponsored Bike Ride in aid of Kent Churches** This is took place on Saturday 12th September. Charlotte and Woody, Margaret H and Christine And the Lovelock Family all took part. Margaret and Christine are happy to receive donations through their doors at respectively 2 Cranmer Road or 26 Woodfields. Links for woody and the Lovelocks are as below .

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/EdwardRakhit>

However if you would prefer to sponsor him offline please do contact me:

[Crakhit@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Crakhit@hotmail.co.uk)

07739521583

Tess: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-portal/fundraiserPage?pageId=1199212&newPage=true#stickyAnchor>

**Virtual Coffee Morning** We now meet for a virtual half hour coffee morning on Thursdays at 11.00am. Come and have a chat with some people you have not seen for some time. This week there will be different signing on instructions which will be circulated later in the week

**Loaves and Fishes** There is probably an even greater need for this service during these very difficult times for us all. If you are shopping for food etc if you can pop something extra into your basket I am sure it would be greatly appreciated. Margaret Holman at 2 Cranmer Road has a basket in her porch into which goods can be placed and she will undertake to deliver them to St John's. There is a list of desirable items at the end of this newsletter

**Please pray for** Sarah Seuwing - The daughter of Peter Flynn's friend Pat who is very seriously ill

**Save the Date** Harvest 'zoom' Lunch 4th October at 12.30 Location: your dining room table with your lunch More details to follow.

**Opening Hymn:****Lead, us, heavenly Father, lead us**

**Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us  
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;  
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
for we have no help but thee;  
yet possessing every blessing,  
if our God our Father be.**

**Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:  
all our weakness thou dost know;  
thou didst tread this earth before us,  
thou didst feel its keenest woe;  
lone and dreary, faint and weary,  
through the desert thou didst go.**

**Spirit of our God, descending,  
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,  
love with every passion blending,  
pleasure that can never cloy:  
thus provided, pardoned, guided,  
nothing can our peace destroy.**

**Music for Reflection:**

**Prayer to a Guardian Angel,  
by Patrick Hawes**

*Come in the night  
silent and still.*

*Angel of light show the truth of love's will.  
Dark is my soul and fearful my mind,  
help me the purest and gentlest way find.*

*Come in the dawn  
when all is lost.*

*Angel of comfort take hold of my hand.  
Lift me, enfold me, help me to see  
that all of your treasures give power to break  
free.*

*Come in the noon  
of bright sunlit days.*

*Angel of joy give me right words to say.  
Inspire my heart with truth from above,  
renew my life in the healing of perfect love.*

**Final Hymn: In Christ alone**

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
he is my light, my strength, my song;  
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,  
fulness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones He came to save:  
till on that cross as Jesus died,  
the wrath of God was satisfied –  
for every sin on Him was laid;  
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay  
light of the world by darkness slain:  
the bursting forth in glorious day  
up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
for I am His and He is mine-  
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
this is the power of Christ in me;  
from life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
can ever pluck me from His hand;  
till He returns or calls me home,  
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

**Closing Music: Prelude in B Flat, by J S Bach**

## Desirable items for donation to the Food Bank

**Breakfast cereals** (but not porridge oats)

**Tinned meat for hot meals:** especially **stewed steak, beef casserole/lamb stew, minced beef & onions, chicken in white sauce**

**Tinned vegetables** (preferably **peas/carrots/green beans/sweetcorn**)

**Biscuits**

**Toiletries**

**Washing capsules or liquid**

**and also, in order of importance...**

Fruit juice (long-life)/fruit squash

Sauces for rice dishes: curry/Sweet & Sour

Tomato ketchup/mayonnaise (but not brown sauce)

Tinned ravioli

Tinned macaroni cheese

Tinned meat for cold meals (eg ham, luncheon meat, corned beef)

Custard (tins or cartons, but not custard powder)

Rice pudding (tinned)

Coffee/hot chocolate

Rice

Sugar

UHT milk

**[We have large stocks of baked beans, tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit, tinned soup, jam and honey. Our storage space is very limited, so instead of these items contributions from the list above would be most welcome, if possible.]**

**A message from Bennet and Suzanne:**

We would like to thank everyone for their love, support, prayers and messages of good will over the past few weeks. We feel very loved by everyone and were so glad that we were able to share our day with so many people in spite of the difficult circumstances. The moment we heard everyone on Zoom say 'We Will' during the service will be a moment we'll remember forever. With our love and very best wishes to everyone from both of us. Bennet and Suzanne  
xx

