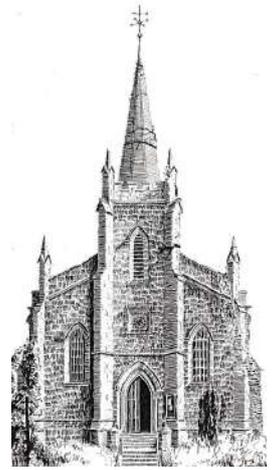


St Mary the Virgin Riverhead with Dunton Green



Sunday 2nd August 2020 - 8th Sunday after Trinity

Genesis 32:22-31

Jacob got up, took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip

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

Romans 9.1-5

I am speaking the truth in Christ – I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit – I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

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 14.13-21

When Jesus heard that Herod had beheaded John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

For your information

Message from our new Team Rector

Today - Tuesday - we all arrived in Sevenoaks and started to unpack. How lovely and unexpected as we came into our new home was to receive the gifts and cards from people upon our arrival. The generous and unexpected hamper, flowers, cards and photographs were wonderful. We all are hugely delighted to be here among you and personally touched by everyone's kindness. Thank you to everyone. On Wednesday the removal van comes bringing most of our possessions and we will, over the next couple of days, begin to call a house a home. However, we have already felt the prayer, warmth and kindness of you all. For this we are so touched and immensely grateful.

Our warmest greetings and thanks

Mark (Team Rector), Karen, James, Grace and Olivia

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.

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.

Services for the week

Tuesday team prayers : 7.15pm for about 20 to 30 mins via Zoom. Link information to follow

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

From the Churchwardens: The church is now open for private prayer from 10.00am to noon each Saturday until further notice. Please follow the instructions when visiting.

Zoom services - recording of services

As some of you may have noticed Daphne had been recording our Zoom services. The intention had been to place the audio only part of some of the services on our website so that those who are unable to join us using Zoom could at least listen to them at another time. Unfortunately we haven't yet mastered the technology to do this and so Daphne has deleted all recordings from her computer. We do not plan to record services until further notice (if for reasons of technological hiccups any services or part thereof are recorded then they will be deleted from Daphne's computer).

Zoom services - background concerns

Please remember that anyone who logs into the service can see the background you are sitting in front of. So if, for example, you have any priceless heirlooms or family photos you would prefer not to be open to "public viewing" please either remove them from camera shot, change where you sit or choose to use a virtual background in the meetings settings area of Zoom.

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

Bible Study and Prayer Group (suspended for the month of August)

A regular group meets for prayer and bible study each Monday morning in the Lady Chapel where there is a prayer board for people to pin up their prayer requests.

The meeting starts at 9.45 for prayer and this is followed by bible study. The meeting usually lasts approximately 1½ hours. To date we have studied Women of Faith, Life Changing encounters from the Gospel of John, Exodus 1-18, Romans 1-5, Guide to Psalms, Job and Philippians. We are currently studying Judges "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly". If you would like to join us you will be made very welcome. Please contact "Daphne Harrison" daphneharrison@yahoo.co.uk or "Ronnie Todd" vat.lady@hotmail.co.uk

PLEASE NOTE, DURING LOCKDOWN WE ARE MEETING VIA ZOOM

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.

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. Sign on instructions are as below

Poverty and Hope

Dear Friend

In this time of global pandemic we are anxious not to forget marginalised people and communities living in poverty. Their needs remain and, in many cases, have been exacerbated by COVID-19.

Our annual Poverty and Hope Appeal aims to raise money to help such marginalised people address the causes of poverty. Projects work with the local Church so our support is a huge encouragement to our brothers and sisters in Christ as they reach out to help their local communities. We continue to support projects in Burundi, Sri Lanka, Syria, Zimbabwe and Kent.

We know that the pandemic has greatly affected many members of our communities and that these people need our help and prayers. But we hope that you will not forget people whose lives are disadvantaged by global poverty and will feel able to support the Poverty and Hope Appeal in whatever way you can.

Yours sincerely

Debbie Cooper, Coordinator, Diocese of Rochester Poverty and Hope Appeal
6 Calverley Park, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2SH

How to donate

We know that the pandemic has greatly affected many members of our communities and that you yourself may be struggling. However, if you are able to do so please support the Poverty and Hope Appeal in whatever way you can. We have broadened the ways you can donate.

E-banking: You can make a donation by e-banking to following account: Rochester Diocesan Society and Board of Finance, sort code 20-54-29, account 90760099.. In the reference box, please put P&H so we can correctly allocate the money to the Poverty and Hope Appeal, and something to identify your church (or nothing if you wish your donation to be given anonymously). Please email povertyandhope@gmail.com if you need more details.

Give.net: You can donate by card via <https://www.give.net/povertyandhope/fundraising>. You can also gift aid your donation if you are a qualifying UK taxpayer. Give.net is part of Stewardship, a Christian charity that supports Christian giving.

Cheques: please make out to 'Rochester DBF' with 'Poverty and Hope Appeal' on the back and send them with any completed gift aid envelopes to: Finance Team Rochester Diocese, St Nicholas Church, Boley Hill, Rochester ME1 1SL.

You may increase the value of your giving by gift-aiding your donation. This allows us to reclaim the tax relating to your gift. Please download and fill in the attached form and return it with your donation to the Rochester Finance Team at the address above. If you would like to receive details of the gift aid scheme or how to make your donation by standing order please do contact us at povertyandhope@gmail.com

Regular Link to Services and Coffee Morning

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6161461466?pwd=z-ZBEpPZ2UtHf2kJkI6N7bM9HDuqg8>

Meeting ID: 616 146 1466

Password: stmarys

Opening hymn: Amazing grace

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear,
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come:
‘tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease:
I shall possess, within the veil,
a life of joy and peace.

When I’ve been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
I’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
than when I first begun.

Final hymn: Great is thy faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness,
O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
Great is thy faithfulness!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
Great is thy faithfulness!
(Repeat the chorus the final time)

**Closing Music: The anthem “O sing joyfully unto God
our strength” by Batten - Words from Psalm 81**