

Trinity 3 Sunday 28th June 2020

The online services are a combination the service sheet with links to readers, hymns and music etc. (This can be activated directly from the document sent to you by email, or on the internet at <https://e-voice.org.uk/bradwellchurch/>) and used as normal or 'save' the service document, open it afresh and the links can be activated with the service sheet remaining in place). Alternatively, you can open two browsers on your screen, one to keep the service sheet visible and the other to activate the links. Bells: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZmV2nz7jKQs>

As our Bishop of Chelmsford prepares to become Archbishop of York the retiring Archbishop Dr John Sentamu lays down his crozier on the high altar at York Minster. Archbishop Dr John Sentamu and his wife Margaret, attended Bradwell Pilgrimage a few years ago.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFAA2p-7gMw>

Service for all the Church Family

Hymn 1: Lord for the Years

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkTrFQLy6js&t=1s>

We say together the words printed in bold.

Gathering to worship God

Greeting

Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

All We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Welcome to our all age this Trinity 3 Sunday.

Opening Prayer

All Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.

Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Hymn 2: Thank you Lord for this new day

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=njsdfxK9FcQ>

Silence is kept and the Collect, the prayer of the day, is said.

God our saviour,
look on this wounded world
in pity and in power;
hold us fast to your promises of peace
won for us by your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen

Saying sorry to God

Confession

God our Father,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.
For turning away from you,
and ignoring your will for our lives;
Father, forgive us:

All save us and help us.

For behaving just as we wish,
without thinking of you;
Father, forgive us:

All save us and help us.

For failing you by what we do
and think and say;
Father, forgive us:

All save us and help us.

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you
by temptations in the world about us;
Father, forgive us:

All save us and help us.

For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son;
Father, forgive us:

All save us and help us.

God's forgiveness.

May the God of love and power
forgive *us* and free *us* from *our* sins,
heal and strengthen *us* by his Spirit,
and raise *us* to new life in Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Praise

These words may be said

Blessed is the Lord

All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;
therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

All and in our song we will praise our God.

Hymn 3: O lord my god when I in awesome wonder

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdE_NKyY_o0

Hearing and responding to the Word of God

Readings

The first reading is from Genesis 22:1-14

1st Reading by

The Command to Sacrifice Isaac

22 After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, 'Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' ² He said, 'Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt-offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.' ³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt-offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, 'Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.' ⁶ Abraham took the wood of the burnt-offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷ Isaac said to his father Abraham, 'Father!' And he said, 'Here I am, my son.' He said, 'The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt-offering?' ⁸ Abraham said, 'God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt-offering, my son.' So the two of them walked on together.

⁹ When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill^[a] his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, 'Abraham, Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' ¹² He said, 'Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.' ¹³ And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt-offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called that place 'The LORD will provide';^[a] as it is said to this day, 'On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.'^[a]

Hymn 4: The God of Abraham Praise

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzQMrjnAZXc>

The second reading is from Romans 6.12-23

2nd Reading by Theresa <https://youtu.be/7CmGxzXSfzw>

¹² Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³ No longer present your members to sin as instruments^[a] of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments^[b] of righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Slaves of Righteousness

¹⁵ What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸ and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations.^[c] For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰ When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn 4: Lead Me To The Cross

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MC_f0JiJLb4

The third reading is from Matthew 10.40-42

by David <https://youtu.be/VAltmzdMDRo>

Rewards

⁴⁰ 'He who receives you receives me, and who receives me receives the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward; ⁴² and anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.'



Light of the World

When Holman Hunt exhibited the painting, critics said he had made a mistake – there was no handle on the door. He said 'the handle is on the inside'.

The human heart can only be opened by a decision of the individual to open it.

No evangelism, no speaking about God can be done by force if we are to be Christ like – we must use gentleness and respect. We Christians must live our lives recognising the example we set and waiting for the questions to be asked.

Hymn 5: Light of the world

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-MmRGSEG2LM>

Sermon

Romans 6:12-end - Dying and Rising with Christ

Matthew 10:40-end – Rewards

As Christ's people we are no longer slaves to sin, but available for righteousness

There is great news in our readings today and great news, that we are planning on beginning our services again on Sunday 5 July, and in the words of our Prime Minister – we are coming out of hibernation!

In our readings today, we hear of the centre of the Gospel message in how Jesus saves us by not only providing the penalty for sin, but also giving us the power to overcome it too, according to his grace.

God is personally and intimately present and involved in all aspects of our salvation together with that of the crucifixion and resurrection of his son, Jesus Christ. This is one of the great mysteries of God the Trinity and this is the way that the triune God blesses us. Therefore, as Christ's people and when people respond to Christ in faith and trust, we are no longer slaves to sin, but available for righteousness. Our allegiances and desires change to serve God in the decisions we make each day.

The tyranny of sin has been broken and it is this message that we rejoice in and bring to our worship to God today and everyday. Many people regard the word 'sin' as 'churchy', while it is an important word for Christians because it is through the forgiveness of sin, that humans are clothed with the mantle of Christ-likeness through the working of the Holy Spirit.

Some may see that sin is like a moral code, like breaking a rule at work, which may result in a warning or forgiveness. A second time however and it may result in dismissal. With God, however, it is different. Sin is more than just the breaking of a

rule, it is the removal of trust and can be the cause of great hurt. Forgiveness is a renewable and unrestricted gift. Sin is forgiven each time remorse is shown. That is why sin is often seen as churchy or religious word. Because the freedom from sin is something that no place of work can offer – only God can.

We may not like this first century talk of slaves as mentioned in our reading from Romans, especially in today's context, but it does make us think, what are we attached too in life, what things we may not want to let go of, if God calls us to let it go or miss it occasionally, so that we may offer ourselves to his service.

It is out of this service that we find true fulfilment in our lives through using our talents and gifts and them being used to serve God, the Creator of Heaven and Earth. We need to use ourselves for God's service in what we say, to speak truth and to give acts of kindness as true children of God.

Theologian Richard Rohr said this week "2020 has been an unprecedented year—like nothing I have seen before. I believe we are seeing humanity awaken to a new level of awareness of systemic injustice in the world, the suffering it causes, and of the role each of us play in perpetuating these systems—predominantly by those of us with privilege and power. We would do well to remember that evil can only be substantially overcome by collective good. When one part is hurt, we all share in that pain, and if one part is liberated, we all share in the joy.

There is a great need right now for unworthy instruments—people who have done the necessary work to ground compassionate action in contemplative, non-dual consciousness. When you experience the reality of your oneness with God and Creation, actions of justice and love will naturally follow.

As, we set out to be instrument's of God's righteousness, God will provide in our work, as he did by his mercy for us and the world to be forgiven and restored. As part of our sanctification, we are to be slaves to righteousness and we are to ask God to show us what he wants us to do and where he wants us to go, even if it seems a difficult place for us to be. At this moment in time, it maybe that he would like us to overcome and fear or panic due to the current situation and help others overcome these too.

In our reading from Matthew, we are told that those who welcome the disciples and followers of Jesus, receive the one who sent them and receive a reward. The Greek translation for reward is not like that what we think of it, in terms of working hard to receive a financial reward, but the Greek meaning is to fulfil the promises of God, the keeping of his covenant with his people and the manifestation of his mercy and kindness.

God never breaks a promise, so we can be affirmed that the little we can do to help, others may see the glimpses of God in this world, and may help then to see his triune majesty of love and peace.

Accepting hospitality is sometimes harder to receive, as Peter showed at the foot-washing by Jesus. When we go out to proclaim the good news in word and deed,

Jesus tells us to accept the kindness of strangers. Jesus told us earlier, that we are to travel light and to trust God on the goodness of others. In turn of the goodness of others, they receive the blessings from God.

I came across a great witness statement from a BBC presenter this week, Dan Walker, which I thought I would share, as evangelism tends to be a subject we can shy away from or know not what to say, he said of Christianity 'It informs who I am and who I would like to be, where I'm going, the way I talk, the way I act, hopes, dreams, aspirations etc. It is a significant part of every day I live. 'If you are a Christian, that has an impact on your decisions, your language, the way you think and speak and go about your daily business.' He said Christianity underpins everything he is and wants to be. The presenter added: 'I would like to think that it reduces pride and self-obsession and makes you think more carefully about the people around you, and the impact you're having on the community and society around you. 'For me, it underpins everything I am and want to be.'

It is very timely that we hear the final instructions to his disciples in our Gospel reading from Matthew, as this time next week, we could be back in our churches and communities, although in a limited way. By living lives of righteousness brings us lives which leads to full life, an abundant life and it is this life we can now begin to start again as we come out of lockdown.

William Tyndale ended his commentary on Romans 6 by saying: "Remember that Christ made not this atonement, that thou shouldest anger God again; neither died he for thy sins, that thou shouldest live still in them; neither cleansed he thee, that thou shouldest return as a swine unto thine old puddle again; but that thou shouldest be a new creature and live a new life after the will of God and not of the flesh".

We know that our reward in the end is eternal life, the free gift of God in Christ Jesus our Lord, Amen.

Below is a Christian video and article links I found very useful in relation to the pandemic and also below is an online event at our Diocesan Retreat

House in Pleshey:-

Christian Perspectives on the Covid-19 Pandemic

Prof. Bob White FRS, Cambridge University

Now available online - Research Seminar given by Prof. Bob White on May 28 2020, with responses by Revd Dr Roger Abbott and Dr Denis Alexander

Additional Reading What About Viruses A Christian Reflection on Covid 19 by Robert S. White and Roger P. Abbott

Painting and Prayer - online

13th-17th July 2020

We invite you to join us for a week of prayer, reflection and art on the theme of 'When I survey...', all online.

Twice daily prayer and worship sessions will be held via Zoom, led by Susan Sayers, Spiritual Director and bestselling author. Inspiration and stimulation for your artistic endeavours will be provided by John Howden, artist, retired clergyman and former Warden of the Retreat House, Pleshey. There will be a chance to share your art and to discuss the themes of the day.

Date: 13th – 17th July (beginning at 5pm on 13th and ending at 10am on 17th) Cost: £50 (payable by bank transfer)

For further details, please email Sarah Wilson at retreathouse@chelmsford.anglican.org

End

Song: Open the Eyes of My Heart

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=do_wLvINO4M

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see you,
I want to see you.
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see you,
I want to see you

To see you high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of your glory.
Pour out your power and love;
As we sing holy, holy, holy.
Refrain To see you.....

Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
I want to see you.

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

A short time of meditation, Song: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5X85txs60yY>

Prayers of Intercession by Diane Lystor

Let us pray: Heavenly Father, you promised through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

Let us remember for a moment the words of Jesus we have heard this morning "...He who receives you, receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me." Father, may these words go with us and inspire us as we go about our daily lives within our community. May we be the light of Christ in people's lives, his love, his tenderness and his guidance, for you are our God and we are your people, the Church. Make us bold Lord, make us strong in our faith and commitment to you, gentle yet strong, straight but not blinkered, trustworthy and true in Jesus name.

Lord in your mercy

All hear our prayer

Lord we pray for the world around us, at the moment consumed with concern with the problems caused by Covid 19. We pray for world leaders, that they may have courage and discernment when making decisions which affect peoples' lives and the environment in which we live. May they fully comprehend the importance of their decisions that will have an impact on countries far and wide, not just their small corner. We pray that leaders of countries large and small will understand the benefit to all humankind if they work together rather than challenge and fight one another. We pray for health and wisdom in our own Government, the opposition and our Royal Family. May they keep the light of Christ as their guide and work for the good of the nation and world.

Lord in your mercy

All hear our prayer

Lord we pray for our local community: we give thanks for good neighbours helping one another, for the village shops in Bradwell, Tillingham and St. Lawrence who have continued to serve their local people during these difficult times. We give thanks for the Foodbank and those who work tirelessly there. And we pray for all who need to use the Foodbank, people whose lives have fallen apart and who are suffering loss, discomfort and bewilderment at the change in their lives. May we always remember they are your people too, you love them, they are as important to you as everyone: and may we remember that as we help them.

Lord in your mercy

All hear our prayer

Father we pray for all who are suffering in body, mind or spirit.

In particular we pray for those known to us.....

Mick Garwood

Robert Peter Fredsted, recovering and for his Sister with a hand injury.

Ray Luck

Ann Cowell

Sue Wilson

Beryl Dixon

We know that Jesus laid his hands upon people and brought them healing, wholeness and restoration, so in His Name we boldly ask for healing, may they feel the joy of his presence beside them and his healing hand upon them.

We also bring to you all medical staff and care workers dealing with complex and difficult situations, the staff and residents of The Swan Care Home, Downhall and other Care Homes in the area. Be with them Lord as they go about their daily tasks,

comfort them as they comfort others around them, bring them hope as they bring hope to others and joy and satisfaction in their lives.

Lord in your mercy

All hear our prayer

Lord we remember and bring to you those who have died in the faith of Christ in particular we remember.....

Steve Cruise, we remember Sylvia and all Steve's family.

Derek Mathers, we remember Isabel Mathers, and Andy & Georgina Mathers and family.

Anne Howard whose funeral is on 30 June we pray for Janice and family

May they rest in peace and rise with Christ in Glory.

We bring to you also all those who mourn the loss of a loved one may they find comfort in the knowledge that they are loved by you and that their loved ones are now at peace in the fullness of life eternal.

Lord in your mercy

All hear our prayer

And finally, Father, we again bring ourselves to you for your loving guidance. May we take the words of Desmond Tutu with us:

Goodness is stronger than evil

Love is stronger than hate

Light is stronger than darkness

Life is stronger than death

Victory is ours through him who loves us.

Merciful Father,

All accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

Going out to serve God

Hymn 6: Be Thou My Vision

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YxvXGgSIRcs>

This prayer may be said

Let us bless the Lord:

All thanks be to God.
Blessing, honour and glory be yours,
here and everywhere,
now and for ever.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

We are marching with the light of God <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yce70iUsxgQ>

Toccata and Fugue by Bach and was performed by Martin Taylor at St. Nicholas on July the 30th 2017 https://youtu.be/3U_CVWwNYgk



(To view this service playlist, click below, come back to this sheet for the readings and the prayers for today)

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-v3HHJgZACzkgU35u37cloQZX0aRC_tt

Please note:

Even though we may be starting public worship in some form the Online services will continue for some time for those still wishing to stay at home and not meet in public.