



CHEAP STREET CHURCH

To know the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit and with Jesus as our teacher to show and share our faith.

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NEWSLETTER

26th May 2021

Minister's Thoughts

Lectionary Readings for Sunday 30th May 2021 Trinity Sunday.

Psalm 29, Isaiah 6:1-8. Romans 8:12-17, John 3:1-17

Have you ever had a vision of God? In Leonardo da Vinci's creation of Adam we have a vision of how Leonardo saw God at that point in his life. It is an image that has shaped how we see God.



In Isaiah we have a vision of God that Isaiah sees as he hears God's calling to be a prophet; the vision is one of the majesty and awesomeness of God, and Isaiah is aware of his unworthiness to see this vision of God, but is made worthy by the vision.

On Trinity Sunday we are invited to see God in three ways as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and I suspect that we all have slightly different pictures of God, and these are pictures that over time change and develop over time. When Jesus meets with Nicodemus, Nicodemus as a Pharisee already had a vision of God and how he was a part of that vision; when Jesus talks to Nicodemus about being born of the Spirit, Jesus is adding to and changing Nicodemus's vision of God that shapes the life he leads.

Today we do not picture God in the same way that Isaiah did or Leonardo da Vinci did; in seeing God as Jesus, Holy Spirit, and Heavenly Father, we see a God who loves us unconditionally and always walks with us.

Hymn Singing The Faith 6. Father, we love you, [click here](#)

Father We Love You

We Worship And Adore You

Glorify Thy Name In All The Earth

Glorify Thy Name

Glorify Thy Name

Glorify Thy Name In All The Earth

Jesus We Love You

Spirit We Love You

Thought for the Day

One of Christina's and my favourite programmes on TV is The Repair Shop. I know a few other people who watch it too. The Repair Shop is a workshop in a large barn which is part of an open-air museum in the Hampshire countryside, and there are a wide variety of expert craftsmen and women working there. People come with all sorts of things that are precious to them and in need of repair – clocks, chairs, bicycles, telescopes, pictures, ceramics, musical instruments, brief cases, toys and games and a whole lot more. The Repair Shop workers ask about what has been brought in and what their owners think needs doing to them, and the repairers say they will do their best. Often these items have a history, perhaps going back to the 1st World War, and maybe coming from faraway places.

Some things are renewed quite quickly, after an internal clean and outside freshen up. Sometimes parts are worn out or broken or missing altogether. Broken bits may be mended but often new bits are required. These are sometimes bought, but frequently they are created in the shop from suitable material that will match in with the original. Clearly the craftspeople take pride in their work and enjoy doing it, although it may take a while to finish a job. Some items are repaired by just one person while others may be handed round to two or three, each with a different skill. When items are restored, the owners who come back are always very satisfied and often overwhelmed by the transformation. The repairers are happy too when a box of broken china is returned as a beautiful dish or a precious clock, unused for years, is ticking and striking again.

Now we live in a beautiful world, created by God, and we ourselves have been created by him. Right at the beginning of the Bible we have an account of creation – 'So it was; and God saw all that he had made and it was very good.' But we know that our world has been spoilt in many ways by humanity and we know that we ourselves are not all we would like to be, still less all that God would like us to be. But we, and all people, are infinitely precious to God. He takes us with love as we are, but he wants to remake us into something better, to get rid of the old rusty bits from our past and breathe new life into us. For that, we need to hand ourselves over to him, like the precious items people brought to be restored at The Repair Shop. And I believe we need to do that, not just once, but on a daily basis, trusting in his saving power.

Reading – Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Prayer – Lord God, Creator of all things, we know that you have made us and that you love us so much more than we can ever fully realise. Help us to come to you, about parts of our lives that need to change, that we may know your forgiveness and cleansing power, so that we may be free to move forward in your love. Amen

Hymn StF 440 Amazing grace – how sweet the sound. [click here](#)

Janet Le Moignan

Pastoral News

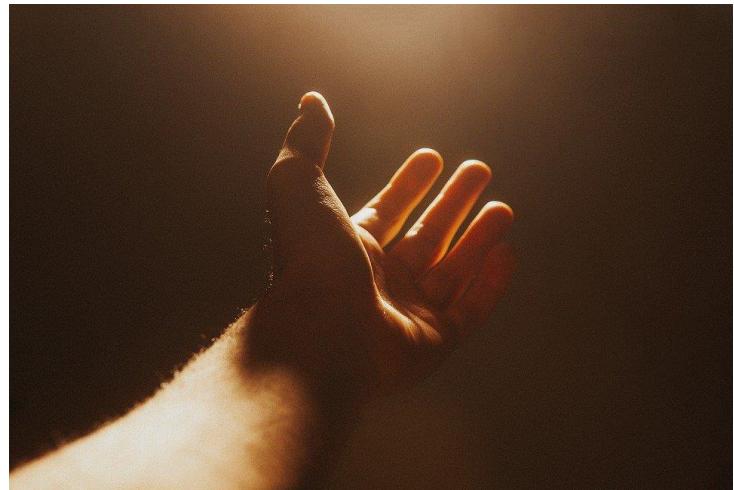
Birthday Celebration.

Friday 4th June. Happy Birthday Sophie, with love and best wishes from all at Cheap Street Church.



There will be a full Pastoral Report in the Cheapstreeter which will be available this weekend.
With love and prayers to you all.

Eirwen Cox



Fellowship of Prayer

Whenever and wherever we pray in the silence of our hearts, we are part of a rich and powerful fellowship, which serves to sustain everyone in our Church Family. Anyone can join the prayer group by just praying.

We hold in prayer Eirwen Cox; Peter Gould; Pat Heal; Michael and Hilary Brown; Kathy Crew; Barbara and Dennis Porter; Tom Carmichael; Clive and Jill Turner and family; Alex Palmer.

In this strange time, when lots of time is being spent considering important decisions for all of us at Cheap Street Church, please pray for all on our Church Council. And of course for our minister Duncan.

Thank you.

The Prayer Ring is available for an urgent need or situation.

Call any of these numbers and the circle of prayer will begin:

Eirwen Cox 01935 815960, Penny Gardner 01935 389153, Janet Le Moignan 01935 38966

Prayers for the persecuted church

The Maldives are viewed by many as a luxury holiday destination, but behind this lies an oppressive regime relentlessly determined to keep the islands 100 per cent Muslim. Believers must follow Jesus in secret as conversion to Christianity can result in harassment - violence or imprisonment. Being a Christian is so dangerous that family members may not even know of each other's faith. Expatriate Christians, the majority of whom work in tourism and come from India and Sri Lanka, are also closely watched, making Christian fellowship very difficult. Open Doors raises prayer support for believers in the Maldives.

Let us ask the Lord to provide opportunities for believers to gather safely to worship. We pray that God will use the Bible to powerfully strengthen, encourage and nurture believers, and that attitudes among government officials, especially President Solih, will soften towards Christians and other religious minorities. Amen.

Poem for the Week

Today's poem is by the Brazilian poet, writer and musicologist Mario de Andrade (1893-1945), one of the founders of Brazilian modernism. To hear the poem, [click here](#)

"My Soul is in a Hurry"

I have counted my years and realized that I have
less time to live than I have lived so far.

I have more past than future.

I feel like this child, that received a box of sweets:

After fast indulging the first ones, all the sudden realizing, that there are not so many left, and

Those should be better appreciated and truly enjoyed.

I do not have time for endless gatherings where statutes, rules, processes,
And internal regularities are discussed, knowing, that nothing will be achieved.

I don't have time anymore to bear absurd people,
Who despite their age have not grown.

I don't have time anymore to fight the mediocrity.

I don't want to participate in conversations, where inflated egos are parading.

I can't stand manipulators and opportunists.

I am annoyed by those envious people, who seek to discredit
the most able, in an attempt to take over their position and seize their talent and success.

My time is too short to discuss headlines.

I'm aiming for the essential, as my soul is in a hurry - not so many sweets left.

I like to live with humans, who are very humane.

Humans, who can laugh about their mistakes and are not terribly conceited
About their success.

Humans, who don't feel prematurely appointed

And humans, who take responsibility.

Humans, who defend human dignity and who are willing
To stand for the truth and uprightness.

It is that, which makes a life worth living.

I want to surround myself with people, who understand, how to touch the hearts of others.
People who have learned through life's hard punches to grow by tender touches of the soul.

Yes indeed - I'm in a hurry.

I'm in a hurry to live with the intensity only maturity can offer.

I try not to waste any of the sweets, which are still left.

I'm sure, that they will be even more delicious, than those, I already enjoyed.

It is my goal to reach the end - contented. In peace with myself, my loved ones and my Conscience.

Ruth Rogerson

Letters

Calling all climate change and justice enthusiasts!

This should be all of us.

There is a fantastic opportunity to get involved in a relay-style pilgrimage from Carbis Bay (G7 meeting venue) to Glasgow (Climate Change Conference) between 23rd July and 1st August. I am guessing walkers would be in the area on 24/25th July which is a weekend perhaps 26th July. There are lots of roles - including detailed route planning, hosting, as well as walking opportunities. It's being organised by young people but any age can participate.

Full details are on the website. There is a form to complete for people wishing to sign up; it's open to all ages but under 18s must have a parent/guardian complete the form.

<https://sdmc-web-01.azurewebsites.net/news/young-christian-climate-network>

If you want to show your support for the Church's commitment to climate issues, this is for you!

Let me know if you are getting involved - there might be a few people wanting to become a group together?

Best Wishes,
Kate Konrad

Cheap Street Church could organise a group together? Let me know if you would be interested, please.

Ruth



A reflection on Trinity Sunday

THREE IN ONE & ONE IN THREE

An explanation of the Trinity

Three in One and One in Three,
That's hardly talking sensibly.
Of one substance – yet apart;
This doctrine doesn't sound so smart.

So, how explain the Trinity.
We all agree – it's a mystery.
But I've an illustration here
That tries to make the mystery clear.

I think of God like a mighty river,
Flowing through time for ever and ever.
Or an ocean too large to comprehend;
Hopeless to view from end to end.

Gather the waves as you swim in the main.
How much of the waves do you retain?
You cannot hold the sea in your hand
Or capture the raindrops from the sand.

But pick up a snowball clean and pure,
And all of water is there for sure.
Or put an ice cube in your drink;
The ice is H₂O I think.

So, God became solidified,
Let His presence be confined.
Christ is God in concrete condition,
Whilst the Father holds his fluid position.

Christ was human, Christ is real.
Someone possible to feel.
An historical person who lived and died,
Then rose from death glorified.

Boil a kettle – make some tea.
Notice all the steam you see.
Water that is powerful
To energise the mechanical.

Now Jesus said, when He left earth,
He'd send His spirit – of equal worth.
God in a manner to energise man
And give him strength to fulfil God's plan.

God the Father is beyond our ken.
Only Jesus is understood by men.
But He was bound by time and place,
Which, for the Spirit, is not the case.

Three in One and One in Three.
It's not so great a mystery.
If water changes once in a while
Surely God is allowed to be versatile.

By Muriel Martin

Worship Resources

Radio 4 Sunday Worship at 8.10am: [click here](#)

Doing Justice

Sunday Worship

Doing Justice: A Service of Reflection on the Anniversary of the murder of George Floyd from NTCG Brixton Community Church in South London.

Methodist resources: [click here](#). URC resources: [click here](#).

URC: [daily devotions and a Sunday service \(click here to subscribe\)](#).

Contributions to future newsletters

Please send contributions by midday Wednesday to:

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Ruth Rogerson rogersonruth@gmail.com 01935 813498.