

*Welcome to the*  
**Anglican Parish of Saint George**  
**Thames**

*Third Sunday in Lent, 15th March 2020*

**Call to Worship:**

Grace and peace to you from God

**God fill you with Truth and Joy**

The Lord be with you

**The Lord bless you**

This is the day which the Lord has made

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it**

**Opening Hymn: Majesty**

Majesty, worship His majesty,  
Unto Jesus be glory, honour and praise.  
Majesty, kingdom authority,  
Flow from His throne unto His own,  
His anthem raise.

So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus,  
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King.  
Majesty, worship His majesty,  
Jesus who died, now glorified,  
King of all kings.

*Jack W. Hayford.*

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**Collect For Purity:**

**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, so that we may truly love You and worthily praise Your Holy Name; through our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.**

**Prayer of Confession:** *(Please sit or kneel)*

**Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said, in the wrong we have done and in the good we have not done. We have sinned in ignorance: we have sinned in weakness: we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to You. Forgive us, for our Saviour Christ's sake and renew our lives to the glory of Your name. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon:**

Through the cross of Christ, God have mercy on us, pardon us and set us free. Know that we are forgiven and be at peace. God strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in life eternal, Amen.

**Sentence of the Day**

God proves His love for us in that while we still were sinners  
Christ died for us.  
*Romans 5:8*

**Collect of the Day**

**Fountain of life,  
we Your desert wanderers come to You  
thirsty and parched.  
Become in us  
a spring of eternal life,  
bubbling and brimming over,  
to eternal life.  
With the Father and the Son,  
You live and reign,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen**

**First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7**

Read by Denise Norris

<sup>1</sup> The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they quarrelled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?"

But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?"

Then Moses cried out to the LORD, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me."

The LORD answered Moses, "Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarrelled and because they tested the LORD saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**Thanks be to God**

### **Psalm: 95**

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song.**

For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

**In His hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to Him.**

The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.

**Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;**

for He is our God and we are the people of His pasture, the flock under His care. Today, if only you would hear His voice,

**"Do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah, as you did that day at Massah in the wilderness,**

where your ancestors tested me; they tried Me, though they had seen what I did.

**For forty years I was angry with that generation; I said, 'They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they have not known My ways.'**

So I declared on oath in My anger, 'They shall never enter My rest.'"

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen***

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Since we have now been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through Him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through His life!

<sup>11</sup> Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**Thanks be to God**

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**Gradual Hymn: You Are The Vine**

You are the vine, we are the branches,  
keep us abiding in You.  
You are the vine, we are the branches.  
Keep us abiding in you.  
And we'll go, (women: and we'll go)  
In Your love (in Your love)  
and we'll go (and we'll go)  
in Your name (in Your name)  
that the world (that the world)  
will surely know (will surely know)  
that You have power to heal and to save.  
You are the vine, we are the branches,  
keep us abiding in You.

**Praise and Glory to God**

5 So He came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as He was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give Me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to Him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked Him and He would have given you living water." "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." "I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true." "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

"Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When He comes, He will explain everything to us."

Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you - I am He."

Just then His disciples returned and were surprised to find Him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?" Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town

and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" They came out of the town and made their way toward Him.

Meanwhile His disciples urged Him, "Rabbi, eat something." But He said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about." Then His disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought Him food?" "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work. Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour."

Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in Him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to Him, they urged Him to stay with them, and He stayed two days. And because of His words many more became believers. <sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what You said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world."

This is the gospel of Christ

**Praise to Christ, the Word**

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**Sermon:**

Brought to us by the Rev'd David Cooper

**Intercessions:**

Given through Margaret MacKay

**Peace:**

Please turn to page 419 in the Prayer book

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**Offertory Hymn: My Spirit Longs For Thee**

My spirit longs for Thee  
within my troubled breast,  
though I unworthy be  
of so divine a guest.

Of so divine a guest

unworthy though I be,  
yet has my heart no rest  
unless it come from Thee.

Unless it come from Thee,  
in vain I look around;  
in all that I can see  
no rest is to be found.

No rest is to be found  
but in Thy blessed love:  
O let my wish be crowned,  
and send it from above!

*J. Byrom (1692-1763) A&M 57*

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**Communion:**      *(prayer is available near the High altar during communion)*

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**Closing Hymn:      Now Unto Him**

Now unto him who is able to keep,  
able to keep you from falling,  
and present you faultless  
before the presence of his glory  
with exceeding joy;  
to the only wise God our Saviour,  
be glory and majesty,  
dominion and power  
both now and forever.  
Amen.

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**Sending Forth:**

Go now to love and serve the Lord; go now in peace.

**Amen. We go in the name of Christ.**

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**Ministry Team for 15th March, 2020**

**Liturgist:** Sue Watson

**Server:** Margaret MacKay

**Intercessor/Prayers:** Margaret MacKay

**Presider & Preacher:** The Rev'd David Cooper

**Welcome Team:** Steve Darwall, Rex Geary

**Morning Tea:** Allan Judd, Anne Marie Hartley

**Te Puru:** The Rev'd Lilian Barrett

**Holy Trinity, Parawai:** The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson

**Parish Community News**

**Holy Week of worship activities in St George's Church:**

**Palm Sunday**, 5th April, service is at 9:30; **Maundy Thursday**, 9th April, service is at 7pm; **Good Friday**, 10th April, service is at 9:30 followed by **the Walk of Witness**; **Easter Sunday**, 12th April, service is at 9:30.

**New (recycled!) giving envelopes are ready at the vestibule.**

**Prayer Needs**

*"He who testifies to these things says, Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.  
The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen." Revelation 22:20, 21.*

Rev'd Arthur Mead is now home, at Tararu. Please pray for him in his recovery.

Please pray for Margaret Williamson in the Rhoda Read Hospital, Morrinsville, for interim care. Please also pray for Diana Brokenshire who is presently in Thames Hospital.

**This week, 15th - 22nd March, 2020**

**Tuesday, 17th, Bible Study**, 1pm at the home of Fiona Harden, 101 Warahoe Road, R.D.1, Thames. 868 1136.

**Wednesday, 18th, Selwyn Group**, 9:30-12:00, Church Hall. All welcome.

**Thursday, 19th, Service** at 10am Holy Communion (1928), Saint George's Chapel.

**Roster for Sunday 22nd March, 2020**

**First Reading:** 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Raewyn Grey

**Psalms:** 23

**Second Reading:** Ephesians 5:8-14

Allan Judd

**Gospel Reading:** John 9:1-41

Leslie Wilkinson

**Preacher:**

The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson

**Presider:**

The Rev'd Brenda Deed

**Liturgist:**

Allan Judd

**Server:**

Margaret MacKay

**Music Ministry/organist:**

Stuart du Preez

**Intercessions:**

Beth Phillip

**Sanctuary Guild/Flowers:**

Fiona Harden, Dianne Stanfield

**Morning Tea:**

Denise Norris, Kate Jones

**Welcome Team:**

Diane Buchanan, Lee Bisset

**Vicar:** The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson **Assistant Priest:** The Rev'd David Cooper

**Curate:** The Rev'd Liam Phillips **Office Administrator:** Sharon Cordery

**People's Warden:** Lynne Mounsey **Vicar's Warden:** Kate Jones

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