

# THE PARISH OF THAMES

*Welcomes you to*

## ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

**Sunday 29th September, 2019**

**26th Sunday In Ordinary Time**



**We have the joy this morning to celebrate with our dear brother and sister Doug and Denise Norris, their 46th wedding anniversary, and witness their commitment to each other as they repeat their vows before our loving God and this congregation.**

On this day, 46 years ago, in South Africa, Doug and Denise committed themselves to each other in the sight of God and wish today to endorse those vows before us all. We wish God's richest blessings on you both and pray for His wonderful leading, guiding and protection to continue as it has so faithfully these past 46 years.

"Like an apple tree among the trees of the forest is my beloved among the young men. I delight to sit in his shade, and his fruit is sweet to my taste.

My beloved is mine and I am hers; she browses among the lilies.

My beloved is radiant and ruddy, outstanding among ten thousand.

I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine." *Song of Sol. 2:3, 16; 5:10; 6:3a NIVS*



### **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**

Confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

*James 5:16*

**Collect of the Day**

**Almighty God, You alone are our true judge, for You know what we are, You know what we should be, and with You there is mercy. Give us feeling for what is right; set us on fire to see that right is done. Hear this prayer for Your love's sake. Amen.**

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**1st Reading: Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15**

Alan Hartley

Jeremiah Buys a Field

32 This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar. <sup>2</sup> The army of the king of Babylon was then besieging Jerusalem, and Jeremiah the prophet was confined in the courtyard of the guard in the royal palace of Judah.

<sup>3</sup> Now Zedekiah king of Judah had imprisoned him there, saying, "Why do you prophesy as you do?" <sup>6</sup> Jeremiah said, "The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>7</sup> Hanamel son of Shallum your uncle is going to come to you and say, 'Buy my field at Anathoth, because as nearest relative it is your right and duty to buy it.'

<sup>8</sup> "Then, just as the LORD had said, my cousin Hanamel came to me in the courtyard of the guard and said, 'Buy my field at Anathoth in the territory of Benjamin. Since it is your right to redeem it and possess it, buy it for yourself.' I knew that this was the word of the LORD; <sup>9</sup> so I bought the field

at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel and weighed out for him seventeen shekels of silver. <sup>10</sup> I signed and sealed the deed, had it witnessed, and weighed out the silver on the scales. <sup>11</sup> I took the deed of purchase - the sealed copy containing the terms and conditions, as well as the unsealed copy - <sup>12</sup> and I gave this deed to Baruch son of Neriah, the son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel and of the witnesses who had signed the deed and of all the Jews sitting in the courtyard of the guard.

<sup>13</sup> "In their presence I gave Baruch these instructions: <sup>14</sup> 'This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Take these documents, both the sealed and unsealed copies of the deed of purchase, and put them in a clay jar so they will last a long time. <sup>15</sup> For this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Houses, fields and vineyards will again be bought in this land.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**Thanks be to God**

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### **Psalm: 91:1-6, 14-16**

<sup>1</sup> Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

<sup>2</sup> **I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."**

<sup>3</sup> Surely He will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence.

<sup>4</sup> **He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.**

<sup>5</sup> You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day,

<sup>6</sup> **nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.**

<sup>14</sup> "Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges My name.

<sup>15</sup> **He will call on Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honour him.**

<sup>16</sup> With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

***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,***

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Final charge to Timothy

<sup>6</sup> But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup> For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. <sup>8</sup> But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. <sup>9</sup> Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

<sup>11</sup> But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. <sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup> In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup> to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> which God will bring about in his own time - God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup> who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To Him be honour and might forever. Amen.

<sup>17</sup> Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup> Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup> In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**Thanks be to God**

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## **The Gradual Hymn: The Majesty Of Mountains**

The majesty of mountains,  
the sovereignty of skies,  
the regal rocks that arch above  
where veils of vapour rise,  
are gifts of God, the Lord of love,  
the worshipful, the wise.

The running of the river,  
the surging of the sea,  
the grass that grows high on the hill,  
the flower and fruiting tree,  
our Saviour sends us, by whose will  
all creatures came to be.

The Glory of the Godhead,  
the Spirit and the Son,  
the Father, faithful down the days:  
to them, the Three-in-One,  
while life shall last, be perfect praise  
and highest honour done!

*Michael Perry  
Based on Psalm 104 AA 139*

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### **3rd Reading: Luke 16:19-31**

Diana Maher

#### **Praise and Glory to God**

The Rich Man and Lazarus

<sup>19</sup> "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. <sup>20</sup> At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores <sup>21</sup> and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

<sup>22</sup> "The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried.

<sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup> So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

<sup>25</sup> "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup> And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'

<sup>27</sup> "He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

<sup>29</sup> "Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.'

<sup>30</sup> "'No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

<sup>31</sup> "He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

This is the gospel of Christ

**Praise to Christ, the Word**

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**Sermon:**

The Rev'd Arthur Mead

**Intercessions:**

Margaret MacKay

**Peace:**

Please turn to page 419 in the Prayer book.

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**Offertory Hymn: The Lord's My Shepherd**

*A Scottish Psalter.*

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;  
He makes me down to lie  
in pastures green; He leadeth me  
the quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again;  
and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness,  
e'en for His own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
yet will I fear no ill;  
for Thou art with me; and Thy rod  
and staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnishèd  
in presence of my foes;  
my head Thou dost with oil anoint,  
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life  
shall surely follow me;  
and in God's house forever more  
my dwelling place shall be.

*Songs of Fellowship Worship Resource NJ 145*

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

**Closing Hymn:    Guide me, O Thou Great Redeemer**

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty,  
hold me with Thy powerful hand:  
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,  
feed me now and ever more,  
feed me now and ever more.

Open Thou the crystal fountain  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,  
be Thou still my strength and shield,  
be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to Thee,  
I will ever give to Thee.

*William Williams. Tr. Peter Williams. A&M 214*

**Sending Forth:** Go now to love and serve the Lord; go now in peace.

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

