

WORSHIP - 4th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY, 5 JULY 2020

Lighting of the Candle

Set our hearts on fire with love for you, O Christ our God
So that in its flame we may love you with all our heart,
With all our mind, with all our soul, and with all our strength,
And our neighbours as ourselves,
So that by keeping your commandments we may glorify you,
The giver of all good gifts. Amen.



Offer to God the good things in life - the joy of the summer (despite the rain), St Matthew's open this afternoon 2 to 4 for private prayer, for the building work continuing in St Edmund's. We give thanks for the businesses that are reopening (though we balance that with our fears, and our frustration that we are not in church this morning). Offer everything to God - and ask him to grant us Peace.

Hymn - Blessed Thomas, doubt no longer - we finished with this hymn last week. If we had sung it in church there would have been mutters: "we don't know this one". I would have replied quoting my dad: "you'll know it by verse 5". David and Karen have recorded the tune Regent's Square for us on his (I assume it is still "his" as they're not married yet!!) Compton organ in Belper (thank you) and it is on the front page of our website.

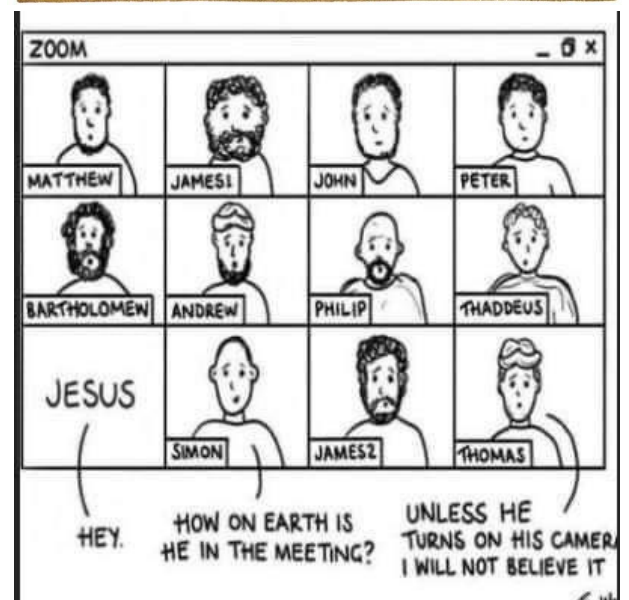
Blessed Thomas, doubt no longer,
See the wounds in hand and side,
Now behold the risen Saviour
Who for thee has bled and died,
And from death's dark pit arising,
Lives in body glorified.

Here behold the love victorious,
Over death triumphant now,
See the feet where nails were driven,
And thy faith in him avow:
For he lives, the world's redeemer,
Unto whom all knees shall bow.

Thomas looked upon the Master:
Was it then indeed the Lord?
Were those wounds no phantom tokens?
Did the sight with truth accord?
Scare believing, joy unbounded,
Leapt to greet the Saviour's word.

Prostrate falling, Thomas worshipped:
'O my Master, Lord and God',
Here in truth was Christ the Saviour
Who the path of suffering trod,
And, to ransom souls unnumbered,
Broke in pieces Satan's rod.

Thomas, sight has now convinced thee,
Faith within thy heart has stirred;
Blessèd more those faithful servants,
Trusting in the Saviour's word,
Who, though vision is denied them,
Still believe, and own him Lord.



Grant, O Father, that among them
We thy servants may be known,
And the ground be ever faithful
Where the seed of faith was sown,
Till at length in heaven's glory,
Faith and vision are but one.

Words: G.B. Timms - NEH 173
Music: Regent Square, Henry Smart - CP 502

We come together (wherever we are) as the family of God,
believing in God whom we experience as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

A Trinity prayer Caryl Micklem (*SPCK Book of Christian Prayer, page 417*)

God the Father, God beyond us, we adore you.
You are the depth of all that is.
You are the ground of our being.
We can never grasp you, yet you grasp us!
The universe speaks of you to us, and your love come to us through Jesus.

God the Son, God beside us, we adore you.
You are the perfection of humanity.
You have shown us what human life should be like.
In you we see divine love and human greatness combined.

God the Spirit, God around us, we adore you.
You draw us to Jesus and the Father.
You are power within us.
You give us abundant life and can make us the men and women we are meant to be.

Father, Son and Spirit;
God, beyond, beside and around us;
We adore you! Amen.

The Gloria - Antonio Vivaldi's wonderful setting - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhhYIZj6rk>

The Collect for the 4 Sunday after Trinity is on the noticesheet on the website.

Bible readings - Zechariah 9.9-12, Romans 7.15-25a, Matthew 11.16-19,25-end

These are printed on the blue sheet, the Bible Readings and Prayers sheet, on the front page of the website (next to the noticesheet you can download).

*I suggest, between two of the readings, you listen to the Psalm - **Psalm 145**, sung by the choir of York Minister <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IP4hgOyRchU> - pray that it won't be too long before our choirs can sing together again. My Godson Jonti has had a difficult year as Head Chorister at Carlisle Cathedral - such a shame he's hardly been able to sing.*

Song - I danced in the morning when the world was begun - sung by an American Choir
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JIZyP3TzkIs>

When you search on youtube for "Lord of the dance" you get lots of videos of Irish dancers. It has to be said that people dancing on stage look far happier than people singing in church. I also found one from Songs of Praise which omitted the verse about "Dancing on a Friday when the sky turned black". That's the whole point of it!

Address - you have sermons from me and from Clive. You can find them on the front page of the website

The Nicene Creed - *we affirm our faith, and the faith of the whole church (hence 'we' not 'I')*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Music - Beati quorum via, Charles Villiers Stanford, sung by Voces 8

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9zgq5qrNGw>

Andrea, the lass on the left, used to sing in the RSCM Southern Cathedral Singers with Hannah

Beati quorum via integra est, qui ambulant in lege Domini.	Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord.
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Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray to God, who alone makes us dwell in safety:
For all who are affected by coronavirus, through illness or isolation or anxiety,
that they may find relief and recovery:
Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For those who are guiding our nation at this time, and shaping national policies,
that they may make wise decisions:
As we try and reopen our country, but in a new and different world,
Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For doctors, nurses and medical researchers,
that through their skill and insights many will be restored to health.
For those who had to cope last night when celebrations ended up in hospital.
Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the vulnerable and the fearful, for the gravely ill and the dying,
that they may know your comfort and peace:
We pray for friends we have lost, remembering John and Colin, praying for all who mourn.
Suicide figures are up 200% since the start of lockdown - Lord we pray for those in despair.
Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.
Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name: thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn - All creatures of our God and King - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0CTcICIS_XQ

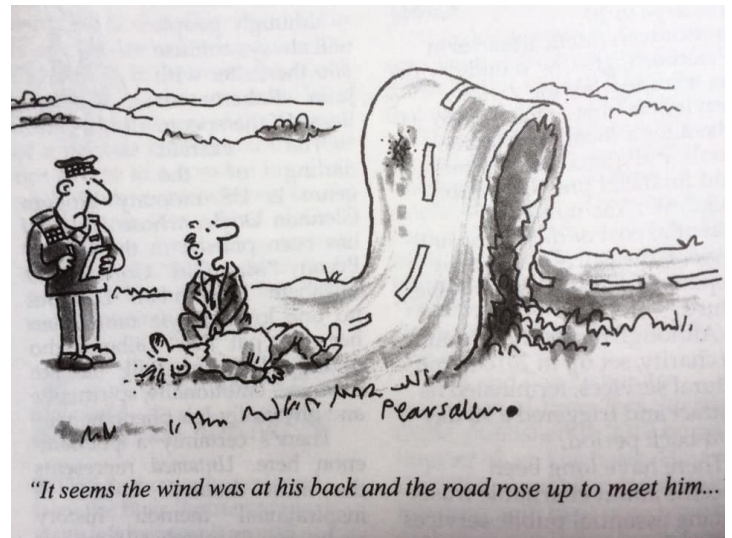
Dismissal prayers

To God the Father, who loved us, and made us accepted in the Beloved:
to God the Son, who loved us, and loosed us from our sins by his own blood:
to God the Holy Spirit, who spreads the love of God abroad in our hearts:
to the one true God be all love and all glory for time and for eternity. **Amen.**

The Irish Blessing -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CIm2iyqS0o>

*This cartoon from Private Eye made me smile.
It seems to sum up the journey of life in 2020.*



Final music - searching for some music and prayers on the St Edmundsbury Cathedral website, I found this - one of their choristers playing a tune which will ensure you end your worship with a smile
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BOoXGl0AO30&feature=youtu.be>

Peter Barham, 3 July 2020