



Trinity Baptist Church

News Sheet

Sunday 27th June 2021

Welcome to Trinity!

From 10am Zoom meeting led by David Linley; details in Kerry's email to you.

10.30 am Morning Service. Preacher: Andy Banks. Reading: Mark 8:27-33

'Jesus, The Essential Sacrifice'

 **YouTube** Click here to watch the service streamed live: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8vTabe_7Y0_2Ka7BtCdRUQ



Pastor's Message

"Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."

Hebrews 12:1b-2a

Our verse for this year, above, reminds us to fix our eyes firmly on Jesus. That takes time and effort if we are not to merely brush over familiar details. We are to return again and again to drink deeply from the well of inspiration that is Jesus' life and death and resurrection, so that we can run our race with perseverance.

In today's Gospel passage we are reminded of the central feature of Jesus' life-walk, namely his sacrificial death for us. Jesus knew this was a necessity – something he *must* do (Mark 8:31). It was, of course, something he willingly did. But that should not be confused with it being easy for him. For, if there was any other way to save us, Jesus would certainly and gladly have taken it.

But there was no other means of salvation open to us, other than through the cross of Jesus. For, if God is to remain just, sin demands a payment of human life, but more than that, of a *sinless* human life. The old hymn rightly says, "There was no other good enough to pay the price of sin." Then, the power of *sinfulness* had to be broken too, and God's image in us restored, which could only be achieved by a power that was stronger still, namely God's love experienced through the cross, applied and made real in our lives by the Holy Spirit. Then, God's judgement on sin, which is death, must be conquered, and this could only happen if someone died and then was raised back to life. And lastly, the curse that sin brought on the whole of creation must be reversed. Only the self-sacrifice of God in human flesh could achieve all that. But the wonderful news is that he did achieve it.

May you drink these truths in deeply this week and always, and may they inspire you to persevere in your faith, whatever the race looks like right now.

Andy.

For Your Prayers

- Praise God that local covid-related hospital admissions remain low, enabling us to re-open our children's work next week with confidence. Pray for Debs and the team as they prepare, and for the children as they get used to meeting together again.
- Give thanks for a really positive Alpha weekend last weekend, and for those who experienced the love of God through the Holy Spirit in a very special way. Pray for those whose experience was less obvious that they too will be conscious of the Holy Spirit being poured into their hearts over the coming weeks. Pray for the group as they look at the subject of "How can I resist evil?" this evening.
- Pray for David and Michele Mahon as they prepare to visit us next Sunday.
- Pray for children and adults struggling with their mental health.
- Pray for those who are housebound or can't get out as much as they would like.
- Pray for the persecuted church, especially the church in Azerbaijan, where a new law has made the appointment of any church leader illegal without state approval.

Children's Worker Consultation

A questionnaire was sent to GodZone parents, leaders and helpers last week; if you haven't already done so, please respond by the 4th July. These responses will really help shape our understanding of the needs, and therefore of the priorities that a prospective children's worker might have and the hours that such a role might require to meet those priorities. This will enable us to draft a far more comprehensive proposal for the church meeting to consider in July. Ask Kerry if you need the link resent.

Restarting GodZone and Booking Tickets

We are planning to restart face-to-face GodZone and Creche fortnightly from next Sunday! We have put in place a plan which adheres to current regulations and reduces the Covid risk as much as possible, including social distancing where possible, regular sanitation and adequate ventilation. Children and adults over the age of 11 must also wear a face mask (when teaching, adults will wear a face shield instead, so their mouths can be seen); face masks for children aged 5-11 are optional. Attendance remains entirely a personal choice for both the leaders and families in GodZone.

Creche will meet in the back hall downstairs. Current group sizes make it more sensible to join Alpha and Beta together in the middle hall downstairs, and Gamma and Delta together in the main hall upstairs. Current regulations and the limitations of our building mean that it is not possible to run GodZone and Creche on the same weeks as YP, so YP will run on alternate weeks to the other groups until restrictions are lifted sufficiently to allow both to run concurrently. We plan to also run all-age services on some of the YP days. Children's materials will continue to be provided for other services.

Children should arrive with their families through the front doors and will go straight to their groups for the whole service. At the end of the service, parents should exit the church through the front doors and go to the blue side doors to collect their child(ren).

As with all activities, please do not bring your children if they or you have any covid symptoms (new continuous cough, high temperature, loss or change in sense of smell or taste), or if they or you have been asked to self isolate.

Tickets for July's services can now be booked. Please ensure you book yourself into the main service and your child/ren into the appropriate GodZone group by selecting the correct ticket. Please note that if the ticket you require doesn't appear, it means it is full. Places are limited so book early via these links:

4th July:

<https://trinitybexleyheath.churchsuite.com/events/rn1ynxay>

18th July:

<https://trinitybexleyheath.churchsuite.com/events/3bjzofsq>

Thank you

Linda, Louise and Sean Brady would like to express their thanks for the support they've had since Tom died. They appreciate all the cards, calls, flowers and support they have received.

Trinity Diary

Monday 28th June	1 pm	Foodbank
Tuesday 29th June	8 pm	GodZone Leaders meeting
Wednesday 30th June	8 pm	Men's Zoom
Meeting ID: 956 4934 3610		
Friday 2nd July	10.30 am	Foodbank
Sunday 4th July	10.30 am	Morning Service; with visit from David and Michelle Mahon, plus GodZone resumes.

Trinity Baptist Church Staff

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