



04 July, 2021

5th Sunday after Trinity

Services this week

Said Eucharist: Sunday 8.30am. and 10.00am. Tuesday 10.30am.

A printed order of service for this week can be found on the church website, <https://www.stmichaelsamersham.org.uk/worship/church-at-home/>.

A copy of Rev. Debbie's reflection and the intercessions have been provided with this notice sheet as well as being on the website.

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Alternative Collect

Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Ezekiel 2.1–5 *read by Margaret Everett*

The heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God. When I saw this, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of someone speaking. He said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God.' Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

2 Corinthians 12.2 *read by Audrey Oakley*

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows – was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Mark 6.1–13

Jesus came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. On the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them,

‘Prophets are not without honour, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.’ And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, ‘Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.’ So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Post Communion Prayer

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael’s

COMMUNITY POST-LOCKDOWN SERVICE – St. Michael’s Square – Saturday, 31 July – 11.00am.

A service of lament, thanksgiving and restoration. A service for the community with an emphasis on love and working together. The plan is to hold most of the service outside, but if wet, it will all have to be in the church. Additional sidespeople will be needed to welcome passers-by and/or to guide people through the stages of the service. If you might be able to help in this way, please let the clergy or office know.

RIP FAY GREEN

Following a long period of ill-health, Fay died on June 16th. We offer our sympathy to Norman and his family. The funeral will take place on Friday, July 9th at 12.15pm. Numbers are restricted, but the service is being live-streamed at <https://www.wesleymedia.co.uk/webcast-view> login / Order ID: 100820. Password: mucpdfqz The hearse will pause in front of St. Michael's on the way to the crematorium around 11.45am., when Fr. Peter Binns will say a prayer. Friends are welcome to come to pay their respects at that time.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM) – Sunday, 11 July - 10.00am.

The APCM will take place on Sunday, 11th July at 10am. in church, followed by a short Holy Communion Service. Attendance at the APCM is limited to those on the electoral roll of the parish. The agenda and other papers relating to the meeting will be made available to those on the roll two weeks before the meeting. The meeting agenda will include elections for vacancies on the PCC and for a three year term of office on Deanery Synod. For further details about these roles and/or a nomination form, please speak to one of the churchwardens.

RESUMPTION OF ALL REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

All services are being held in the main church, rather than the Lady Chapel, for the time being to allow for social distancing. Covid-19 precautions apply at all services. There is no collection and the administration of communion is in one kind only, the bread; the member of the clergy presiding drinks the wine on behalf of all those attending. Notifications about each week’s arrangements are being sent out to those who have expressed an interest in returning to ‘in-person’ worship. If your name is not already on this mailing list, and you would like to be added to it, please contact the Church Office. A written order of service, including a sermon, continues to be available on the website, <https://www.stmichaelsamersham.org.uk/worship/church-at-home/> for those who are not able to attend church in person.

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER – Tuesdays

The church is open for private prayer, until 4.00pm. on Tuesdays, after the 10.30am. Eucharist.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's

COTHA UNITED SERVICE Amersham Free Church – Sunday, 18 July – 10.30am.

Due to ongoing social distancing regulations, seating capacity will be less than usual, so anyone wishing to attend this service is asked to contact Janet Reid, the AFC Church Secretary (janet Reid1@btinternet.com)
Communion will not be administered from the altar. Instead there will be a small cup and small plate with bread, on the back of the chair in front of where people are sitting. This is the 'safe' system AFC have been using throughout the pandemic.

TRAIDCRAFT NEWS from Margaret Dykes

REGENERATORS

Traidcraft were overwhelmed by the support the Regenerators Appeal has received over the last few months. Our donations will support the Regenerators in vulnerable communities in Tanzania, Kenya, Senegal and Bangladesh, to fight back against the devastating impact of climate change. The UK government's matched funding will fund a new project working with Regenerators in Tanzania. **43,350** people will benefit from natural resource management and climate change adaptation including 632 acres of tree planting; **2000** smallholder farmers and entrepreneurs will participate in biodiversity activities such as beekeeping, fruit trees and fishing; **2000** smallholder farmers will get access to new climate-resilient technology. This is just one part of the change that your support will create – these just aren't statistics but are people's lives for the long term. Thanks to us these people can fight back and protect the earth for generations to come and earn more for the hard work they do every day.

For more information about how to support this project, or to order Traidcraft goods, please contact Margaret:- e-mail: margaretdykes@btinternet.com phone: 874511