



11 July, 2021

6th Sunday after Trinity

Services this week

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

Sunday 10.00am. A shortened Said Eucharist will follow the Vestry meeting and APCM.

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 Fr. Peter's reflection and the intercessions have been provided with this notice sheet as well as being on the website.

Collect

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Alternative Collect

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Amos 7.7–15

8.30am. only

This is what the Lord God showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, 'Amos, what do you see?' And I said, 'A plumb line.' Then the Lord said, 'See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.' Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, 'Amos has conspired against you in the very centre of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, "Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land."' And Amaziah said to Amos, 'O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.' Then Amos answered Amaziah, 'I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."' For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85 vv.8-13.

8.30am. only

Response: Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

I will listen to what the Lord God will say, for he shall speak peace to his people and to the faithful, that they turn not again to folly.

Truly, his salvation is near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth are met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each other;

Response

Truth shall spring up from the earth and righteousness look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed give all that is good, and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him and direct his steps in the way.

Response

Mark 6.14–29

King Herod heard of the healings and other miracles, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, 'John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.' But others said, 'It is Elijah.' And others said, 'It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.' But when Herod heard of it, he said, 'John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.'

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.' And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, 'Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.' And he solemnly swore to her, 'Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.' She went out and said to her mother, 'What should I ask for?' She replied, 'The head of John the Baptist.' Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, 'I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptizer on a platter.' The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

Post Communion Prayer

God of our pilgrimage, you have led us to the living water: refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael's

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 have been circulated to those on the roll. The meeting agenda includes elections for vacancies on the PCC.

NAPPY DAYS – North Transept coffee area – Wednesdays, starting 21 July – 1.30pm.-3.00pm.

A church-sponsored drop-in group for parents with new babies, offering a cuppa and a chat with other parents.

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.

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.

PLASTIC FREE DAY – St. Michael's Square – Tuesday, 27 July – 9.00am. – 2.30pm.

Sustainable Amersham are inviting everyone to try and go plastic free for one day. By making small changes in our daily habits, everyone can reduce their personal plastic footprint . They have some top tips to help you on your way; where to refill your water bottle for free, learn how to recycle better and make some simple plastic free sustainable swaps around the home. They will be supported by Buckinghamshire Council recycling experts, Refill app, Little Walkers Refill Café and a local soaps company. You can also buy a re-usable coffee cup at a discounted price for your morning coffee and say good-bye to the disposable cup forever.

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