



Clear vision

Georgina Byrne *reflects on* Acts 1:6-14 and John 17:1-11

Jesus leaves his disciples not once but twice. The first time is the crucifixion. Although he has forewarned them that the end is coming, they scatter in fear, unbelief and grief. After the resurrection, as we have recalled in the last weeks, Jesus spends time with his disciples once more, teaching and encouraging them, only to leave them for a second time at the ascension. On this occasion, they are baffled, but not afraid and not bereft. He has told them to wait for God's promised Holy Spirit and they know that they have his work to do. In John's Gospel Jesus prays to God the Father for his friends' protection as they will be "in the world".

In the first chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, Jesus makes clear what that means, as he speaks directly to the disciples and gives them a mission. They are to continue his ministry and share his wide vision for the whole world – from Jerusalem, through Judea and Samaria and away to the ends of the earth. It is important to note that Jesus does not give detailed instructions of how they are to do this. There is no one-size-fits-all method for sharing God's love – as the rest of the accounts in the Acts of the Apostles bear witness.

We learn three things from Jesus from today's readings: that he loves his followers and prays to the Father for us; that he longs for the whole world to know the love of God; and that he calls on his followers to carry on that vision. 🍷

Show us today, Lord God, how you are calling us to carry on your vision. Inspire us through the stories of those who heard your calling two thousand years ago, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

John and Charles Wesley

by Caroline Hodgson

The Wesley brothers are commemorated in the *Common Worship* lectionary on Wednesday this week.

It started at Oxford University in 1729 with the formation of the Holy Club. The older brother John (1703-1791), is known for his itinerant preaching and tireless work forming and organising Christian groups, known as societies. He appointed evangelists – both women and men – to spread the word. Under his direction, Methodists became

leaders in many social issues of the day, including the abolition of slavery and prison reform.

His brother Charles (1707-1788) was a prolific hymn writer, whose powerful imagery and beautiful poetry can be heard in chapels, churches and cathedrals around the world.

For me, the really astonishing thing about these extraordinary, dynamic brothers is that, despite rocking the boat, they are responsible for shaping so much of our worship today, and their influence can be felt at the very heart of the established Church. 🍷

“**He left His Father's throne above, / So free, so infinite His grace; / Emptied Himself of all but love, / And bled for Adam's helpless race; / 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; / For, O my God, it found out me!"**

Charles Wesley (1707-1788), leader of the Methodist movement and hymn writer

Science and faith

Part 3 – healing and medicine

by Caroline Hodgson

The history of Western medical science is tightly interwoven with the history of the Christian faith. Indeed, for centuries no distinction was made between theology and science. To study the physical universe and everything in it, was to study God and divine creation. It's not by any means an easy relationship. Christianity and medicine have often clashed over ethical issues, particularly where the sanctity of life is concerned.

In obedience to Christ's command to cure the sick, many Christians have been involved in the physical welfare of their fellow human beings. Many modern healthcare, teaching and research institutions have Christian origins, particularly those founded by religious orders. The Christian contribution to medicine is huge, and advances in all branches of medicine have been made by Christians. Inventions ranging from the stethoscope to the cochlear implant have improved the quality of life and saved the lives of countless people. 🍷



Sunday 21 May – Easter 7

8.30am BCP Holy Communion

10am Experience and Explore – informal service with talk, activities, space for reflection & refreshments

There will be no Evensong this evening as we are going to the Cathedral where we have two candidates being confirmed by Bishop Dagmar.

You might like to take the opportunity to go to Trinity College Chapel at 6.15pm for Evensong.

The Revd Sam Wells, Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields & Visiting Professor of Christian Ethics, King's College London will be speaking about the life and ministry of Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

COLLECT

Risen, Ascended Lord,
as we rejoice at your triumph,
fill your church on earth with power and compassion,
that all who are estranged by sin
may find forgiveness and know your peace,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

READINGS

Old Testament Ezekiel 36: 24-28 (p. 836 in pew bible)
Gospel John 17: 1-11 (p. 119 in pew bible)

NEXT WEEK

Sunday 28 May – Pentecost

8.30am BCP Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion with Junior Church

PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Please pray for 5 people - whether they be family, friends or neighbours – that they may encounter God's love and experience his blessings.

On the font there are copies of the Thy Kingdom Come Prayer Journal 2023 to take away. These contain some useful prompts to pray and biblical reflections.

CONTACTS

Vicar – Revd Mandy Maxwell 01223 845047

stmarystmichael55@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Edmund Brookes 01223 840374

churchwarden@trumpington.church

Sheila Betts 07889 706625

warden@trumpington.church

Organist – Geoff Symon

organist@trumpington.church

Choir Leader – Alan Howard

choir@trumpington.church

Church Office – 01223 846096

office@trumpington.church

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Sheila Betts 07889 706625

safeguarding@trumpington.church

Do visit our website www.trumpington.church for links to Sunday services and resources.

CHURCH NOTICES

Bible Study Groups – We have a group that meets fortnightly, in person, on Wednesday evenings and a group that meets online on Tuesday evenings. If you want to join a group, please email the Vicar (Mandy).

Using the Rosary – a 4-week guide with Baxter, our ordinand on placement. Wednesdays 10am in church: 24 May, 31 May, 7 June & 14 June. Please email Mandy if you are interested.

Worship Night at Holy Trinity Cambridge

Friday 26 May

This event is open to all the churches in or near Cambridge. It is a special event in the week running up to Pentecost. Doors open at 6.30pm, worship starts at 7pm. Tickets £9 – Available from

<https://www.davidstent.net/uk-worship-nights>

Junior Church families Camp Out: July 14th -16th

If people want to come along they are very welcome to book their preferred accommodation. It's a small place so we will find each other easily.

Fen End Farm is an Eco campsite and Organic Farm; check it out on: <http://www.fenendfarm.co.uk>

Thy Kingdom Come – the Archbishop Justin Welby's invitation to make a concerted effort to pray between Ascension and Pentecost, and in particular to pray for 5 people who are not yet following the Lord Jesus to come to know him. Novena Booklets to take home and use are available on the warden's pew (where the hymn books are handed out).

Giving – If you have recently joined us you will be aware that we don't have a collection during the service. If you would like to make a donation in support of the life and ministry of the church, you can:

- Leave a cash donation in the plate provided
- Make a contactless donation using the GoodBox
- Use a yellow envelope (if you pay tax we can claim the Gift Aid)

Speak to Edmund about making a regular electronic gift and the best way to do this. Everything helps – thank you!