

SUNDAY 23 February – 2nd Before Lent

8.30am BCP Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion with Junior Church

COLLECT

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

READINGS *(in pew bibles)*

Revelation 4, pp. 267-268
Luke 8: 22-25, p. 72

PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

God be with me in this Your day,
every day and every way,
with me and for me in this Your day;
and the love and affection of heaven be toward me.
All that I am, Lord, I place into your hands.
All that I do, Lord, I place into your hands.
Everything I work for I place into your hands.
Everything I hope for I place into your hands.
The troubles that weary me I place into your hands.
The thoughts that disturb me I place into your hands.
Each that I pray for I place into your hands.
Each that I care for I place into your hands.
I place into your hands, Lord, the choices that I face.
Rich in counsel, show me the way that is plain and safe.
Lord, in your mercy, hear my prayer.
Amen.

(From Celtic Daily Prayer, Bk. 1, (2002), pp. 278-279).

NEXT WEEK

8.30am BCP Holy Communion
10am All Age Communion
6.30pm Sung Evening Prayer with Lucy Bunce on the harp

CONTACTS

CHURCH WEBSITE www.trumpington.church

Vicar – Revd Mandy Maxwell 01223 845047
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Churchwardens
Edmund Brookes 01223 840374
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Organist – Geoff Symon organist@trumpington.church
Choir Leader – Alan Howard choir@trumpington.church
Parish Safeguarding Officer – Sheila Betts 07889 706625
safeguarding@trumpington.church

CHURCH OFFICE – OPENING TIMES
9am-1pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday
Emma's email address is: admin@trumpington.church

If you want to put a note in the pewsheets, please contact Emma in the office, no later than 9am Wednesday if the note is intended for the forthcoming Sunday. Thank you.

CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

This year we have to draw up a completely new church electoral roll. Even if your name is already on the roll, you need to fill in a new form to be included on the new one. All baptised members of the congregation over the age of 16 are invited to apply to join the roll. Application forms are available in church on the Churchwardens' pew. Please post completed forms through the Bakehouse letterbox or give to one of the Churchwardens.

Anyone whose name has been on the electoral roll for a minimum of 6 months can stand for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which, together with the Vicar and Churchwardens, makes decisions about how the church is run. If you are interested in joining the PCC, but have not been on the electoral roll for long enough, it may be possible to become a co-opted member. Please speak to the Vicar or Churchwardens if you are interested in joining the PCC.

SHROVE TUESDAY 4 MARCH – PANCAKE PARTY 4.30-7pm

Come to join us in church for pancakes. Put the date in your diaries.

LIVING HOPE – A LENT JOURNEY

Join discussions on these reflections published by the Church of England.

Discussions on Zoom for 40 minutes on Mondays in Lent starting at 7pm (Except the first meeting which will be on Tuesday 11 March to avoid PCC).

If you would like to join the group, please contact Ken Fletcher on 01223 841783 or kenfcam@gmail.com

BIBLE STUDY

Please contact Mandy if you would like to join a group on either Tuesday evening online or Wednesday evening in person.

BOOK GROUP

2025 is the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth, the Book Group is reading her final completed novel, *Persuasion*, to discuss when we meet again on Thursday 3 April.

'This story of missed opportunities and second chances centres on Anne Elliot, no longer young and with few romantic prospects. Eight years earlier, she was persuaded by others to break off her engagement to poor, handsome naval captain Frederick Wentworth. What happens when they meet again is movingly told. *Persuasion* is a brilliant satire of vanity and pretension, and a mature, tender love story tinged with heartache.'

All welcome – no invitation needed! For more information please email bookgroup@trumpington.church

COMMUNITY NOTICES

TRUMPINGTON REPAIR CAFÉ: Sunday 23 February 2-5pm, Trumpington Meadows Primary School

Repair cafés match experienced repairers with people who need stuff fixed! To book a slot and find out more use the QR code or go to <https://linktree/trurepcaf>
Or call 07938 158819 to leave a text or voice message.

Water, water



Lord God, you are there amid the raging waves and in the cup of water offered to a child. Thank you for the creation of water. Help us to know your presence in everything, and to trust in your awesome power. Amen.

Poetry and faith

R. S. Thomas (1913-2000)

by Julia McGuinness

R. S. Thomas' ministry as a parish priest in rural Wales spanned four decades across six towns from the mid 1930s. He found poetic material among isolated farming communities who were facing technological advances and threats to their Welsh identity. When asked if he was conflicted by the twin vocations of poet and priest, Thomas replied that "Christ was a poet... the New Testament was poetry, and... I had no difficulty preaching the New Testament in its poetic context".

With his spare style, austere language and outlook, Thomas is attuned to the hard search for an apparently elusive God. He has been described as "a poet of the Cross, the unanswered prayer, the bleak trek through darkness". Yet this makes breakthroughs of faith and vision all the more precious. In "The Bright Field", he acknowledges that such moments are easily missed. But a sudden burst of sunshine across a field calls for our "turning/aside like Moses to the miracle/of the lit bush". Such brightness is not incidental and temporary, but encapsulates "the eternity that awaits you". ☺

“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.”

Psalm 23:6

Caroline Hodgson *reflects on*

Genesis 2:4b-9. 15-end, Psalm 65 and Luke 8:22-25

Today's Old Testament, Psalm and Gospel readings all contain references to that great element upon which all life is dependent, which covers over seventy per cent of the earth – water. In the great story of creation in Genesis, it is not until God causes a stream to "rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground", that plant life can flourish, and only then that God forms humanity.

It's been suggested that Psalm 65 was written as a hymn of thanksgiving after a time of drought. The psalmist creates a beautiful image of God irrigating the earth: "You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water... You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth."

In sharp contrast to this image of gentle, life-giving water, the Gospel today shows its terrifying, destructive potential – and yet, even here, God has power over it. When Jesus wakes in the middle of a storm to find the disciples panicking, their lives (as we imagine) flashing before them, he rebukes the "raging waves" and restores calm, to the astonishment of the petrified disciples.

Like so many things in this life, water can be benevolent and life-giving, or terrifying and dangerous. Like everything in this life, God is in control if we but realise and allow it. Even when the storm rages around us, even when we think that God is sleeping, we can relax in this sure knowledge, and allow the grace of God, which flows through everything and irrigates the whole earth and sustains all life, to flow through our very being. ☺

Walking with Rosie

Flood

by Gillian Cooper

Our morning walk takes Rosie and me along the river. It has rained and the river is deep and fast, rushing just beneath the stone bridges, orange with the mud of the Somerset hills. Rosie stays well back. There is no flood warning, but some of the cottages have sandbags at the door, just in case.

In the beginning, Genesis tells us, there was a watery waste. God made space for creation

by dividing and controlling the waters, some above the sky, some under the earth. God keeps us safe, we are told. At any time God can open the windows of heaven, or make a fissure in the earth, and allow the waters of chaos to come rushing back.

I live in a sophisticated society, one that has learned to understand and control nature. It is good to be reminded occasionally of the ultimate power of God in our world. ☺