



BIBLE SUNDAY

25th October 2020

Welcome to St Mary's on the last Sunday after Trinity, which we observe as Bible Sunday. Our president today is Fr Andrew, our preacher is Margaret Green, and our organist is Nick Andrews. Our delayed 2019 APCM follows on after this service – please stay on for the meeting if you can.

If you are attending the service in person, please be sure to sign in on arrival, sanitise, wear a mask (unless exempted), and observe social distancing.

Please also wait for directions to go up for communion, which we will be receiving in one kind only.

To join us online, go to: <https://bit.ly/StMarysKT>.

You can also join the service by phone on **020 8080 6591**. When prompted, key in the **Meeting ID: 981 5467 9178** and **Password: 254560**.

This service will be recorded and posted online afterwards.

OLD TESTAMENT READING (Nehemiah 8.1–4a, 8–12)

Reader: Janet Harrington-Fudger

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose.

So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your

God; do not mourn or weep.’ For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, ‘Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.’ So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, ‘Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.’ And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

This is the word of The Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119, verses 9–16

Refrain

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes.

How shall young people cleanse their way
to keep themselves according to your word?

With my whole heart have I sought you;
O let me not go astray from your commandments.

Your words have I hidden within my heart,
that I should not sin against you.

Blessed are you, O Lord;
O teach me your statutes.

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes.

With my lips have I been telling
of all the judgements of your mouth.

I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies
than in all manner of riches.

I will meditate on your commandments
and contemplate your ways.

My delight shall be in your statutes
and I will not forget your word.

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes.

THE EPISTLE (Colossians 3, verses 12–17)

Reader: Kaye Inglis

As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

This is the word of The Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL (Matthew 24, verses 30–35)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘The sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see “the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven” with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

This is the Gospel of The Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The **HOMILY**, by Margaret Green

The **INTERCESSIONS**, led by Paul Stacey

The **LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES AND EVENTS

MONDAY, 8 am – 1pm: Big Issue sales; visitors welcome from 10 am.

MONDAY, 9.30 am: Morning Prayer (BCP).

MONDAY, 6 pm: Brighton Aerial Arts (Hall).

TUESDAY, 6 pm: Brighton Aerial Arts (Hall).

TUESDAY, 6.30 pm: Evening Prayer.

TUESDAY, 7.15 pm: Choir Practice.

WEDNESDAY, 8.30 am: Morning Prayer.

WEDNESDAY, 10 am – 1 pm: Big Issue sales; visitors welcome from 10am.

WEDNESDAY, 12.30 pm: Midweek Eucharist with Fr Andrew.

WEDNESDAY, 2.30 pm: Brighton Women's Centre Foodbank (Hall).

WEDNESDAY, 6 pm: Brighton Aerial Arts (Hall).

THURSDAY, 7.30 pm: Actually Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal.

FRIDAY, 9.30 am: Morning Prayer.

SATURDAY, 10.45 am: AA Newcomers (Hall).

SATURDAY, 2 pm: Small Performance Adventures (Hall).

SUNDAY, 10 am: Said Eucharist for All Saints and All Souls.

ALL SAINTS' DAY – Sunday, 1 November, 10am

Next Sunday, 1 November, we celebrate the Feast of All Saints and the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day – 2 November 2020). If you would like the name of a departed loved one added to names to be read out during the service, please add it to one of the slips on the notice table at the back of the church, or email it to Fr Andrew as soon as possible. If the name has been read out in previous years, there is no need to add it again.

Enquiries about baptism, confirmation, marriage, funerals, confessions, and counselling may be made to the Vicar, Fr Andrew Woodward, by phone: 01273 698601 or email: ruraldeanbrighton@gmail.com.

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