

## All Saints' Church, Brenchley



### Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity, October 3rd 2021

#### Collect (The Special Prayer for today)

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord who is alive and reigned with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God now and forever. Amen.

#### Old Testament Psalm 33

- <sup>1</sup> Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous. Praise befits the upright.
- <sup>2</sup> Praise the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.
- <sup>3</sup> Sing to him a new song; play skilfully on the strings, with loud shouts.
- <sup>4</sup> For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.
- <sup>5</sup> He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.
- <sup>6</sup> By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of his mouth.
- <sup>7</sup> He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle; he put the deeps in storehouses.
- <sup>8</sup> Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.
- <sup>9</sup> For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.
- <sup>10</sup> The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.
- <sup>11</sup> The counsel of the LORD stands for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.
- <sup>12</sup> Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.
- <sup>13</sup> The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all humankind.
- <sup>14</sup> From where he sits enthroned he watches all the inhabitants of the earth—
- <sup>15</sup> he who fashions the hearts of them all, and observes all their deeds.
- <sup>16</sup> A king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.
- <sup>17</sup> The war horse is a vain hope for victory, and by its great might it cannot save.
- <sup>18</sup> Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,
- <sup>19</sup> to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.
- <sup>20</sup> Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and shield.
- <sup>21</sup> Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.
- <sup>22</sup> Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

**New Testament 1 Peter Ch 1 vs 13 – 23** <sup>13</sup> Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. <sup>14</sup> Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. <sup>15</sup> Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; <sup>16</sup> for it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.' <sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. <sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

#### Gospel Mark Ch 1 vs 1 – 15

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, <sup>2</sup> as it is written in Isaiah the

prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way"<sup>1</sup>— <sup>3</sup> "a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"

<sup>4</sup> And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him.

Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. <sup>6</sup> John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup> I baptize you with<sup>1</sup> water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

<sup>9</sup> At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven: **"You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."** <sup>12</sup> At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, <sup>13</sup> and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. <sup>14</sup> After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. <sup>15</sup> "The time has come," he said. **"The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"**

## NOTICES

### Upcoming events for the Churchyard

**Saturday October 9<sup>th</sup>** Clear-up Day from 9.30am. Please come along to help, bringing your garden tools. Children welcome

**Saturday October 16<sup>th</sup>** Sale to raise funds for the churchyard. At the Church from 10.00am

### Also Saturday October 16<sup>th</sup> Cleaning in Church at 2.00pm

Contact Sarah Thorpe if you are able to help.

I know that some of you will for a variety of reasons be concerned about attending. Below is a list of measures the Churchwardens, PCC, and I have agreed in order to reassure people and to make the safety of our 'at risk' members a top priority. You will of course still be able to watch the service on Facebook. Thank you for being patient as we trial 'streaming'. Before purchasing expensive equipment, we will continue to feel our way forward on this. We do understand that some of you have had issues with the sound quality though this may be to do with your own devices rather than the church's. If you are experiencing difficulties, please let us know and someone will be happy either to visit or telephone you hopefully to correct this.

1. The South Aisle will be reserved for those wishing to wear a FACE MASK and maintain SOCIAL DISTANCING. 2. In the building itself we ask people to maintain a responsible loving distance between each other, respecting especially those wearing face masks.

3. Please sanitise your hands in the porch before entering.

4. Air circulation is very good inside the church building and we will be keeping all doors open. Congregational singing is now permitted.

5. Communion is in both forms now. The consecrated wafers will be set out on The Lord's Table and the wine in biodegradable tiny cups on a table next to it. Please approach the table in a clockwise direction from the north side, keeping a 2 metre space between you and the person in front (unless a 'bubble'), take and consume the wafer and then the wine, taking the cup with you and return to your seat continuing in a clockwise direction. Churchwardens/Sidesmen will assist on distanced circulation.

6. At the end of the service, please leave promptly in order to gather outside to converse and catch up

Please send any information that you wish to be included, by Thursday evening of each week,  
to: [thelma.cunningham@icloud.com](mailto:thelma.cunningham@icloud.com) or 01892 724419

Website: [www.allsaintsbrenchley.blogspot.com](http://www.allsaintsbrenchley.blogspot.com)