## In Touch across North Barrow

## Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>. June 2020 The Most Holy and Undivided Trinity

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# Worship during the day, alone or with household members

There are three that testify in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one. 1 John 5.7

O Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia!

## Collect for today

God our Father,

you revealed the wonderful mystery of the Godhead by sending into the world the Word who speaks all truth and the Spirit who makes us holy.

Grant that we may proclaim the fullness of faith by acknowledging and worshipping three Persons, eternal in glory, one God of Majesty and power. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Isaiah 40:12-17, 27-31; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13;

Matthew 28:16-20

or during the week from the daily prayer and readings.

## The Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

28:<sup>16</sup> The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

## **Prayers**

Almighty and everlasting God, we thank you that you have brought us safely to the beginning of this day.

Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger; order us in all our doings and guide us to do always what is righteous in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

## The Lord's Prayer

#### Conclusion

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life. Amen.

Let us bless the Triune God. Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

### Trinity in Relationship.

Over the past ten weeks we have grown used to the Government's Covid message, currently - Stay alert - Control the virus - Save lives. One message yet in three defined parts. Today is Trinity Sunday, the celebration of the church's distinct understanding of God as one, yet encountered and experienced in relationship with three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Relationships matter. For all the positives of facetime or Zoom, our interpersonal relationships are strained - frustrated even. We can see but not touch friends and family outside our own households, something brought powerfully home as I conducted a funeral last week for a family I know well. Gone was the comfort of physical contact, a handshake or hug, and that somehow compounded the sense of loss and loneliness.

Relationships matter. The fracture of trust highlighted by the death of George Floyd has laid bare the cancer of racial prejudice not just in the United States but wherever it is found, Barrow being no exception. Black lives matter, indeed for God all lives matter, no if's, no but's, no exceptions. However messed up we may have become, humanity is created in God's image, so prejudice is not only an affront to the individual and society, but to God.

Relationships matter because the relationship of Father, Son and Spirit lies at the very heart of the Trinity. St John writes in his first letter that *God is love and whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.* This love is not sentimental, self-centred and exclusive, but self-giving, sacrificial and inclusive. For all the

majesty of God sung by the psalmist in today's reading human beings matter, and it is no surprise that it is from the praise of children and infants, the weak and insignificant church if you like, that God puts at rest both enemy and avenger.

Relationships matter. The wonders of the universe still put us in our place even though they are only finger-play for God. *But*, sings the psalmist, *you have made them rulers over the works of your hands*. If there is one positive to come out of Covid-19, it is the possibility to reset global society on a path of environmental responsibility and relationship with the planet in the face of the even greater threat of global warming.

Relationships matter because God longs to draw all into the divine relationship of the Trinity. There is a sense that the whole human race are God's foster children, but in Jesus' death and resurrection, the Father meets the need of holiness for justice as well as mercy. In Jesus, we are offered the opportunity to become adopted children, sharing the inheritance of heaven, guaranteed by the personal presence of the Holy Spirit.

In a world where fear and insecurity stalk in the shadow of Covid-19 and racial prejudice, unemployment and oppression, the peace, hope and security of knowing that we belong as adopted children in relationship with Father, Son and Spirit is not to be underestimated or ignored. It's no more, no less, than a prayer away for any foster-child of God.

With love and prayers,

Fr. Jack.



#### Psalm 8

- 1 O Lord our governor, how glorious is your name in all the world!
- 2 Your majesty above the heavens is praised out of the mouths of babes at the breast.
- 3 You have founded a stronghold against your foes, that you might still the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have ordained,
- 5 What is man, that you should be mindful of him;

(What is) the son of man, that you should seek him out?

- 6 You have made him little lower than the angels and crown him with glory and honour.
- 7 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands and put all things under his feet,
- 8 All sheep and oxen, even the wild beasts of the field.
- 9 The birds of the air, the fish of the seaand whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.10 O Lord our governor,how glorious is your name in all the world!

SUNDAY
MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
SATURDAY
Reflections during the week using Lectio Divina
Use the verse, or verses, for each day following the pattern on
the previous page. Each colour corresponds to a day of the
week. Write any reflections, or ways in which you feel God is
speaking to you in the boxes above

## **NEWS AND NOTES**

**Ascension and Pentecost reflections**. Both bishop James' and bishop Emma's sermon's/reflections are available from the diocesan website.

**Deacon Debbie** has recorded an interview / diary for Premier Christian Radio and is available on the Barrow Mission Community facebook page (open to anyone!).

**Cando FM**: Last Sunday's service incorporating bishop Emma's Pentecost sermon will be repeated at 10am this Sunday, followed by ths week's at 10.30am. The rumour is that I am giving this week's reflection - a clear case of going from the sublime to the ridiculous!

Support HUB 9am - 5pm Mon to Fri. Call 01229 444407.

Hospital Chaplaincy Hearts: Deacon Debbie, the chaplain at FGH, would like to thank everyone who has contributed hearts to be distributed to patients and their families — we've had a fantastic response. She says they have been much appreciated and she is considering continuing the practice after lock-down, but at the moment she has sufficient supplies. I'll let you know when more are needed.

**Resources : The Sunday Worship** video is available on the St. James facebook page from Sunday morning.

Radio and TV: Radio Cumbria Morning Service at 8.00am

CandoFM (106.3) Faith in Furness at

10.30am

BBC Morning Worship at 10.15 on BBC1

For those who are online, the Church of England website has daily and Sunday resources to watch, download and join in with.

The website is : churchofengland.org

**Daily Hope Prayer Line** - 0800 804 8044 - A Church of England resource with hymns, prayers and reflections for especially for those who are not connected to the internet.

## **DAILY PRAYER and BIBLE READINGS**

**SUNDAY** We give thanks that as adopted children of God we have

access to the Father through the Son in the power of the  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left($ 

Holy Spirit.

**MONDAY** 1 Kings 17:1-6, Mark 5:1-12

*Pray for* all striving for social and racial justice in the USA and within our own nation and community.

**TUESDAY** 1 Kings 17:7-16, Mark 5:13-16

(S. Columba) Pray for the mission and ministry of the Iona community working for peace, social justice and the

renewal of worship.

**WEDNESDAY** 1 Kings 18:20-39, Mark 5:17-19

*Pray for* Deacon Debbie and the Hospital chaplaincy team supporting staff, patients and families.

**THURSDAY** 1 Kings 18:41-end, Mark 5:20-26

(Corpus Christi) Pray that in these times of Eucharistic fast we would know the enriching love of God in our lives.

**FRIDAY** 1 Kings 19:9, 11-16, Mark 5:27-32

(S. Barnabas)Pray for all those who exercise a ministry of encouragement in our deanery and diocese.

**SATURDAY** 1 Kings 19:19-end, Mark 5:33-37

Pray for our schools and for their staff as children

begin to return to the classroom.

If you have prayer requests / thanksgivings, then please let Fr. Jack know either by email or 'phone.

## NEXT SUNDAY THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Exodus 19:2-8a, Romans 5:1-8, Matthew 9:35-10:8