

Sunday June 21st 2015



**The United Benefice of Long Crendon, Chearsley & Nether
Winchendon**

WELCOME EVERYONE TODAY

He will judge the world in righteousness; he will govern the peoples with justice.
The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

Psalm 9:8

Pray



Come to us, O Christ
Forgive our feeble faith,
When the winds of life become blustery
And the waves seem to overtake us.
In this hour of worship
Send forth fresh courage
And then send us forth
In full confidence in your Word, O Christ.

Collect for Third Sunday After Trinity

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby we call you Father: give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Readings for Today:

First Reading: Job 38: 1- 11



New Testament Reading 2 Corinthians 6: 1- 13

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

‘At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.’ See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!

We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

Introduction

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life?
When the clouds unfold their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain
Will your anchor drift, or firm remain?

The theme of this hymn by Priscilla Owens (1829-99) is surely right. When life is easy we can plod along regardless, not concerning ourselves with the complexities and deeper mysteries of life. Yet when the going gets tough, when we are faced with enormous problems, then questions come along which can shake the very core of our being. The death of a dear friend, a life threatening illness, these kinds of things can leave us wondering who we are and what point there is in life.

None of us is immune from this angst. In the words of the song by Allan Roberts 'Into each life some rain must fall.' In early Christian art it was not unusual to depict the church as a boat driven hard in a perilous sea, and Jesus in the midst, surrounded by a drenched crew filled with fear as they watch the waves plunge into their boat, while others are at peace as they look to Jesus – 'steadfast and sure while the billows roll'. We are all like a boat tossed against the "wings of strife." Can we survive ?

The answer, of course, is yes, for we have an anchor that keeps the soul.

Gospel Reading: Mark 4: 35 – end

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!'



Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, ‘Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?’ And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, ‘Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?’

Post Communion Prayer

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Services Today: June 21st

Trinity 3

8.00am	Holy Communion	Long Crendon	JW
10.30am	Family Service	Long Crendon	RC
9.00am	Holy Communion	Chearsley	JW
10.00am	Family Service	Nether Winchendon	AB

Services Next week: June 28th

Trinity 4

8.00 am	Holy Communion	Long Crendon	JW
10.30am	Holy Communion	Long Crendon	JW
10.00am	Family Service	Chearsley	JS
6.00pm	Evensong	Nether Winchendon	JW

Concert in Chearsley. Meadowsong at Long Meadow.

Following the success of this great Chearsley family event in 2013, Paul and Laura are returning this Summer to perform for us on the 4th of July - with a great “ye Hah flavour!

American burgers, hot-dogs, chocolate brownies (just like Mom used to make) and ice cream will all be on sale, and “the Six Bells Saloon Bar” will be well-stocked with Uncle Sam's finest beers.

Tickets available from Joy and Alicia. £15 per adult. Children Free.

All proceeds will go to the church bells fund.

There are several hundred books in St. Marys from my bookshelves. You are welcome to any - for free! JW

JUNE 28th:12.30 – 3.30

JAZZ PICNIC

at Wapping High Street Long Crendon. Jubilee Jazz Band. Children's...PTO...

Entertainment. Bring your own picnic and drinks. Adults £10. Children £2.
Tickets from Geoff Smith 208205 or email Friends@FSMLongCrendon.org

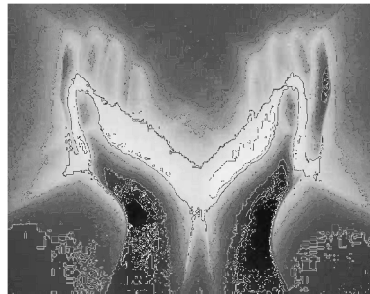
Meditation

'None of us is perfect and none of us has complete faith. That is why we should be very patient with those who seem very far away from the centre of life in the church. Jesus accepted many whose faith was immature and imperfect. He asked no one to sign along a dotted line or give evidence of performing religious duties. He simply asked people to listen to him and follow him. He relied on the Holy Spirit to lead them on in the truth. So must we, whatever kind of believers we are.'



O God, the King of righteousness, lead us, we pray thee, in the ways of justice and of peace, inspire us to break down all tyranny and oppression, to gain for every man his due reward and from every man his due service; that each may live for all and all may care for each, in the name of Jesus Christ. (*Archbishop William Temple 1881-1944*)

Lord, teach me to trust you in whatever situations I may find myself. Help me to pray, not just when my boat is sinking, but in all the times and places of my life where you can make a real difference. Help me with my family and friends to establish better relationships, in my place of work to allow you to inform the way I behave. Forgive me when I make you a stranger and walk with me always. Amen.



God's own presence with you
stay

Jesus to shield you in the fray
Spirit to protect you from ill
Trinity there guiding you still.

On sea or land, in ebb or flow
God be with you where you go.
In flow or ebb, on land or sea
God's might your protecting be.

In the Power of the Father on high
In the peace of the Saviour near by
In the Prosperity the the Spirit stay
The Three enfold you now and away.