



BENEFICE BULLETIN

Church News for

Bedale, Burrill, Leeming and Thornton Watlass

4th June 2023

Trinity Sunday

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Gaynor, Bel Newman, Mark Newman, Lesley Hall, Delma Bode, John Hall, Chris, Lynne Riddlestone, Olive Robinson, Harry Scorer, Kath Finkill, Barbara Cooper, Harry Lillystone, Anne Jardin, and Trevor.

RIP

Joseph Richardson

May he rest in peace and rise in glory

COLLECT AND READINGS

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; 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.

First Reading - Isaiah 40.12–17,27–31

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? Who has directed the spirit of the LORD, or as his counsellor has instructed him? Whom did he consult for his enlightenment, and who taught him the path of justice? Who taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as dust on the scales; see, he takes up the isles like fine dust. Lebanon would not provide fuel enough, nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering. All the nations are as nothing before him; they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God'? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but

those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 13.11–13

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Gospel - Matthew 28.16–20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Post Communion Prayer

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.

COMMENTARY ON THE READINGS

Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-31

This passage conveys a sense of some of the manifestations of the nature of God – creating one, powerful one, compassionate one.

The message of second Isaiah (chapters 40-55) is the joyful news of the end of the Babylonian Exile. And this good news has a strong theological foundation, that of the power and the purpose of God. The reading is the second part of a section (vv. 12-31) which follows the initial announcement of the end of exile and the pastoral description of the journey back (vv. 1-11). The first part of this section (vv. 12-20) draws the people to consider the nature of their Deliverer by means of a series of pointed questions. All that may have seemed strong and invincible to them is as nothing before God (v. 17) to whom nothing at all may be compared (vv. 18-20). Now the prophet continues his questions, leading them to see God as the creator of all that is (vv. 21, 25 -28). The lection itself is a series of questions (vv. 21, 25, 27-28a) and answers (vv. 22-24, 26, 28b-31). Each

question and answer forms a separate section; the first points to God as the Creator who has created both human beings and the universe, the small and the immensely large; the second indicates that God is, to use modern parlance, the Greatest, even the heavens are subject to his rule; the third shows God as the Compassionate One, to whom even the smallest and weakest are important. Note the writer's use of imagery with which his readers could readily identify: the God who created the universe is the God who carries the lambs.

Corinthians 13.11-13

The three-fold blessing of verse 13 concludes Paul's final exhortations to the Corinthians. As they seek to live in peace, they have the promise that the triune God will be with them: grace, love and communion are offered. 2 Corinthians 13v13 has rightly become a standard blessing with which to conclude worship. As God's people are sent into the world, to share in God's mission, they know that God, Father, Son and Spirit, goes with them.

Matthew 28.16-20

This week is the first of seven weeks following Pentecost in which Matthew's Gospel provides the lead passage. We begin at the end, and there is no better place to start because this passage is aptly described as a summary of the Gospel as a whole. The motifs of the mountain, doubt and worship, authority, discipleship and the ongoing presence of God in Jesus Christ – these are all central to Matthew's narrative and message.

The Trinitarian structure of verse 19 has often puzzled people. It is as if Jesus is speaking the language of the Church, before the Church has actually come into being. However, the relationship between Father, Son and Spirit is actually integral to the whole passage. In worshipping Jesus (v. 17), the disciples seem to recognise his divine identity (although the accompanying doubt suggests that his divinity was not immediately visible). Jesus' identity as God's Son is now fully established as he receives 'all authority in heaven and earth' (v. 18); God is the subject of the verb 'has given'. The scene is one of enthronement, deliberately reminiscent of that found in Daniel 7.13-14 and probably cast in terms that set Jesus' claim over against that of the Roman emperor. The phrase 'everything I have commanded you' (v. 20) now refers to Jesus' teaching (not least as Matthew portrays it in his Gospel) and deliberately gives Jesus the same role as God, giving commandments to his people in the law, and Moses, through whom those commandments were given. (See for example, Exodus 7v2; Deuteronomy 1v3, 30v8.) Finally, the promise that Jesus will be with his disciples at all times, picking up the Emmanuel theme from the beginning of the Gospel (Matthew 1.21-23) and Jesus' earlier promise to his disciples (18.20), contains implicit reference to the work of the Holy Spirit.

Service Times and Venues

Thursdays 10:30am BCP communion at St Gregory's

	<i>Morning Services - St Gregory's, Bedale</i>	<i>Morning Services - St Mary's, St John's and Burrill</i>	<i>18.30—Evensong conference call</i>
4th June	8am St Gregory's #	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass #	St Gregory's, Bedale *
	9.15am St Gregory's #*F	11am St John's, Leeming #*	
11th June	9:15am St Gregory's #*F	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass #*	Burrill Church *
18th June	9:15am St Gregory's #*F	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass #*	St Mary's Thornton Watlass *
		11am St John's, Leeming #	

Communion * conference call F Facebook

Coffee Mornings

**Burrill Mission Church - in Chantry Hall
on Saturday 10th June - 9:30 to 11:30am.**

and

**St John's Church Leeming - in Church
on Thursday 15th June - 10:00 to 12:00**



St Gregory's Church "Spring Clean" will be on the afternoon of Thursday 8th of June from 2pm onwards.

Volunteers required with suitable cleaning accessories etc.
Thank you. Phillip Witty



Current shortages

We are currently seeing a huge increase in demand for our service, so if you are wanting to donate to the foodshare, at the moment we just need more of everything. Thank you so much



All donations are gratefully received
if you need a food parcel email:

info@hambletonfoodshare.org.uk or ring 07514 244158

We are here to help