



Benefice of the Piddle Valley, Hilton & Ansty, Melcombe Horsey and Cheselbourne

Sunday 12th July 2020

Trinity 5 (Altar colour green)

Readings: Isa. 55: 10-13, Psalm 65, Rom. 8: 1-11, Matt. 13: 1-9, 18-23

Collect: Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Isaiah 55:10-13 (ESV) - The Compassion of the LORD

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. “For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

COMMENT: This lyrical poem ends what scholars call the prophecies of Second Isaiah (Isaiah 40-55). It appeals to anyone to place their trust in God. The early verses use David as the exemplary figure of one who benefitted from Israel’s historic covenant with God. The latter four verses emphasize the fruitfulness of divine inspiration which shall accomplish all that God intends. In particular, the poem ends with a vision of the restoration of the land of Israel on the return of the exiles from Babylon.

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (ESV) - The Parable of the Sower

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear.”

The Parable of the Sower Explained

“Hear then the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart.

This is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

COMMENT: The familiar parable of the sower and the seed described varying types of spiritual growth and failure to grow. The second part of the reading presented a typical allegorical explanation of it. This way of explaining how scripture should be interpreted was popular in the later part of the 1st century and in the 2nd century. It may have been added to the original parable. It gives a clear explanation that not every seed falls on good ground. This can yield a clue to what we can do in mission – prepare the ground - prayer – get rid of the rocks and thorns – remove the things that can get in the way.

Post Communion: Grant, O Lord, we beseech you, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Blessing: Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread, make you one in praise and love, and raise you up at the last day; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Benefice Prayer list.

Please pray for those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit, through illness &/or hospital treatment, for the grieving, lonely, anxious and confused.

Please pray for those who have asked for our intercession: *Ken Lester, Ann Lambert, Geoff Harris, Robin Dibble, Bernard, & David.* For those in care homes including: *June Kelloway (Blandford) who will hopefully be returning home soon, Roger Gray (Dorchester) and June Smith in Warminster.*



Please continue pray for our two benefice schools of Piddle Valley First School and Cheselbourne Village School: The teachers, staff, governors and pupils, as they approach the end of the school year, and make plans for September.

Any additions or amendments to the prayer list, please email the Rector.



Benefice Notices



Returning to worship: July Sunday service rota is attached. This pattern of services allows the officiant time to set up for each service; which takes approx. 30 minutes and includes setting up of recording equipment. At this time there is no participatory singing taking place during the service; the only singing will be by a cantor/s. We will continue to live stream Sunday services and therefore music choices are restricted to pieces that are 'free to use in the public domain' and free from copyright. 9.30am Communion Service will be uploaded to Facebook after the service.

Foodbank: Thank you for your continued support of this scheme.

Churches are open for individual private prayer for residents: See separate poster with opening times.

Compline: Thursday compline live stream will move to 8pm from 16th July.

Live Streaming: Please visit our live streamed services throughout the week, order of services are available on the website home page to download for Communion and Anglican Rosary.

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR ORDINARY TIME ON THE HOME PAGE OF THE WEBSITE

Sunday 9.30am Communion Service is uploaded to YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ru_v3_1MZyzyx72ka63g4A

Facebook to access livestream:

https://www.facebook.com/piddlevalley/?eid=ARAxjQNj5mPHQUQD2hKEx_uzUyyf17basudX3D22bYJx4HsCh7ByYB8lItrMbHhsARvgwbTqvapn-Glq

Date for your diary

**'Treasures on your Driveway'
15th August 2020 3-5pm Melcombe Bingham
Driveway table top sale, helping to raise funds
for St Andrew's Church Melcombe Horsey**

Rector - Fr. Roger J. Butcher SSC KSJ

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