



# The Bridge Group of Churches

Nackington - Lower Hardres - Bridge - Patrixbourne - Bekesbourne

---

*Weekly Sheet for the Bridge Group of churches:*

## **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2020, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

**Today's Readings:** Exodus 19: 2-8a; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8[9-23]

**Next Sunday is 21<sup>st</sup> June 2020, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

**Readings:** Jeremiah 20: 7-13; Romans 6: 1b-11; Matthew 10: 24-39

### **Collect**

Eternal Father, we thank you for  
nourishing us with these heavenly gifts:  
may our communion strengthen us in  
faith, build us up in hope, and make us  
grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ  
our Lord. **Amen**

### **Readings**

#### **Exodus 19: 2-8a;**

They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out

of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.’ So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. The people all answered as one: ‘Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do.’ Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD.

### **Romans 5:1-8;**

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

### **Matthew 9:35-10:8[9-23]**

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.’ Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near." Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.[ Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgement than for that town.

'See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.]

## Village News

### Supporting your local church

Your local church relies on the generosity of those who regularly attend and take part in services and fundraising events which sadly cannot take place at this time. If you are financially able to do so, please consider making a donation to help the work and ministry of your local church. We have set up an online giving platform where you can make a donation securely via a debit or credit card on our church website [www.bridgechurchgroup.co.uk](http://www.bridgechurchgroup.co.uk) and this will be available to use in the coming days.

Thank you.

### Re-opening our buildings

Following the Government's announcement that churches may open for individual prayer from Monday 15th June the churchwardens have considered the risk assessment, the facilities needed in order to do this safely, the limitations of this provision and the risk categories of our regular volunteers who would be involved in this work. We have determined that it feels too soon to open our buildings particularly given the very limited way in which it might be possible (if at all). Please note this would only have allowed us to open small areas of the building for individuals to enter for private prayer during specific times of the day / week and does not yet allow opening for any general visiting or 'popping in'. We will keep this under review and open as soon as we can do so in a way that will benefit each of our communities. Thank you for your patience and understanding

### **Prayer Share**

We pray for those involved in the complex work of planning how to safely reopen our church buildings.

**Contact Details:** **Vicar:** Rev'd Estella Last Tel: 01227 206272 [estellalast@gmail.com](mailto:estellalast@gmail.com)  
(Estella is generally not available on Mondays). **Reader:** Mrs Margaret Clarke Tel: 01227 765 598 **Administrator:** Mrs Megan Shirley, [bridgeoffice23@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeoffice23@gmail.com)