



The Bridge Group of Churches

Nackington - Lower Hardres - Bridge - Patricbourne - Bekesbourne

Weekly Sheet for the Bridge Group of churches:

Sunday 20th September 2020, 14th Sunday after Trinity

Today's Readings:

Jonah 3:10-4:11; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

Next Service:

Sunday 27th September 10.00am St Peter's Bridge.

Please contact Estella to book a space.

**For Sunday 4th October please contact Estella to book for 8am BCP at
Nackington and Nicky Fry to book for 10am Harvest Praise at
Bekesbourne**

Collect

Lord God, defend your Church from all false Teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings

Jonah 3:10-4:11;

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, 'O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from

punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.’ And the LORD said, ‘Is it right for you to be angry?’ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, ‘It is better for me to die than to live.’ But God said to Jonah, ‘Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?’ And he said, ‘Yes, angry enough to die.’ Then the LORD said, ‘You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?’

Philippians 1:21-30;

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God’s doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Matthew 20:1-16

'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

Parish News

PCC Meetings and APCM (Year end 2019)

There will be PCC meetings of the three (former) PCCs this week:

St Peter's Bokesbourne Wednesday 23rd at 2pm

Patricxbourne with Bridge Wednesday 23rd at 7.30pm

Lower Hardres with Nackington Thursday 24th 7.30pm

At these meetings we will be finalising arrangements for the APCM which was postponed in April. **The new proposed date for the joint APCM is Wednesday 21st October.** If you are not currently a PCC member and would like to stand for the new Single Parish PCC to represent one of our churches, or if you are interested in becoming a churchwarden please

contact Estella or one of the Churchwardens for a conversation. Once the new PCC has been elected there will be opportunities to join local sub committees for each of our churches. If you wish to be added to or removed from the Electoral Roll you must do so within the next 2 weeks – please contact your local Electoral Roll officer or our Parish Administrator bridgeoffice23@gmail.com to arrange this. Formal notices will be posted in the churches this weekend.

Harvest

A Harvest Songs of Praise is to take place in Bekesbourne Church on 4th October at 10.00am. It will not be quite the same as there will be no singing, you will be required to wear masks and social distancing rules will apply. Numbers therefore will be limited and we are asking you to let us know if you intend to come so that this can be facilitated. Please contact Nicky Fry (830319) to book a space at this service.

Foodbank Collection Bridge Church

We are now able to receive gifts for the Canterbury foodbank via the yellow bin in St Peter's Church in Bridge on Wednesdays and Sundays when the church is open. If you have a large amount to donate please contact Evelyn Andrews directly rather than over filling the collection bin.

Churches Open for Private Prayer

Our churches remain open for Private Prayer as per the schedule published previously which can be found in the Parish Magazines, and on our website and facebook pages.

Thank you

Thank you to all those who joined in with the conversations we were invited to have by Bishop Rose in the past week. I really enjoyed listening to you all and hearing about your experiences over the last 6 months.

These conversations are ongoing and we will have another round of organised sessions in a month or two.

Contact Details: **Vicar:** Rev'd Estella Last Tel: 01227 206272 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