



# The Bridge Group of Churches

Nackington - Lower Hardres - Bridge - Patrixbourne - Bekesbourne

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*Weekly Sheet for the Bridge Group of churches:*

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021, 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Trinity**

## **Today's Readings:**

Joshua 24.1-2a,14-18; Ephesians 6.10-20; John 6.56-69

## **Upcoming Services:**

**29<sup>th</sup> August 10.00am St Peter's Bridge**

**5<sup>th</sup> September: 8am BCP Communion at Nackington, 10am Songs of Praise at Bekesbourne, 6.00pm Evensong at Lower Hardres**

## **Collect**

God of constant mercy,  
who sent your Son to save us:  
remind us of your goodness,  
increase your grace within us,  
that our thankfulness may grow,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## **Post Communion**

God of all mercy, in this eucharist  
you have set aside our sins and  
given us your healing: grant that  
we who are made whole in Christ  
may bring that healing to this  
broken world, in the name of  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Joshua 24.1-2a,14-18;**

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. 'Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.' Then the people answered, 'Far be it from us that we

should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.'

### **Ephesians 6.10-20;**

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

### **John 6.56-69**

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.' He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. When many of his disciples heard it, they said, 'This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?' But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them,

'Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, 'For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.' Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, 'Do you also wish to go away?' Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.'

## **Parish News**

### **Supporting our church financially**

If you would like to donate to the work of the church you can use our online giving at: <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/50a9529f-4dc5-4e6e-a429-ce51883d637b>

or you can pop a cheque (payable to PCC Patrixbourne with Bridge / PCC Lower Hardres with Nackington / PCC Bekesbourne) through the Vicarage door.

### **Covid safe church**

As a church we take seriously our commitment to caring for one another and so the PCC and churchwardens have chosen to keep a number of Covid-safety measures in place. Socially distant seating is still available in our churches. We strongly advise the wearing of masks while in the building and that you refrain from overly long social contact. Communion will be distributed in one kind (just the bread) and on the way-out weather permitting. A maximum of 2 hymns may be sung in the building while everyone is masked and the final hymn sung outside as we have been doing. Thank you for caring for one another in this way.

## Save the Date!

Parish Quiz Night in Support of New Life Nyambene (changing the lives of Kenyan children) **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October at Lower Hardres Village Hall.**

## Today's Final Hymn

Lord, the light of your love is  
shining  
In the midst of the darkness,  
shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine  
upon us  
Set us free by the truth you  
now bring us  
Shine on me, shine on me

Chorus: Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's  
glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace  
and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light

Lord, I come to your awesome  
presence

From the shadows into your  
radiance  
By the blood I may enter your  
brightness  
Search me, try me, consume  
all my darkness  
Shine on me, shine on me

Chorus

As we gaze on your kingly  
brightness  
So our faces display your  
likeness  
Ever changing from glory to  
glory  
Mirrored here may our lives  
tell your story  
Shine on me, shine on me

Chorus

Source: [Musixmatch](#), Songwriters: Kendrick Graham A, Shine Jesus Shine lyrics © Make Way Music  
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