

to

## ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST



### Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.

### 9.45 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST

### Hymns

- Praise, my soul, the King of heaven (555)
- Thou art the Christ, O Lord (236)
- Take up thy cross, the Saviour said (582)
- When all thy mercies, O my God (617)
- Will you come and follow me vv 1, 2 & 5 (622)

**Psalm**      **116 vv 1-8** (Page 497 in the red prayer book)

### Readings

Isaiah 50 vv 4-9a

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens – wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

James 3 vv 1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make

them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue – a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Mark 8 vv 27-end

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' And they answered him, 'John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' Jesus asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

## **6.30 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG**

**Psalm 119 vv 73-88** (Page 505 in the red prayer book)

Exodus 18 vv 13-26

The next day Moses sat as judge for the people, while the people stood around him from morning until evening. When Moses' father-in-law saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, 'What is this that you are doing for the people? Why do you sit alone, while all the people stand around you from morning until evening?' Moses said to his father-in-law, 'Because the people come to me to inquire of God. When they have a dispute, they come to me and I decide between one person and another, and I make known to them the statutes and instructions of

God.' Moses' father-in-law said to him, 'What you are doing is not good. You will surely wear yourself out, both you and these people with you. For the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone. Now listen to me. I will give you counsel, and God be with you! You should represent the people before God, and you should bring their cases before God; teach them the statutes and instructions and make known to them the way they are to go and the things they are to do. You should also look for able men among all the people, men who fear God, are trustworthy, and hate dishonest gain; set such men over them as officers over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. Let them sit as judges for the people at all times; let them bring every important case to you, but decide every minor case themselves. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you. If you do this, and God so commands you, then you will be able to endure, and all these people will go to their home in peace.' So Moses listened to his father-in-law and did all that he had said. Moses chose able men from all Israel and appointed them as heads over the people, as officers over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens. And they judged the people at all times; hard cases they brought to Moses, but any minor case they decided themselves.

**Office Hymn      Jesus, where'er thy people meet (492)**

Canticles : *Kelway in B minor*

Matthew 7 vv 1-14

'Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. For with the judgement you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. Why do you seek the speck in your neighbour's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbour, "Let me take the speck out of your eye", while the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbour's eye. Do not give what is holy to dogs; and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under foot and turn and maul you. Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if a child asks for bread, will give a stone? Or if the child asks for a fish, will give a snake? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to you children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him! In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets. Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Anthem : *O God, thou art my God – Henry Purcell*

**Final Hymn      The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended (22)**

## **Reflection - Ground Zero**

If truth and goodness are distorted and the beauty of the cosmos marred, who will answer for the silence of God?

But the world will be saved by beauty; touched and healed by beauty seen as love, where love and beauty meet in truth and goodness, in the shadow of the Cross.

Breaking through evil, transforming it to good, by love like that enacted on the Cross. Divine love outstretched, Christ drawing us to imitate his selfless love.

In sharing and compassion. In all our pain and struggle to break the chain, forgive the unforgivable. In love for enemy as well as neighbour, Christ's power breaking through.

In the courage of the rescue workers, in their unconcern for self. Despite our rage and sadness, the shock of joy in response to good.

In the drama still enacted daily at the site, in the active loving kindness, in the prayers now offered beneath that towering mysterious Cross.

Light will once more illumine darkness through unconditional forgiveness, through pure uncalculating love, the distorted image healed and deified by the uncreated grace of God.

*David Hodges (published 2003)*

## **Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October Harvest Festival**

9.45 a.m. Family Eucharist

6.30 p.m. Choral Evensong

## **Appeal for Children arriving from Afghanistan**

Broadway Baptist Church are appealing for donations of children's winter coats for children 11 years and under arriving from Afghanistan. I know not many of you have children that age but may have grandchildren, great grandchildren or friends with the same. Some Mums might be seeing if last year's coat fits, discovering it doesn't so it certainly can be used by another child. I am happy to take them to the church if you bring them to me. Claire W.

## **St. John's 200 Club Quarterly and Half Yearly Payments**

If you have not yet made your quarterly and half yearly payments for the 200 Club would you please do so as soon as possible as these were due on 1<sup>st</sup> September. Thank you.

## **200 Club Draw for 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

The winners are : £15 Sophie Smith; £10 Jonathon Smyth; £5 Ellen Smyth.

## **Mission of St. John's Church**

To be a caring community striving to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ;  
sharing in the love of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit;  
and to love our neighbour, having the Eucharist at the centre of our worship