

to

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST**Collect**

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; 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**

- For the beauty of the earth (253)
- Father, hear the prayer we offer (416)
- We have a gospel to proclaim (612)
- Lord, teach us how to pray aright (98)
- Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go (430)

Psalm **19 vv 7-end** (Page 367 in the red prayer book)

Readings

Numbers 11 vv 4-6, 10-16, 24-29

The rabble among the people had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, 'If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.'

Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So Moses said to the Lord, 'Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favour in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, "Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child," to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, "Give us meat to eat!" I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once – if I have found favour in your sight – and do not let me see my misery.' So the Lord said to Moses, 'Gather for

me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.'

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, 'My lord Moses, stop them!' But Moses said to him, 'Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!'

James 5 vv 13-end

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Mark 9 vv 38-end

John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never

quenched. For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

Reflection

In parts of Africa, when people have a heavy burden to carry, they sometimes place it at one of a pole, and then tie a stone of the same weight on the other end. Then the pole or stick is carried across the shoulders, with one weight or burden balancing the other, Carrying two burdens is easier than carrying one.

Dag Hammarskjöld, the second Secretary General of the United Nations (who was killed in a plane crash in September 1961), expressed the same thing in a different way:

"What makes loneliness and anguish is not that I have no-one to share my burden, but this – I have only my own burden to bear."

Sunday, 3rd October Harvest Festival

9.45 a.m. Family Eucharist

6.30 p.m. Choral Evensong

Children's Society Boxes

Would those who have Children's Society boxes please return them to Alan Jenkins so that the donations can be sent to the charity. Thank you.

Mile of Pennies

During the lockdown period and subsequently, it may be that people have not had as much small change as previously. This, it is thought, has had an effect on the amount raised through our Mile of Pennies. If you can still collect your pennies and donate them through the Mile of Pennies scheme this would be very much appreciated. Maralyn has jars you can use to collect the money if you do not have one already. Thank you.

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.

200 Club Draw for 19th September 2021

The winners are : £15 Maureen Hughes ; £10 Hilda Walkerdine;
£5 Brenda Green .

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