

to

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST



Collect

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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

- All people that on earth do dwell (369)
- O for a thousand tongues to sing (534)
- Alleluia, sing to Jesus! (278)
- Dear Lord and Father of mankind (411)
- Thou, whose almighty word (267)

Psalm **146** (Page 533 in the red prayer book)

Readings

Isaiah 35 vv 4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

James 2 vv 1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please,' while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there,' or, 'Sit at my feet,' have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in

the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,' and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Mark 7 vv 24-end

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go – the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

Reflection

Mother Teresa worked with the poorest of the poor in Calcutta, India. She said that *"being unwanted is the most terrible disease a human being can experience."* She died on 5th September 1997. She wrote the following about dying: *"When you die, the Lord will not ask you how much you have done with your life, but how much love you have put into the doing."*

Services next Sunday 12th September

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.

Our Diocese Together Magazine

Some of you may remember we used to get a magazine from Church House with stories and news from around the Diocese. Since covid this has now only appeared online. A short while ago there was an article in one of the newsletters I receive as a church warden telling about an organist that had served 60 yrs which straight away made me think we can beat that with Maurice and his 65 years! I therefore sent an article and photographs to the publicity department. And in this month's magazine Maurice appears on page 9. If anyone wants to view it just log on to the Diocesan website and search 'Together' . 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 1st September. Thank you.

200 Club Draw for 29th August 2021

The winners are : £15 Lois Gould; £10 Frank Gilbert; £5 Bertie 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