St. Paul's Heaton Moor

Part of the Heatons Team



Welcome to our Service of Morning Praise led by Andrew Masters

Tenth Sunday of Trinity 21st August 2022

Today's Hymns

All from The New English Hymnal (green hymnbook)

Lord of all hopefulness 239
O for a heart to praise my God 74
Just as I am 294
Rejoice, the Lord is King 443

Readings

Isaiah 58.9b-14 Hebrews12.18-29 Luke 13.10-17

Isaiah 58.9b-14

Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

You're ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honourable; if you honour it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Hebrews12.18-29

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the

sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, 'If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.' Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, 'I tremble with fear.') But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, 'Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.' This phrase 'Yet once more' indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship

with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming

Luke 13.10-17

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' But the Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The readings in Isaiah and Hebrews talk of the past and the future. Looking towards a future of security and certainty - surely something we need in the present time when everything seems so uncertain. The time to build up is now - destruction is negative, construction is positive. It is the end of uncertainty and the beginning of stability. We are given images of locations, resources, fortification and people that will bring about that stability. We are promised an 'unshakeable kingdom'; can we even imagine that? Hebrews is saying that what awaits us is not something that can be got by ordinary power. It is not something that can be touched. In the Gospel reading the power of touch is shown in a very

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positive light. Here a woman who would at best be pitied, at worst would be seen as disgusting, is viewed through the eyes of Jesus. Not an 'insignificant old woman' but a 'daughter of Abraham'. As with many healing stories it is her wellbeing that needs healing not just her physical health. By affirming her dignity Jesus highlights her both as an individual and the value of striving for collective wellbeing. When he touched her, her disability ended, she stood upright and praised God. In one act the two things are tied together forever, touch and healing, and celebrating wellbeing for all of us in the name of Christ.

We are praying for...

In Memoriam

We pray for those whose anniversaries fall this week

Margaret Mary Gooden21st August 2007Ursula Griffiths23rd August 2015Rodney Alan Rowe24th August 2018Yvonne Thomas25th August 2020Joseph Morton26th August 2010

'May they rest in peace, and rise in glory'

Flowers in church this week have been kindly donated by Christine Grainger in memory of her husband Joseph.

Our neighbours

In August we are praying for St Paul's Road, Parsonage Road, Lea Road, Gibsons Road and Wilson Road.

Also in our prayers

Gordon; Raymond; Jeremy; Jean; Marcia; Derek; Peggy. We pray for Iris whose thanksgiving is in our service today.

Services this week

We are a people of prayer and we would like to encourage others to pray with us or just to sit in the presence of God in our churches. Please do come along for half an hour of music, prayer, readings and contemplation. Most of the services are informal and based around spirituality rather than formal prayers.

Wednesday 24th August 9.45am Morning Prayer with Holy Communion

Starting in **September on Thursdays at St. Paul's** – Evening Prayer using Common Worship or Celtic Daily Prayer. Dates and times to be confirmed.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 31st August - 9.45 Holy Communion will be followed by 'Brew in a Pew' at approx. 10.30. Tea, coffee, biscuits, and another opportunity to hear Margaret Wyatt sing accompanied by her husband Roger on the piano.

Walking Group – this is on 2nd Saturday of the month, and meets at 9.30 am at St Paul's. Please speak to Geoff Kay for details.

Choral Evensong – There will be no Choral Evensong in August, the next one is at 6.30pm on 25th September.

Little Fishes – Closed during August, opens again in September.

Heaton Mersey Heritage Day -Saturday 10th September 11am-4pm at St John's Heaton Mersey. Archives, photos, memorabilia. Free admission/refreshments.

Volunteers needed at St Paul's

We need volunteers to take Holy Communion to people at home, or in a retirement or nursing home. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please speak to Revd Liz.

Eco Church Be our church's Eco Champion! Revd Liz is looking for someone to help with our Eco Award. Please let her know if you would be interested in helping.

Little Fishes Thursdays 9.30-11am To enable our thriving mums and toddlers group to continue, we urgently need volunteers! Please speak to Revd Liz.

Choir - Please see any of the welcomers or choir members.

Church - We urgently need more welcomers! Please see Revd Liz or any of the welcomers if you would like to help with the important job of welcoming people into church.

Refreshments Join us after the service for a cuppa.

Fostering

Stockport Council Fostering Service is encouraging residents to take part in fostering services; if you are interested in more information go to https://www.stockport.gov.uk/people-who-can-foster

New Rector in the Heatons Team

We are delighted to welcome Revd Mike Read as the next Team Rector of the Heatons. It is expected he will take up his post in the autumn.

We now have **Wi-fi in church!** The password is **Congregat!on**

Contact details:

Team Vicar:

Revd Liz Rowles <u>revlizrowles@gmail.com</u> 0161 964 3928 (usual day off Friday)

Churchwardens:

Eleanor Doyle 07942 490524 Ann Worthington 07831 747416

Please take this sheet home with you for reflection and prayer and another one for someone who may like it.

St John's & St Paul's Together in Mission and Ministry

www.heatons-team.org.uk

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