



Team Parish of Christ the King St Aidan's, Brunton Park

**Sunday 18th June 2023
Trinity 2**

This morning's Gospel invites us to place ourselves at the fringes of the crowd, and to meet the Jesus who draws us from fear at the fringes to full-life in fellowship.

So first we have Matthew, the tax collector, on the fringes of Jewish society. A tax collector was among the most despicable of people to a Jew: a collaborator with the Romans, a corrupt exploiter of his own people, a turncoat and a traitor. Then there's the woman who has been sick for 12 years. Not only does she suffer from the ailment itself, but her bleeding makes her ritually unclean so that she's unable to touch anyone for fear of contaminating them. She has been forced to the fringes, unwelcome, unclean and alone.

And yet something remarkable happens when they encounter Jesus. To Matthew he speaks two words that turn his life upside down: 'follow me.' From outcast and social pariah, he becomes one of Jesus' closest disciples: trusted, valued and loved. He is accepted, no matter his past, no matter what he's done, no matter who he's been. To the woman who touches the fringe of his cloak, he turns and says: 'Take heart daughter your faith has made you well.' Instead of her impurity tainting him, his wholeness spreads to her, in a healing of both her body and her place in society. These two move from fear at the fringes to full-life in fellowship.

And for all those in our contemporary world who, for whatever reason, find themselves at the fringes of the crowd, we need to hear that nothing has changed. The crowd may not be welcoming, but if we can only make it to the fringe of Jesus' cloak, he will stop in his tracks, and turn to us and say: 'child your faith has saved you.' The crowd may not think that this is place where we can belong, but no matter who we are, what we've done or who we've been, Jesus will speak the same words that still turn lives upside down as he says: 'follow me.' Still, today, Jesus is drawing us from fear at the fringes to full-life in fellowship.

The challenge to the church, that sometimes looks more like the crowd than its fringes, is to live out the same. Will we hear the call of Jesus to welcome all people to discover the fellowship of the church, and the full-life of Christ?

Genesis 12.1-9

The LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, 'To your offspring I will give this land.' So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. And Abram journeyed on by stages towards the Negeb.

Matthew 9.9-13, 18-26

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, 'My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.' And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, 'If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.' Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, 'Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.' And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute-players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, 'Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.' And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

TODAY

9:30am: **Trinity 2** Rev'd Gerard Rundell leads and preaches today

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon 7.30pm, Zoom **Bible Study Group**

Wed 10.00am, Church: **BCP Midweek Eucharist**

Thurs 2:00pm, Community Room – **Chat and Craft**

Sat 10am-12pm, Community Room – **Saturday Café**

Sun 25th 9:30am: **Trinity3** Rev'd Pauline Pearson leads and preaches with readings from Genesis 21.8-21, Romans 6.1b-11 and Matthew 10.24-39 (Rev'd Gerard at St Columba's)

11:30am: **Baptism of Francesca**

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Sat 1st Jul 2-4pm **Summer Fayre**

Sun 2nd Jul 3:00pm **Hannah Malcolm's Ordination** Cathedral

6:30pm **Welcome and Evelyn's Baptism:** St Aidan's

Thurs 6th Jul 2:00pm **Prayer and Praise:** Community Room

8:00pm **Men's Group:** Northern Football Club

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – today's live link: <https://bit.ly/2Trinity23>

BIBLE STUDY GROUP - our Zoom study of St Luke's gospel continues at 7.30pm on Mon 19th June, looking at Luke 19.1-27. All welcome. Zoom link below, or contact Ken Newitt (kmnewitt@outlook.com) for more details.

SUMMER FAYRE – plans are well under way for our summer fayre. Please spread the word, there is loads to look forward to including a cake stall, tombola, raffle, cake raffle, bottle tombola, toys, books, cards, jewellery, jigsaw puzzles, bran tub, eco stall, hot dogs, afternoon tea, welly throwing, treasure trail, face painting and hoopla. This is certainly a fayre not to be missed. We are still looking for a couple more volunteers, please let us know if you are available.

GOSFORTH AND DISTRICT CHOIR – are holding a 'Music for a summers evening' concert on Thursday 22nd June at 7.30pm. Tickets £6, concessions £5, on the door. There will also be refreshments and a raffle.

WELCOME BUFFET FOR HANNAH – (see notice below) if you are able to bring an item for the shared buffet please note on the sheet at the back of church what you will bring so that we know we have a variety of items.

WELCOMING HANNAH MALCOLM – On Sunday 2nd July, 3pm at Newcastle Cathedral, our new Curate, Hannah Malcolm, will be ordained. Anyone who would like to go and support her is very welcome, but places will be limited! **On Sunday 2nd at 6.30pm at St Aidan's**, her new baby Evelyn will be baptised, and there'll be a welcome buffet afterwards. Hannah will then be on maternity leave until late November, though she may be here on Sunday's from time to time to be part of the congregation. Please pray for Hannah, Caleb and Evelyn as they settle into this phase of their lives.

ZOOM CODES – all our Zoom sessions will use only the following details:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStqYjFDSm1KOURtQT09M>
Meeting ID: 757 377 8713 Passcode: StAidan

BOOKING ZOOM MEETINGS: if you would like to use the St Aidan's Zoom account for a church meeting, please contact Janice

CHURCH OPENING – church is open during the day, every day. Please come in at any time for some quiet time or prayer.

USED STAMPS – if you have any used stamps, please save them and put them in the box at the back of church to raise fund for St Oswald's Hospice.

FOOD BANK – any items placed in the box at the back of church will be donated to Kenton Foodbank.

DONATIONS - to make a donation to St Aidan's, please use the following link
<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/8a599239-a9bd-4136-8b4b-1dcabb0a2c65>

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Mark Edwards and St Cuthbert's and St Matthew's. Children and Youth Groups, the Family Service and all involved in our work with children and young people

For the community – Kenton Food Bank

For the world – for Turkey, Syria, Ukraine and all countries facing hardship and conflict. For our own national and political life

For those being baptised: Francesca

For those in need - Gladys Johnston, Esther Wooler, Alan Gregg, Martin Seaton, Alan Phillips

For those who have died – and on their anniversaries: Beatrice Brown, Kenneth Thompson, Miriam Large, Val Hay

CONTACTS: Office: 0191 236 7952

Administrator/Newsletter : Janice Charlton infostaidans@gmail.com

Team Rector: Revd Gerard Rundell 07394 792277 rev.g.rundell@gmail.com

Honorary Assistant Priest: Revd Ben Pullan 07977320895 brpullan@gmail.com

 [St Aidan's Church Brunton Park Newcastle www.staidanschurchbruntonpark.co.uk](https://www.staidanschurchbruntonpark.co.uk)