



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

**Sunday 10th September 2023
Trinity 14**

Through the next weeks, the Lectionary follows the book of Exodus. We began two weeks ago with the birth of Moses, hidden in a basket and found by Pharaoh's daughter. Then last week, if we hadn't been celebrating St Aidan, we would have heard of Moses' encounter with God at the burning bush. That encounter sent him to speak for the people of Israel and demand that Pharaoh let God's people go. Then this Sunday we have the climax of that confrontation. Nine times Moses has demanded that Israel be set free, nine times God has sent a plague on Egypt, and nine times Pharaoh's heart has been hardened. This final time though God sends a plague that will kill the firstborn son of every household.

And so we hear the preparations that the Lord commands for the people of Israel so that their houses may be passed over, and they can be saved. The Israelites slaughter a lamb, and anoint their doorposts with its blood, and then they share in a meal: a Passover meal that 'shall be a day of remembrance for you.' The Passover meal reminds the Israelites, year by year, as they eat it, of the God who, by the blood of lamb, saves them from slavery and leads them to freedom.

And as Christians we hear the depth of resonance in this story. Jesus offers a new Passover and a new salvation. Not one that replaces this great moment in the story of Israel, but one that widens its scope, and deepens its power. A new Passover as salvation and freedom are given to the whole world. Given to a caught in slavery to sin and death. So in Jesus the lamb of God spills his own blood that we too might be saved and set free.

And as Christians we hear the resonance with a new meal that we share. Not year by year, but week by week. A meal of bread and wine that is for us body and blood. A meal that reminds us, as it did the Israelites before us, that we are the people who have come from slavery to freedom. That we trust in the power of God through the blood of the Lamb. That each time we eat this meal, not only do we remember a past moment of salvation, but we too are saved as we become the people of God's great Passover.

Exodus 12.1-14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Matthew 18.15-20

Jesus spoke to his disciples. 'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

TODAY

9:30am: **Trinity 14** : Rev'd Gerard Rundel leads and preaches

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon	7.30pm	Bible Study Group	Zoom details below
Wed	10.00am,	Church:	BCP Midweek Eucharist
Thurs	2:00pm,	Community Room:	Film Club – Downton Abbey
	9.30-4pm:	Minsteracres Retreat Centre:	Quiet Day
Sat	10am-12pm,	Community Room –	Saturday Café
Sun 17th	9:30am,	Trinity 15	Rev'd Gerard Rundell and Mr Bernie Troughton lead our service with readings from Exodus 14.19-31, Romans 14.1-12 and Matthew 18.21-35

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 27 th	7.30pm:	Alpha Course ,	Community Room
Friday 29 th	9-12.30:	Macmillan Coffee Morning ,	Great Park Community Centre
Sun 1 st Oct	9:30am:	Harvest Festival Family Service	
Sun 1 st	1:00pm:	Harvest Fellowship Lunch ,	St Aidan's Community Centre
Wed 4 th	12:00pm:	Lunch Group ,	Northern Rugby Club

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – today's live link: <https://bit.ly/12Trinity2023>

WELCOMERS AND WORSHIP – starting today our welcomers return to our service. They are on hand to guide you and answer any queries. If you need a hymn book or any advice please ask them. You will also notice that our servers have returned to help with communion preparations.

HARVEST FELLOWSHIP LUNCH – following our Harvest Festival service on Sun 1st Oct, at 1.00pm we will be providing a 3-course Harvest lunch in St Aidan's Community Centre. Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for children, obtainable from Ben Pullan, tel. 07977320895 or in church on Sundays (please note that the last day to purchase tickets will be Sunday 24th September).

LUNCH GROUP - will meet on Wed 4th Oct at the Northern Rugby Club at 12:00pm for a 12:30pm meal. Please let Pat or Pauline know if you wish to join us.

ALPHA COURSE – From Wed 27th September, 7.30pm at church, we'll be running an Alpha Course. This is a great chance to explore faith and ask questions about what you believe. Whether you're new to church or not sure what you believe, or whether been coming to church for years and just want to learn and talk more about faith, this is a great chance to do that over food, video input and friendly discussion. Please talk to Gerard if you're interested in joining us.

NEWSLETTER AND PUBLICITY – we are still looking at changes to the newsletter. Please check your emails today and let us know what you think of the new email format. If you'd like to be involved in a working group for the newsletter and generally publicity for church, please contact Gerard.

YOUTH GROUP - our Youth Group has restarted. If you know anyone who might like to join us on Friday's between 5:30pm and 7pm, please let them know (a parent must bring them on their first day).

BIBLE STUDY GROUP - the Bible study group has resumed its study of Luke's gospel on Zoom on Monday's at 7.30 pm. All welcome, Zoom details as below. For further information, contact Ken Newitt, kmnewitt@outlook.com.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING – Ann Cross and Susan Armstrong are holding a coffee morning to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support on Fri 29th Sept, 9.00-12.30, and as an extra collection point for our Harvest collections. They're looking for any prizes that could go on the tombola, and also for people to come along and support. It's a great way to show our presence on the Great Park and support a good cause, so please do help out if you can!

QUIET DAY LED BY FLO NILSSON – Many of you will know Flo Nilsson, a trained Spiritual Director, Retreat Leader and Prayer Guide. She's running a quiet day on prayer at Minsteracres Retreat Centre. The day provides space to look at the questions...What is Prayer? How do we pray? We will look at Images of God and how this can affect our relationship with Him. The day will also provide an opportunity to experience different ways of praying, to help spiritual growth. To book a place contact Minsteracres Retreat Centre. Tel: 01434 673248. Lunch and refreshments are included in the booking price.

ZOOM CODES – all our Zoom sessions will use only the following details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStqYjFDSm1KOURtQT09>

Meeting ID: 757 377 8713 Passcode: StAidan

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 & community – Pauline Pearson and St Columba's. Our Bible Study and prayer groups. St Aidan's Community Centre and Great Park Community Centre, and their Management Committees

For the world – all countries facing hardship and conflict. For our own national and political life

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

For those who have died –and on their anniversaries: Alfred Kaltauf, Lorna Sleight, James Struthers Clark, Margaret Hyde, Andrew Sinclair Anderson, Mary Snaith, Barbara Kindred, Gordon Wright, Eric Davidson, Peter Moll

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