

Reflection for Trinity 9

A phone call with a family member.

Them: I am very upset that schools have stopped doing assemblies!

Me: ?!!!

Them: Nobody is doing assemblies and I think it's terrible shame.

Me: Where have you heard that?

Them: It's in the newspaper. How are children going to gather together and develop a sense of right and wrong, if they don't have assemblies?

Me: Every school I've taught in has had regular assemblies.

Them: No they haven't!

Me: Who do you choose to believe? I have over thirty years of teaching experience in eight schools. They have all had regular assemblies.

Them: Well, that's not what the paper said.

We are all bombarded with different messages each day from different sources. Adverts tell us that with their product we can look younger and more attractive, enjoy increased health or the admiration of our friends. Politicians tell us that they (and only they) have the solution to every one of society's problems.

Who do you choose to listen to? What are your sources of information? How as Christians can we sift through the opposing voices of our time to find the quiet voice of peace?

Rev'd Sarah



**** UNIFORM SWAP ****

Uniform Drop off and Collection
Thursday 18th August 9.30-11am

NEXT SUNDAY 21.08.2022 Trinity 10

SERVICES: 10.30am in Church

READINGS: OT Isaiah 58: 9b-14
NT Hebrews 12: 18-29



GOSPEL Luke 13: 10-17

CONTACT US

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St Thomas, Exeter

14th August 2022

Trinity 9

10.30am in Church

Today

10.30am Sung Eucharist.

Hymns:

94 Come, let us join our cheerful songs.

473 The Church's one foundation.

237 I will sing the wondrous story.

Tuesday 16th August

7.30pm House Group. See Ian for details.

Wednesday 17th August

10am Holy Communion (BCP)

Thursday 18th August

9.30-11am St Thomas Tots.

10.30am Knit & Natter in St Thomas Park.

Friday 19th August

9.30am Morning Prayer.

10am Staff Meeting.



Collect

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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. **Amen**

Jeremiah 23.23–29

Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Hebrews 11.29 – 12.2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions,

quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, without us, be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Luke 12.49–56

'I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law. He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, "There will be scorching heat"; and it happens.

You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

Post Communion

Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

NOTICES

For our services in Church, **mask wearing** is not now compulsory but we would still advise it while infection numbers remain high. If you are coming to coffee, we also recommend wearing a mask until you are seated in the Hall.

Knit and Natter Summer 2022 In June, July and August we will meet in St Thomas Pleasure Ground or at 19 Maple Road according to the weather, every Thursday from 10.30am to mid-day. Details from Jenny on 01392 498725.

Community Larder is receiving donations on Tuesdays from 10-11am. (Note earlier time)

St Thomas Tots are on holiday on 25th August.

