

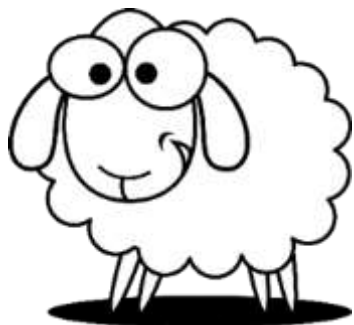
Reflection for Trinity 13

'Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable...

In just a few words, Luke's Gospel sets the scene; painting a picture of who is gathered around Jesus, to be near and to listen, and who is tutting from the sidelines, yet still wanting to be within earshot. Our challenging Gospel reading last week showed Jesus explaining the extraordinary cost of being his disciple. This week we see how different people respond: who draws closer and who holds back? It seems that the discarded, devalued and excluded have drawn near. Those with more status and wealth stand nearby yet need to scoff and scorn.

Take a moment to read this story a few more times. How might it feel to sit near Jesus and to hear these stories? Would it matter that the company was less than ideal or would you fit right in? How might it feel to hear your long held beliefs challenged and ridiculed? Think too about the characters in the parable of the lost sheep - the shepherd, the lost sheep and all those who join in the celebration when the sheep is found.

Rev'd Sarah



FRIDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

WE ARE
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



10am—12noon in the Church.

There is also a Tots Group Coffee Morning on 29th September.

NEXT SUNDAY 18.09.2022 Trinity 14

SERVICES: 10.30am in Church

READINGS: OT Amos 8: 4-7
NT 1 Timothy 2: 1-7



GOSPEL Luke 16: 1-13

CONTACT US

Fr David Nixon 01392 667192. Day off: Mondays
rev.dave@virgin.net

Rev'd Sarah Cumming Curate 07543604115
rev.sarahcumming@gmail.com

Rev'd Alison Whiting Associate Priest
rev.alisonwhiting@gmail.com

Phil Baker, Reader 07970 216740
lionelbaker@outlook.com

Rev'd Terry Litherland 07594633195
tlitherland36@gmail.com

Ian Totterdell Church Warden 01392 848674
07536459096 ian.totterdell@cantab.net

Judith Southam Church Warden
judithsoutham5@gmail.com

Email: parishoffice@stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sttexeter

Website: www.stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

Twitter: @sttexeter

Office Tel: 01392 437486 Messages at any time.



St Thomas, Exeter

11th September 2022

Trinity 13

10.30am in Church

Today

10.30am Sung Eucharist.

Hymns:

422 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven.

287 Just as I am.

392 O thou who camest from above.

Tuesday 13th September

7.30pm House Group on Zoom. New members welcome. Contact Ian for details.

Wednesday 14th September

10am Holy Communion (BCP)

Thursday 15th September

9.30—11am St Thomas Tots.

10.30am Knit & Natter. See notices.

Friday 16th September

9.30am Morning Prayer.

10am Staff Meeting.



Collect

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Exodus 32: 7–14

The LORD said to Moses, 'Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"' The LORD said to Moses, 'I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.' But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, 'O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, "It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth"? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, "I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever." And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.'

1 Timothy 1: 12–17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has

strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Luke 15.1–10

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So Jesus told them this parable: 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.' Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

Post Communion

God our creator, you feed your children with the true manna, the living bread from heaven: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through 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.

Knit and Natter. Dates for September. 15th we will meet at Gwen's. Contact Gwen or Ann for directions. **22nd** in the park or at 19 Maple Road. **29th** in the Church Hall for the later part of Tots Group for a joint Macmillan Coffee Morning. Details from Jenny on 01392 498725.

House Group 13th September, 7.30pm. We are starting a new bible study course. Zoom details from Ian.

Community Larder is receiving donations on Tuesdays from 10-11am. On future Sundays there will also be an opportunity to bring donations to the 10.30 service.

Back to Church Sunday September 18th. Please invite people who have not been to Church recently to join us.

We welcome the family of Noah and Harvey Bird who are being baptised today.

