

SUNDAY 23RD JUNE 2024 - THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

COLLECT

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

A reading from the book of Job (38: 1-11)

The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements – surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb? – when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped'?"

This is the Word of the Lord **R: Thanks be to God**

PSALM 107:1-3. 23-32

R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, and his mercy endures for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
and his mercy endures for ever.

Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

He gathered them out of the lands;
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, and his mercy endures for ever.

Some went down to the sea in ships
and plied their trade in deep waters;

They beheld the works of the Lord
and his wonders in the deep.

Then he spoke and a stormy wind arose,
which tossed high the waves of the sea.

R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, and his mercy endures for ever.

They mounted up to the heavens
and fell back to the depths;
their hearts melted because of their peril.

They reeled and staggered like drunkards
and were at their wits' end.

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.

R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, and his mercy endures for ever.

He stilled the storm to a whisper
and quieted the waves of the sea.

Then were they glad because of the calm,
and he brought them
to the harbour they were bound for.

R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, and his mercy endures for ever.

Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy

and the wonders he does for his children.
Let them exalt him in the congregation of the people
and praise him in the council of the elders.

R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, and his mercy endures for ever.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians (6:1-13)

As we work together with Christ, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see – we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. In return – I speak as to children – open wide your hearts also.

This is the Word of the Lord **R: Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn (we sing the last verse after the proclamation of the Gospel)

Listen to the gospel of Christ according to St Mark (4:35-41)

R: Glory to you, O Lord

When evening had come, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

This is the Gospel of the Lord **R: Praise to you, O Christ**

For our prayers:

That we may live our lives eucharistically in thanksgiving witnessing to the reality of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and in our lives

For all pilgrims to the holy places of the faith and all who support them

All who are caught up in war or conflict

All those without adequate food or shelter

The peoples of Gaza and Israel

& for lasting peace in the Middle East

The people of Ukraine and a just and peaceful end to the war there

Those who suffer as a result of the climate emergency

For responsible stewardship of our planet

For compassion and responsibility in those elected to govern us, and for integrity during the election campaign.

For migrants & refugees, and all forced to flee from their homelands

For the Church:

For the bishops of the Church:

Cherry, Bishop of Monmouth, Philip, Episcopal Visitor of the Society of the Holy Cross in Wales, Justin,

Archbishop of Canterbury. & for all who hold and teach the Catholic faith that comes to us from the Apostles.

All bishops, priests and deacons and all baptised Christians

For the reunion of all Christians: for Pope Francis, for Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew, & for the leaders of the Reformed traditions

For the Severn Wye Ministry Area,
for its priests, licensed lay ministers
and all its people.

For the Sick & those in need:

Kate Price, Fr Micahel Gollop, Roy Staples, Ralph Hamilton, Sylvia;
The Revd Helen Rodwell; Elisabeth; Anne-Louise; Helen; Mary; Peter;
Kenneth Cameron; Ken Reece; Margaret; Margot Davies, Margi; Althea; Eira & Naylor Firth; Ivor Cavill; Jenny Sherwood; James Burnam; Anne Octon, Rita.

For the Departed:

The recently departed: our own departed relatives & friends, and those whose anniversaries of death fall at this time.

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK:

UPDATE ON Kate Price. Fr. Michael reported yesterday: "Kate continues to make slow progress, and remains in ITU in Hospital, in Bristol, but it is looking positive today."

Unfortunately, however, **Fr Michael** himself has had an accident, has leg fractures and is on crutches.

Please continue to remember them in your Prayers.

#####

ST ARVANS PATRONAL FESTIVAL CONCERT on Sunday 23rd June is POSTPONED

#####

Christian Meditation. If you are interested in trying **Meditation**, some of us will be meeting on **Wednesday evening at 7.15pm in St Arvans Church.** We will meditate for 20 minutes before Night Prayer. Do come and take a few minutes for silent contemplation or prayer in the middle of our busy lives.

The **Ministry Area Prayer Group** continues to meet every Thursday at 7.45pm - 9pm. This week we will be in St Christopher's, Bulwark. Please come and join us, or send in your prayer intentions. You can do so by replying to this email, or send them to David Carne at david@bedlambeds.com

Future prayer meetings :
4th July St Mary's Priory, Chepstow
11th July St. Deiniol, Itton
18th July St. James, Devauden
25th July St. Arvans

The Ministry Area Bible Study Group meets every Tuesday in Shirenewton Church Rooms at 2.45pm

We are trialing a new **Text to Donate** scheme. Details will be available in the churches, but it's very easy to do, and especially aimed at visitors who may not be carrying cash, or perhaps those attending a special celebration or a funeral.

An exciting announcement has been made about the new **Hub Church** in Chepstow. This is a Diocesan initiative to bring more families and young people into the church, by developing a new faith community with different styles of worship. It will be based in St Christopher's in Bulwark.

A worship leader and a youth worker will be fully funded for 5 years.

It has now been announced that Zoe and Barney Pimentel will jointly take on the role of Hub leaders, in addition to their role as Ministry Area Leaders - both switching to full time ministry.

An experienced youth worker, Clare Edwards, has also been recruited. The Hub will start up in early September.
