**** St. Mary the Virgin, Baldock.**
**St. Margaret of Antioch, Bygrave.**

*“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”*

12th Sunday after Trinity

Worship on Sunday 22nd August 2021

**Please wear a mask when you are moving around the church until you are sitting down. Please also wear it when you are singing.**

**8am****Communion (traditional words) in church**

*The return of the early morning communion service! The service will take place in the nave this week.*

**9.30am****Communion for All Ages in church**Join us for family friendly worship. Today we are thinking about the
armour God gives us to follow the challenges which Jesus gives in
following him *We are able to sing!! Distancing in the church is removed but
we have designated the south aisle for those who still need to be cautious.*

Those sitting in the nave, in front of the streaming camera, may be visible on the streaming service video. If you would rather not be captured on screen in this way, please speak to a sidesperson who will offer you a seat not visible to the camera. The camera does not capture anyone receiving communion.

**Share in Parish Communion in your own home**

Take part in Parish Communion online either at 9.30am on Sunday or any time during the following week, click on this link: <https://youtu.be/ZKMjAKYfv40>

**11.15am****Parish communion at Bygrave**

Sing and worship together and share in communion.

**Next Sunday’s worship (29th August):**

8am Communion (traditional words)

9.30am Parish Communion

*Morning and Evening prayer are said nearly every day in church.
See Week at a Glance for details and times.*

*Evening Prayer is Zoomed on Monday, Thursday and Saturday (use the link below).*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81188370718?pwd=MVVDelNMbEppRldBYnFpN0NwT1hhQT09>

Meeting ID: 811 8837 0718 Passcode: 188423

*You are warmly invited to join the group of people who find this a valuable anchor for the day.*

 *We have worked really hard to make worship in church as inclusive as possible and as vibrant as possible whilst keeping it as safe as possible. Here are some of the precautions we are taking:*

1. We are asking people to wear their masks until they reach their pews and when they are singing or moving around.
2. We are asking you not to use the south aisle as a thoroughfare unless you are sitting there.
3. We are still keeping a record of who attends for test and trace purposes.
4. We are inviting you to offer your collection when you come in (including contactless giving) rather than bringing the plate round during the offertory hymn
5. We are not asking you to do distance from each other but to be responsible and respectful of those who still wish to do so. We will continue to share the peace with waves rather than handshakes for the time being.
6. We are re-instating the children’s corner and it will be ok for children (and adults) to move around the church when they wish (avoiding the south aisle)
7. We hope to have an increased number of all age style communion until Junior Church restarts.
8. We are continuing to receive communion by walking to the Eucharistic minister and receiving a wafer dipped in the chalice (or just a wafer). People will also be able to receive a blessing when walking to the front as well. There will still be a general blessing afterwards for those watching on the streaming service. Those in the South aisle (who are socially distanced) and those behind the streaming camera near the font are encouraged to go the Eucharistic minister at the back of church.
9. We are serving refreshments after the service but encourage you to take your coffee outside or to a less crowded area.

**Prayers and readings for this Sunday**

**Hymns:**

617Stand up, stand up for Jesus

658 There is a redeemer

70 Be thou my vision

225 God of grace and God of glory

**The Collect**

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**The Old Testament Reading Joshua 24:1-2a,14-18**

1Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. 2And Joshua said to all the people,

14 ‘Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. 15Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.’

16Then the people answered, ‘Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; 17 for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; 18and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.’

**The New Testament Reading Ephesians 6:10-20,**

10Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. 11Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 13Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. 14Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. 15As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. 16With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. 19Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, 20for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

**The Gospel John 6:56-69**

Jesus said to the crowd: 56‘Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. 57Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.’ 59He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

60When many of his disciples heard it, they said, ‘This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?’ 61But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, ‘Does this offend you? 62Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? 63It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. 64But among you there are some who do not believe.’ For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. 65And he said, ‘For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.’

66Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. 67So Jesus asked the twelve, ‘Do you also wish to go away?’ 68Simon Peter answered him, ‘Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. 69We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.’

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish:

West Avenue, Norton Crescent, Gates Court, Norton Road, The Sycamores.

Those in need of healing:

Paula Conder, Penny and Douglas Mitchell, Peter Harris, Oliver Britton, Martin Reed, Dick Haynes, David Dane, Alan Russell, Martyn Gray, Margaret Arthur, Tracy Copping, Karen Kynman, Jean Schurch, Jeanette Jackson, Sheila Wadsworth, Shaun Trussell.

Those who have died recently
Ron Crumpholt

Those whose anniversary of death is remembered this week

Jean Skinner, Margaret Butts, Angela Hunter, Norah Butler, Anne Lewis

**Choir Anthem: Panis angelicus (Bread of the angel host) by**

**César Franck (1822-90)**

**Post Communion**

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Church Appeal update**

**Very many thanks to everyone who has helped deliver leaflets. Please can you help with the last few? The results are really encouraging and we have already passed the £17,000 point.**

June Crumpholt says “A very big thank you for all the cards, letters and flowers which have arrived in memory of my dear Ron. It is such a comfort to myself and to our family. Thank you.”

We are beginning to make more definite plans for the mission next year. More details soon. Please keep praying for this exciting and important initiative. We are planning the mission around the theme of God’s creation and climate change.



**Bike ‘n Hike (or drive!) – Saturday 11th September**

The sponsored *Bike 'n Hike* is an annual fundraising event organised by the Beds and Herts Historic churches Trust. The aim is to raise money both for the Trust and for St Mary’s Church. It is now also possible to drive between churches so there is no excuse not to take part! Please let me know if you would like a sponsorship form and a list of participating churches (both of which can be found on their website: <http://www.b-n-h.co.uk/>) For more details, contact Alex Milne: baldockbenefice@gmail.com

Please note that, due to COVID, there are a number of restrictions in place. More details can be found on the website.

The next communion at Magdalene Court is on Monday 6th September at 10.30am

**Eco Tip Trinity 12:** Hurray! Co-op and Sainsburys are now recycling soft plastic packaging (eg bread bags, food pouches, biscuit wrappers) - Clean it, scrunch it and if it bounces back, you can recycle it.(of course it would be even better not to have so much plastic in the first place ha ha!)

The next **Faith Confirmed** Group will start on Wednesday 22nd September at 7.30pm. See the flyer to be circulated shortly for more information. If you would like to find out more about the Christian Faith or if you would like to be confirmed, this group is for you. Subtitled *‘101 questions about faith you always wanted to know but never dared ask’*. Speak to Andrew if you are interested.

**Admission to Communion:** We are running a small group for children in Year 5 or above to admit them to communion. It will run on three Sunday evenings starting on September 12th at 5pm. If you or your child would like to be part of this group and you have not already responded, please let Andrew know.

**Autumn concert** Baldock Methodist Church and Christian Initiatives in schools are hosting another concert to raise money for the CIS Schools worker. This was a really good night when it first happened a couple of pre-Covid years ago. Make a date now **Friday 17th September 7.30pm at Baldock Methodist Church.**

**Hidden Humour**

**What attracts knights in shining armour even more than damsels in distress?**

Magnets



Our Home Groups are operating on Monday evening at 8pm, Tuesday evening at 7.30pm and Thursday morning at 10.30am. See Week at a Glance for dates.

**The return of Tiny Tots!!**

Tiny Tots runs in church on Wednesdays at 10.30am. Do join us for Christian growth for pre-schoolers and companionship for adults!!

**Junior Choir**

Junior Choir is planned to start in September. Probable time and day: Wednesday 4pm – 4.45pm. Please speak to Madeleine Middleton for more details.

**Forthcoming meetings and events**

The next Community Sponsorship Team meeting is on Sunday 5th September at 5pm

The next PCC at Bygrave is on Tuesday 7th September at 7.30pm

The next Baldock PCC standing Committee is on Wednesday 6th September at 7pm

The next Communion service at Osbourne Court is on Thursday 9th September at 11am

The next Deanery Synod is on Thursday 9th September at 8pm

Next week’s readings: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9, Psalm 15, James 1:17-end, Mark 7:1-8, 14, 15, 21-23.

**WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE**

SUNDAY 22nd 12*th Sunday after Trinity*

 7.20am Morning Prayer in church

 8.00am Holy Communion

 9.30am Communion for All Ages

 11.15am Parish Communion at Bygrave

 3.00pm Baptism of Oliver Fitch

 6.00pm Evening Prayer in Baldock

Mon 23rd 8.40am Morning Prayer in church

5.00pm Evening Prayer in church and on Zoom

Tues 24th *Bartholomew the Apostle*

8.40am Morning Prayer in church

 2.00pm Silent Prayer on Zoom (contact Katrina)
5.00pm Evening Prayer in church

Wed 25th 8.40am Morning Prayer in church

 9.30am Holy Communion

 10.30am Tiny Tots

5.00pm Evening Prayer in church

Thurs 26th 8.40am Morning Prayer in church
2.30pm Funeral of Ron Crumpholt RIP

 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

Fri 27th *Monica, mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387*

 8.40am Morning Prayer in church

5.00pm Evening Prayer in church

Sat 28th *Augustine, bishop, teacher of the faith, 430*

SUNDAY 29th *13th Sunday after Trinity*

 8.00am Holy Communion (Elizabeth Bunker)

 9.30 Parish Communion (Elizabeth Bunker)

Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life?

**CCLI number: 752089**

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