

THE SUNDAY SUPPLEMENT

17th July 2022 – Fifth Sunday after Trinity – Proper 11

This Week

Youth and school activities have now paused for the summer. Bible Study and other groups as notified.

Wednesday

11.30am – Holy Communion, Broughton Mills, followed by refreshments.

Thursday

9am – Coffee, Broughton Methodist Church

10am – Bible Study, Broughton Methodist Church

Friday

5.00pm – Choir practice, St Mary's, Broughton.

WEATHER WARNINGS

An amber warning for high temperatures is in force across the whole of England for Monday and Tuesday, including Cumbria. The London – Manchester - York area is subject to a red warning. Please be mindful of your own health and that of others. Hot, sunny weather can be wonderful, and we think that we are able to cope with it. Please remember to drink plenty of fluids, avoid strenuous exercise, seek out the shade and use sunscreen. Remember also that road surfaces, railway tracks and other transport and power infrastructure can be affected by heat. And that there are increased accidents in and around water at such times. Pray for the emergency services, who will almost certainly be even harder pressed than usual, and for the safety of those visiting coastlines, lakes and rivers. As record-breaking weather becomes ever more frequent, pray about our responsibility for climate change.

READINGS AND PRAYERS

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer
for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Genesis 18:1-10a

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, 'My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on— since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have said.' ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.' ⁷ Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹ They said to him, 'Where is your wife Sarah?' And he said, 'There, in the tent.' ¹⁰ Then one said, 'I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.' And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 15

¹ O Lord, who may abide in your tent?
Who may dwell on your holy hill?

² Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;

³ who do not slander with their tongue,
and do no evil to their friends,

nor take up a reproach against their neighbours;

⁴ in whose eyes the wicked are despised,
but who honour those who fear the Lord;

who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

⁵ who do not lend money at interest,

and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be moved.

Colossians 1:15-28

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Church in Colossae.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him— ²³ provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴ I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵ I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Luke 10:38-end

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

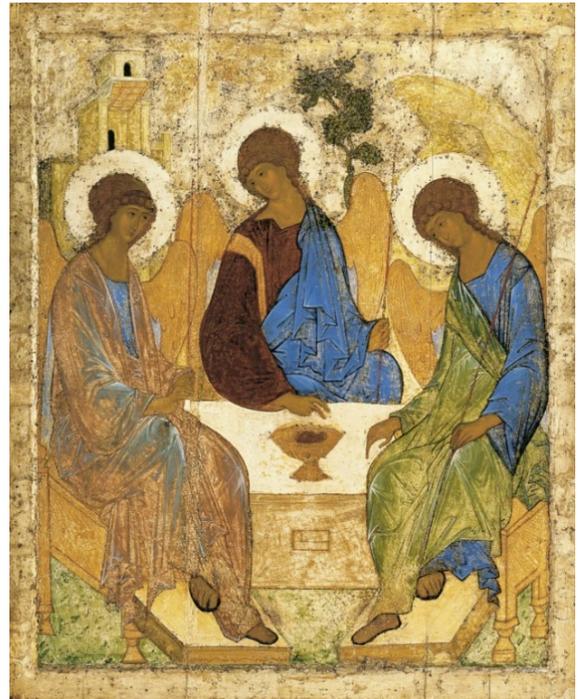
³⁸ Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴² there is need of only one thing. Mary has

chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayer after Communion

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Above: Andrei Rublev's famous icon of the Holy Trinity, represented by the three travellers at the Oaks of Mamre. Notice the strange mixture of plural and singular in Genesis 18:1 to 3. One Lord ("Yhwh") appears from nowhere, and yet three men are standing before Abraham (who prostrates himself as if in the presence of the divine) whom he then addresses as one single Lord ("Adonai"). Can we fathom this mystery of the Trinity, or indeed of the Incarnation, touched upon by Paul in Colossians 1:15-20? This Jesus Christ is the (visible) image of a God who is invisible. He is the firstborn of all creation, and yet all things were created in and through him. In him, all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

Do we listen to this mysterious God when he speaks, as Mary does, or do we allow ourselves to be distracted by the things we believe to be important, like Martha? Do we fall down and worship before the mysteries of God, and then serve him, like Abraham and his household? Or do we believe that we have fathomed some of the mysteries better, and know better than others, what true religion and virtue look like?