

THE SUNDAY SUPPLEMENT

25th July 2021 – The Eighth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 12)



Left: *La multiplication des pains* (The Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes), James Tissot (1836-1902). The feeding of the five thousand is depicted on the terraced slopes of a hill and has the upland colouration of many of Tissot's Gospel scenes. The tiny figure of Jesus as supreme servant is placed in the background and can hardly be seen (upper right, behind a rock). So also Jesus' many followers are in places hardly distinguishable from the bare white rock, to which Jesus once compared his flawed disciple Peter.

NOTICES

Baptisms today

Please pray for Charlie Davenport and Henry Rawlinson coming to baptism this Sunday at Broughton (11am) and Kirkby (1.30pm).

Relaxation of Covid restrictions

Although legal restrictions have been entirely lifted, the highly infectious delta variant of Covid 19 is still very prevalent and large sections of the population are not yet vaccinated.

We are relaxing restrictions cautiously in all our churches and, where relevant, maintaining precautions where that will offset the higher risk profile of activities such as singing, to which we would like to return.

Please play your part by maintaining social distance. Face coverings are no longer legally required, but please use them to protect others.

Please observe guidance as you enter church and listen for announcements at each service. Greater care will be needed in smaller churches, busy services, or where there are significant numbers of visitors. These are all privileges that we enjoy regularly, so we will need to remain vigilant over the summer and see what the end of the summer holidays and return to school brings.

READINGS AND PRAYERS

Collect

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern
both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws
and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection,
both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
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.

2 Kings 4:42-end

A reading from the Second Book of Kings.

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, 'Give it to the people and let them eat.'⁴³ But his servant said, 'How can I set this before a hundred people?' So he repeated, 'Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the Lord, "They shall eat and have some left."' ⁴⁴ He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 145:10-19

- ¹⁰ All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
and all your faithful shall bless you.
¹¹ They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom,
and tell of your power,
¹² to make known to all people your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures
throughout all generations.

The Lord is faithful in all his words,
and gracious in all his deeds.

- ¹⁴ The Lord upholds all who are falling,
and raises up all who are bowed down.
¹⁵ The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.
¹⁶ You open your hand,
satisfying the desire of every living thing.
¹⁷ The Lord is just in all his ways,
and kind in all his doings.
¹⁸ The Lord is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.
¹⁹ He fulfils the desire of all who fear him;
he also hears their cry, and saves them.

Ephesians 3:14-end

A reading from the letter to the church in Ephesus.

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶ I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷ and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸ I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever.
Amen.

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

John 6:1-21

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

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ² A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³ Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴ Now the Passover,

the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵ When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' ⁶ He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷ Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' ⁸ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹ 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' ¹⁰ Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹ Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹² When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' ¹³ So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴ When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

¹⁵ When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶ When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, ¹⁷ got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸ The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹ When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰ But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' ²¹ Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

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

Prayer after Communion

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise
be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love
shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies
which have been fed with your body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.