

If you are visiting us today for the first time, you are most welcome and we hope you enjoy the worship. The tower room at the back of the church is available during the services for young children and parents, if required. Primary school children are invited to join in the Sunday school activities, which takes place in church during the 10.00am service. Younger children are also welcome to join Sunday school, as long as they are accompanied by a parent. For information, there is a toilet at the back of the church.

Hearing Aid Users can tune in to the services on the 'T' position.

Do ask a member of the congregation if you need any help during the service.

If you would like make a donation to the running of the church, you are invited to put your offering in a yellow envelope, which you will find on the pews. Your donation can be gift aided if you print your name, full address including postcode, and sign the envelope and then we are able to reclaim the tax. Thank you.

Collect

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Summer Fete 2019 - Date for your diary

Please note that this year's summer fete will be held on **Saturday 22nd June** instead of the traditional date of first Saturday in July. Please help spread the word far and wide!

WEEKLY INTERCESSIONS

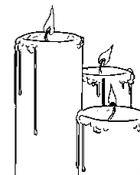
In your prayers this week, please pray for all Christians across the world.

In our local community, please pray for the residents of Tanfield Lane, and all associated with Abington House of Fun Youth Drop in Centre.

Please pray for those who are sick, naming especially, Rachel Waters, Jill Pickard, Roger Hasdell, Nikki Pearcey, John Cumberpatch, Sarah Raven, Verity, Michael Aiers, David Adams and Ellen.

Your prayers are requested for the following people who have long term health conditions, are increasingly frail, or are unable to get to church: John Stewart, Brenda Wilson, Frank Knight, and Ruth Markie.

Please also pray for the faithful departed, and for Helen Skinner, Richard Young, and all those whose Year's Mind occurs at this time.



Intercessions for people in need

If you, or someone you know, would like to be prayed for, please would you let either Victoria or Cathy Tinsley (07516979223) know and we will add the person to the Sunday intercessions. Thank you.

Gospel Reading

John 20: 19 - end

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Forthcoming Dates

Mothers' Union

MU next meet on **Tuesday 30th April** at 2.30pm in St Ragner's Chapel at St Christopher's Home. The residents of St Christopher's really enjoy our visits so please come along and enjoy a time of worship and fellowship together.

Big Breakfast

Once again, we are holding the Big Breakfast. It will be on **Saturday 18th May** between 9.00am and 11.30am. Like last year, there will be a choice between a cooked breakfast or a lighter continental. The cost is £5.00 per ticket and I am asking that tickets are bought in advance so we know numbers for catering. Please see Jeanette or Donald for tickets.

MU Deanery Service

Members of Abington MU have been invited to the Deanery Service at Holy Trinity Church, Balmoral Road, on **Saturday 18th May** at 2.30pm. Holy Trinity Mothers' Union are celebrating their centenary year in 2019 so it would be really good if we could support this event. Please would you let Cathy (07516979223) know by the end of April if you will be attending the service. Lifts can be arranged if required. Thank you.

Weekday Summer Opening

If you are able to help with church sitting again this year, please sign up on the lists at the back of the church. This is the seventh year that we have had the church open each day and many visitors take the opportunity to come in to pray, so do think about helping out in this way. For further information, please see Liz Kelly. Thank you.

First Reading

Acts 5: 27 - 32

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Psalm 150

1 Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!

2 Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

3 Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

4 Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!

5 Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

6 Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!

Second Reading

Revelation 4: 1 - 10

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, 'Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.'

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing.