

## **Sunday June 19<sup>th</sup> 2022:** Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*For use by the Central Norfolk Circuit at 10.30 am or other suitable time.*



### **Hymn StF 27**

Jesus, we are here / Jesus, we are here / Jesus, we are here / we are here for you.

Master, we are here / Master, we are here / Master, we are here / we are here for you.

Spirit, we are here / Spirit, we are here / Spirit, we are here / we are here for you.

Jesu, tawa pano x 3 / tawa pano, mu zita renyu (*original Shona*).

Patrick Matsilenyiri (b 1937) no. 667973

### **Prayer**

Offer to God your own praise, thanksgiving, confession and then be assured of God's love and forgiveness. Perhaps sing a verse or two of the first hymn again.

**Psalm set for today:** Psalm 42 (and, optionally, Psalm 43 – which is similar and ends in the same way)

### **To think about**

What is helpful about these psalms (42 and 43) being in the Bible?

**Gospel Reading set for today:** Luke 8 v 26 – 39

**Hymn StF 653 H&P 395** (sing to the tune of 'On Jordan's Bank' StF 182)

O Christ, the Healer, we have come / to pray for health, to plead for friends.

How can we fail to be restored / when reached by love that never ends?

From every ailment flesh endures / our bodies clamour to be freed;

yet in our hearts we would confess / that wholeness is our deepest need.

How strong, O Lord, are our desires / how weak our knowledge of ourselves!

Release in us those healing truths / unconscious pride resists or shelves.

In conflicts that destroy our health / we diagnose the world's disease;

our common life declares our ills / is there no cure, O Christ, for these?

Grant that we all, made one in faith / in your community may find

the wholeness that, enriching us / shall reach the whole of humankind.

Fred Pratt Green (1903 – 2000) no. 667973

### **Message from a Circuit friend**

For some reason Jesus has crossed the sea of Galilee. Perhaps he wanted, for a time, to escape the prying eyes of Herod Antipas' people or perhaps he was hoping for a short time of quiet rest and reflection - something we all need at times. Jesus had been busy teaching, healing and reaching out to all he met, telling of God's love for them. This journey takes Jesus into Gentile territory, although Jews would be living there, they would have nothing to do with pigs, as under their religious laws. The man had been living among the burial caves and tombs for a long time. He must have been a pitiful sight – a fragmented personality at the mercy of conflicting impulses and emotions, totally incapable of living a normal life. However, there is no peace to be had – the man filled the air with his screaming and yelling; "What do you want with me Jesus, Son of God?"

Jesus remains calm in the face of this man's aggression, recognising that he needed help and healing from the demons that were controlling him. It can be easy to become wrapped up in insecurities, anger and hurts. Do we cling to a false image of ourselves, to our need for approval and to be understood? Or can we be obsessed with the need to be right and in control? Jesus healed the man, and called him to a life of wholeness and salvation. Something that he offers to each and everyone of us, calling us away from the

nets and knots of our life, into his care and concern.

The crowd return and are amazed to find the man transformed, but are we too concerned with our job, our status, our reputation that we don't grasp the opportunity and therefore miss out on so much – the closeness of Jesus. The man longed to go with Jesus but Jesus said no, return home and tell them what God has done for you. He had much to tell for he had known the worst of times, living among the caves and tombs, far from home and family. Now he has experienced the wholeness of a life lived with God. We need to remember that we are just where God has placed us to proclaim what he has done for each of us. To be Christ's light in the world and tell out the Good News of Jesus, Saviour of us all.

**Avril Temple (Local Preacher, and member of Sculthorpe & Fakenham Methodist Church)**

**If you would like to pray for healing for yourself, someone else, or the world:**

*If praying for yourself, have a little oil (olive oil or any oil) beside you, if for someone else, have their photo or something else that represents them.*

Sit quietly, and reflect on this verse:

Heal me, Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise.

Jeremiah 17 v 14

Reflect that sometimes God does heal physically, sometimes God does work through other people, sometimes God reveals some thing about ourselves that needs attention, sometimes the answer to prayer is not what we want. However! God always does answer prayer and always, always, offers wholeness.

Heal me, Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise.

Jeremiah 17 v 14

When you are ready, pray this prayer from the Iona Community and make the sign of the cross with the oil on your hand or forehead. If praying for someone else, hold their photo or the object that represents them:

'Spirit of the living God, present with me (us) now, enter me (you), body, mind and spirit, and heal me (you) of all that harms you, in Jesus' name. Amen.'

Sit quietly until you are ready to move on.



### **Prayers of Intercession**

Pray for the world, for our country, for your community, for yourself and those you love.

**Offer to God your offertory for the week, and say the Lord's Prayer...**

**Hymn StF 255 H&P 139**

The kingdom of God / is justice and joy / for Jesus restores / what sin would destroy;  
God's power and glory / in Jesus we know/ and here and hereafter / the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God / is mercy and grace / the prisoners are freed / the sinners find place,  
the outcast are welcomed/ God's banquet to share/ and hope is awakened/in place of despair.

The kingdom of God / is challenge and choice / believe the good news / repent and rejoice!  
His love for us sinners/ brought Christ to his cross / our crisis of judgement / for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come / the gift and the goal / in Jesus begun / in heaven made whole;  
the heirs of the kingdom / shall answer his call / and all things cry glory / to God all in all!

Bryan Rees (1911 – 1983)

**May the blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us, and all those we love, this day and always, Amen.**

**Connexional News:** The Methodist Conference meets from June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> in Telford, Shropshire. Please pray for everyone preparing for the Conference, and for the Ordinations that will take place next Sunday.