



**UNITED BENEFICE OF CORLEY
PARISH CHURCH & ST MARY & ALL
SAINTS CHURCH, FILLONGLEY WITH
FILLONGLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

Anglicans and Methodists in Unity.



Dear Friends,

First, I'd like to apologise to anyone that received a scam email or text message purporting to be from me this week. Unfortunately, one of the joys of having one's contact details in the public domain is that unscrupulous people can access them. This isn't the first time that this has happened and I'm afraid that it probably won't be the last. This week's version asked people to buy a Google Play voucher for 'a woman having cancer treatment in hospital'. The scammers use emotive language that is designed to touch our hearts and make us more vulnerable to their schemes. Receiving such a request from a trusted person such as a vicar or doctor also makes the scheme seem more plausible. So I do encourage you to exercise caution if you receive such a message unexpectedly from a source that you would usually trust. One of the issues with such scams, is that vouchers like Google Play can be used instead of cash, and don't need any form of identification. This makes them a favourite of scammers. Please be assured that I would never contact you by text or email to ask you to buy me a voucher of any sort. If you do receive such a message then I would be grateful if you would let me know and then report the request to Action Fraud <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk> or 0300 123 2040. Action Fraud is the national fraud and cyber-crime reporting centre.

There may however, be occasions when I suggest charities that might need your support. Such as <https://www.vaccinaid.org> that I mentioned last week – UNICEF's campaign to support vaccination in poorer countries.

Or perhaps mention a church appeal for a specific fundraising project but I would never ask you for a voucher or personal donation. Scams like this leave both the person who is targeted and the person they are impersonating feeling vulnerable and violated. The thought of anyone being taken advantage of, because of their trust in me, made me feel sickened.

This cynical use of my identity to defraud others got me thinking about identity and who we do trust. Not too many years ago, we knew who to trust. The police, the doctor, bank manager, solicitor, the vicar and other professionals as well as people know to us personally. Of course in every barrel there are one or two bad apples but fortunately they were few and far between. The rise of the Internet and the variety of ways that we interact with people and organisations have made it more difficult to know instinctively who to trust. When we use the Internet for shopping, banking and socialising we are less likely to have the 'alarm bells' ring when we receive an

Stop press
Services for
Sunday 23rd May 2021
9:00 am Fillongley
10:30am Corley
Sunday 30th May 2021
9:00 am Fillongley
10:30 am Corley
Please bring and wear a
face covering



unsolicited message from one of our contacts. The advice from anti-fraud organisations is to always cut short the call/don't respond to the message and then independently verify the source of the message. This can be done by checking the telephone number or address that the communication comes from, using a trusted source. Regrettably, there will always be those who will try to abuse our trust in others. I am not suggesting that we all become fearful, but just to exercise a little caution with requests for money or vouchers, even if it is from an apparently legitimate source.

One sure source of our identity is through Christ. When we follow the teaching of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ we have a secure understanding of who we are and who we belong to. The security of being in Christ gives us confidence to be in the world even when the world feels a little hostile. It is so wonderful to be able to gather in-person in church at the moment to worship together. Gathering together gives us a sense of community and strength against the darkness that can be in the world. This Sunday we celebrate Pentecost. The day that the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus' disciples and transformed them from disciples into apostles. They went out from Jerusalem empowered by the Holy Spirit to share the Good News about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. When those first believers gathered together they formed the first church, so we celebrate Pentecost as the church's birthday. This year we won't be able to share birthday cake as we normally might, but we will still be able to celebrate together the great gift of the Holy Spirit.

When I was planning some of the worship for Sunday I included one of my favourite hymns 'Be Still for the Presence of the Lord'. The verse continues 'the Holy One is here'. A wonderful sentiment not just for church, but for all aspects of our lives. Wherever we are and wherever we go the Holy One, the Holy Spirit is with us. A very comforting thought when we are feeling lonely or afraid. If you have a favourite hymn or worship song then you might want to send me an email so I can add it to my list of Corley and Fillongley's favourite hymns for the Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving service planned for Sunday 4th July. It would be great to have a diverse range of songs to sing together outside in the churchyard at Fillongley.

If my newsletter this week has made you uncomfortable or has raised any difficult issues for you, then please do not hesitate to contact me, Revd Jane or any of the church team. Sometimes a conversation is all we need to put our mind at rest. Please do take good care of yourself and each other and God bless you and yours.

Love and prayers

Ali

Your invitation to our Service of the Word Sunday at 5pm on ZOOM

Ali Massey is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Service of the Word

Time: Mar 21, 2021 05:00 PM London

Every week on Sun, until Jun 27, 2021,

Join Zoom Meeting



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85475380558?pwd=WUUhUQ1ZyOEhhSzhhUVlWexAXQU9lUT09>

Meeting ID: 854 7538 0558 Passcode: 572740

EDITION 61.62

<https://fillongleyandcorleychurch.wordpress.com/>

Wednesday, 19 May 2021

Readings and Prayers for
Sunday 23rd May 2021 ~ The Day of Pentecost
Sunday 30th May 2021 ~ Trinity Sunday

The Day of Pentecost

Collects

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings

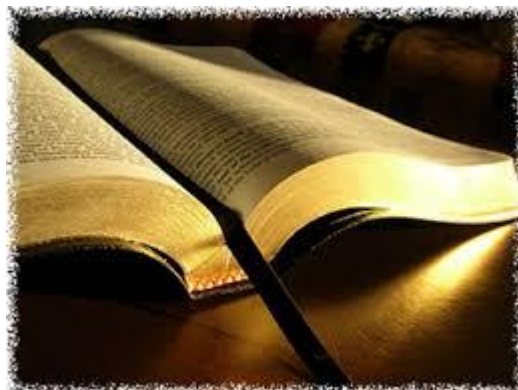
Acts 2: vs 1-21

Ezekiel 37: vs 1-14

Psalms 104

Romans 8: vs 22-27

John 15: 26-27, 16: 4b-15



Trinity Sunday

Collects

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Readings

Isaiah 6: vs 1-8

Psalm 29

Romans 8 vs 12-17

John 3: vs 1-17



Reflection

A Reflection from Revd Ali for Pentecost Sunday is attached to this Bulletin. Revd Jane's reflection for Trinity Sunday is found within the order of service for Trinity Sunday ~ The Covenant Service.

HYMNS & WORSHIP SONGS

Here are the Hymns that we would have been singing in Church this Sunday:-

Pentecost Sunday

Come down O love divine (StF 372)

Spirit of God, unseen as the wind (StF 394)

This one may be new to some of you, but as you can see it is sung to a familiar tune~

[Spirit of God \(The Skye Boat Hymn\) - Lyric-Video | Spatz auf dem Dach - YouTube](#)

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire (StF 373)

The spirit lives to set us free (StF 397)

Trinity Sunday

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty (StF 11)

And here is everyone's favourite hymn for Trinity Sunday ~ Enjoy singing along.

[Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty - Bing video](#)

Father, we love you, we worship and adore you (StF 6)

To God be the glory (StF 94)

With gladness we worship (StF 17)

Love divine all loves excelling (StF 503)

PRAYERS

We continue to pray for all those affected by the global pandemic in any way.

A Prayer from Archbishop Stephen of York

Loving God, when I'm feeling lost or lonely or afraid or uncertain of the way ahead, be my guide, a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. And today help me to be a good companion to those I meet.



A Prayer of Praise

Faithful God, help me to understand myself, so that even in the most difficult times I may know your presence with me and may sing your praises, defiantly praising your goodness even when there is so much that is wrong. And today, help me show others the good things I receive in Christ and show the world his way.

A sonnet for Pentecost

Today we feel the wind beneath our wings
Today the hidden fountain flows and plays
Today the church draws breath at last and sings
As every flame becomes a Tongue of praise.
This is the feast of fire, air, and water
Poured out and breathed and kindled into earth.
The earth herself awakens to her maker
And is translated out of death to birth.
The right words come today in their right order
And every word spells freedom and release
Today the gospel crosses every border
All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace
Today the lost are found in His translation.
Whose mother-tongue is Love, in every nation.

Malcolm Guite

A poem for Trinity Sunday

In the Beginning, not in time or space,
But in the quick before both space and time,
In Life, in Love, in co-inherent Grace,
In three in one and one in three, in rhyme,
In music, in the whole creation story,
In His own image, His imagination,
The Triune Poet makes us for His glory,
And makes us each the other's inspiration.
He calls us out of darkness, chaos, chance,
To improvise a music of our own,
To sing the chord that calls us to the dance,
Three notes resounding from a single tone,
To sing the End in whom we all begin;
Our God beyond, beside us and within.

Malcolm Guite

Poet's Corner 14 MAY 2021 CHURCH TIMES

In Jesus College Chapel, *Malcolm Guite* is moved to hear a choir sing again



I HAD great joy the other Sunday to be present in person when a real choir was actually singing! How easily we took all that for granted, especially those of us who were college chaplains and got used to hearing exquisite music sung live in worship every Sunday evening, as though it were an unassailable custom and always ours by right.

But my first return to a college chapel in more than a year felt like a privilege and a gift: no mere return to normal, but an unexpected plenitude, an unmerited grace. The choir — robed in red; for this was Jesus College — stood in the wide space of the crossing of the chapel, socially distanced from one another and from us, each on their allotted square on the floor, like carefully placed chess pieces, and, suddenly, without introduction or announcement, the glorious opening of Purcell's setting of "Rejoice in the Lord always, and again, I say, rejoice," rose from their lips and filled the air, and all our hearts and minds were lifted with the music. I thought of Herbert's lovely lines in "Church Music":

*Sweetest of sweets, I thank you: when
displeasure
Did through my bodie wound my minde,
You took me thence, and in your house of
pleasure
A daintie lodging me assign'd.
Now I in you without a bodie move,
Rising and falling with your wings:
We both together sweetly live and love. . .*

And the sense of rising and falling on the wings of the music also made me think of the transformative moment in *The Ancient Mariner*, when, after his long lonely agony (for *Mariner* is a lockdown poem if ever there was one), the Mariner hears angels sing their morning hymn through the bodies of his shipmates:

*For when it dawned — they dropped their
arms,
And clustered round the mast;
Sweet sounds rose slowly through their
mouths,
And from their bodies passed.
Around, around, flew each sweet sound,
Then darted to the Sun;
Slowly the sounds came back again,
Now mixed, now one by one. . .
And now 'twas like all instruments,
Now like a lonely flute;
And now it is an angel's song,
That makes the heavens be mute.*

Coleridge was very much in my mind; for I had been invited to preach about his beautiful theology of imagination. He was an undergraduate at Jesus, and, of course, worshipped in that very chapel. His career as an undergraduate was chequered, to say the least, and he never took his degree; but, in the fullness of time and at the peak of his powers, he returned to the Trinitarian faith preached and celebrated in that chapel, and I was able to share with some of the students

something of his insight that we are all, at every moment, being spoken or sung into being by God — that we too are part

*. . . Of that eternal language, which thy God
Utters, who from eternity doth teach
Himself in all, and all things in himself.*

But, in the end, I felt that it was not my sermon but the music that filled and renewed that place: the music of Purcell, and Gibbons, and Byrd which was really transformative, which spoke the “eternal language” and lifted all our hearts.

Malcolm Guite is a poet, priest and singer-songwriter. He is a Chaplain of Girton College and Associate Chaplain of St Edward King and Martyr in Cambridge, and is the author of many anthologies of poetry. He is a weekly columnist in the Church Times where he writes the very popular ‘Poet’s Corner’ which is now included here each week for you to enjoy.

RESOURCES

Attached to this Bulletin are these items ~

- ✚ A Reflection from Revd Ali for the Day of Pentecost
- ✚ Order of Service for Holy Communion at Corley Church 23rd May
- ✚ Order of Service for Holy Communion at Fillongley Church 23rd May
- ✚ Order of Service for Evening Prayer on Zoom 5pm Sunday
- ✚ Order of Service for Holy Communion at Corley Church 30th May
- ✚ Order of Service for The Covenant Service at Fillongley 30th May
- ✚ *Actions louder than words ~ supporting those suffering from dementia*

Church Times 14 May 2021



AND FINALLY DON'T FORGET

If there is anything that you need or know of someone who would appreciate being contacted or added to the mailing list for this weekly e-bulletin, please do not hesitate to contact Revd Ali, Revd Jane or any of the Churchwardens and Church Stewards listed below. ⁱ

ⁱ *Contact Details:*

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