

# Sunday 4 September 2022

## 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

### Navigating Decisions!

#### Notices

- Pitchforks at Hethel – 2-5pm, Today!
- RIP Evelyn Smith – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Sep, 2pm
- Sponsored Cycle Ride – 10 Sep – forms at back
- Church Social Evening – from 7pm, Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October at Mulbarton Social Club

### Introduction & Welcome

#### Special Prayer for Today

God of constant mercy,  
who sent your Son to save us:  
remind us of your goodness,  
increase your grace within us,  
that our thankfulness may grow,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

#### Song: Lord, I come to You

#### Receiving God's Forgiveness

Let us call to mind where we need God's ever available grace:

O God, for the times when we have closed our eyes to what is good for us,  
behaved in ways that dishonour who we were made to be,  
and ignored the value you have given us –  
forgive us for these choices:

Lord have mercy.

**Lord have mercy.**

O God, when we have treated others and ourselves badly and, in doing so, mistreated you,  
restore us to peace and clarity,  
help us to re-assess where we are going;  
open our minds to new ways of thinking  
and our hearts to your gentle leading:

Christ have mercy.

**Christ have mercy.**

O God, where we have rushed ahead, unprepared, grant us renewed wisdom,  
a healthy view of ourselves

and a place to pause to right ourselves,  
so that we can be ready to follow you:  
Lord have mercy.  
**Lord have mercy.**

May the God of love and power  
Forgive us and free us from our sins,  
Heal and strengthen us by His Spirit,  
And raise us to new life  
in Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### Our Influencers

- Habit, convenience, value, taste
  - Others' opinions/advice
  - Environmental impact
- Limited options or limited capacity
  - ...?

### Jesus teaches a crowd

#### CAST

- Jesus
- Architect
- 2 soldiers
- Crowd

### Luke 14.25-33 (NIV)

<sup>25</sup> Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: <sup>26</sup> "If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple.

<sup>27</sup> And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

<sup>28</sup> "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? <sup>29</sup> For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, <sup>30</sup> saying, 'This person began to build and wasn't able to finish.'

<sup>31</sup> "Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won't he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace.

<sup>33</sup> In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

### Navigating Decisions: Short Reflection

- Counting the Cost
  - Love and Hate
- Families don't define us!
- We have choices to make

### The Profession of Faith:

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son, Jesus Christ, who redeemed the world?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

**Song: Cornerstone**

**Sharing Journeys**

**Song: Reckless Love**

### Pakistan Flooding – Tearfund Appeal

#### Tearfund Prayer Pointers:

- The Disasters Emergency Committee, of which Tearfund is a part, has launched an emergency appeal. Pray that this raises the funds required to reach the most vulnerable people.
- Pray for those who have lost their loved ones. Ask God to draw near to them and comfort them in this time of grief.

- Pray for provision for people who have lost their belongings, homes, livestock and livelihoods. Ask God to give them courage and strength.
- Pray for people with mobility issues, for pregnant and nursing mothers, and for unaccompanied children, all of whom are especially vulnerable at this time.
- Pray for protection from illness, as flooding brings the risk of waterborne diseases.
- Pray for wisdom, energy and resources for local, national and international leaders as they respond to this crisis.
- As the crisis continues, pray for strength and energy for healthcare workers and other first-responders.
- Pray that governments around the world will take the immediate, strong action that is necessary to tackle the climate crisis and support vulnerable countries.

**‘The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.’ (James 5:16)**

Loving God,  
 We cry out for the people of Pakistan.  
 May your saving power rest upon that nation.  
 May there be rescue. May there be recovery. May there be restoration.  
 In the name of Jesus, may the floodwaters recede.  
 In the name of Jesus, may the suffering find comfort and provision.  
 In the name of Jesus, may there be an outpouring of support  
 from the church and the international community.  
 Amen.

### **Our Prayers**

Concluding with:

Lord Jesus,  
 help me to follow you always.  
 When I have a choice to make,  
 help me to know what is the wise one.  
 Show me when my choices  
 could hurt other people, or the world.  
 Give me the courage always  
 to choose your way of love.  
**Amen.**

### **The Lord’s Prayer**

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,  
 as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:  
**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

**Song: Good Good Father**

**Closing Blessing**

The Lord bless us and watch over us,  
the Lord make his face to shine upon us  
and be gracious to us, the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among us and remain with us always.  
**Amen.**