

Sunday 5 April 2020

Church Hill Anglican

St Philip's and The Garrison Church

From Justin:

John writes (2 John v12):

'I have much to write to you, but I do not want to use paper and ink. Instead, I hope to visit you and talk with you face to face, so that our joy may be complete.'

'Paper and ink', is, of course, an innovation in technology, like what you'll experience today. There was a time when there was no paper and ink. And yet the letters of the New Testament are almost all about expressing unity in Christ, from a distance. The Epistles assume physical distancing. Sometimes, Paul will talk about being 'present in the Spirit', but mostly, he writes from the heartache of distance.

This is contrasted with the Gospels, which is almost exclusively about 'presence'. Jesus' presence. The Gospels are story after story of Jesus touching and healing and speaking to people in his presence. Occasionally, he sends a note ('you tell that fox' to Herod, and a gentle word to John the Baptist in prison). But the Gospel is about presence.

So it is no wonder that 'face-to-face' is our goal.

The Staff have been very busy this week, and maybe they want to say:

'We have much to talk about, but we do not want to use Zoom. Instead, we hope to visit you and talk with you face to face, so that our joy may be complete.'

We'll get there, in the Lord's timing, and with prayer.

In the meantime, consider this from John (2 John v8):

'Watch out that you do not lose what we have worked for...'

Please consider the three action Items on Page 12 in order for us all to move forward in faith: use A Year With Jesus; reach out to us if you need or can give a hand; and -- if you are a blessed one -- consider your giving to Church Hill in this season. We move in faith, and yet we make prudent choices. We want to gain and not lose ground for the Kingdom of God.

Enjoy this Service.

If you have any questions or issues, you can call a staff member, you'll find their contact details on page 13. You can also check our website www.churchhillanglican.com.

**FOR THOSE MEETING IN
A GROUP SETTING, USE
THESE SIDE BOXES TO
GUIDE YOU**

You could watch the 3
minute introduction by
Justin if you like.



**YOU COULD THEN PAUSE
NOW AND ASK 'WHAT
ARE YOU LOOKING
FORWARD TO IN OUR
TIME TOGETHER?' LET
OTHERS SHARE.**

Press PLAY on the
YouTube video when you're
ready, and don't take too
much time.

Kids, don't forget to go to
www.churchhillanglican.com
to download the Kids'
Activity Pack.



Why not underline every
time in the service where
a child or a parent is
mentioned (like a son or a
father).

**ROWAN WILL CALL US TO
WORSHIP**

Call To Worship

Romans 8:14-17

¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, 'Abba, Father.' ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. ¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

**IF YOU FEEL
COMFORTABLE, WHY NOT
SING THIS SONG WITH
ANDY AND EMMA?**

Take the risk. God hears the heart. Or just listen to it if you feel awkward about singing.

The Love Of The Father

Lift up your voices and lift up your praise
Join with the heavens declaring
The wonders of his faithfulness
Forever

Sing of the victory the hope of the world
The Saviour has risen
The Spirit has come to bring us into love
Forever

*Oh we are the people of God
With the freedom of hope in our hearts
How great is the love of the Father*

Lifted from darkness and into the light
The sons and the daughters are loved at a price
Our God has made us his
Forever

This is the song of the redeemed
The ransomed and the free
Given life at such a price
This is love this is love
And when the Father calls us home
And we see him on the throne
Hear the voices sing as one
This is love this is love

*James Ferguson | Rich Thompson
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Call To Confession

Luke 15:18-20a

The Prodigal son said:

“I will arise and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.”

So he got up and went to his father.

WORDS IN BOLD ARE SAID
TOGETHER

Confession

Heavenly Father,

**we praise you for adopting us as your children
and making us heirs of eternal life.**

**In your mercy you have washed us from our sins
and made us clean in your sight.**

**Yet we still fail to love you as we should
and serve you as we ought.**

**Forgive us our sins and renew us by your grace,
that we may continue to grow as members of Christ,
in whom alone is our salvation. Amen.**

Assurance Of Forgiveness

Luke 15:20b-24

‘But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms round him and kissed him.

²¹ ‘The son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.”

²² ‘But the father said to his servants, “Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.” So they began to celebrate.

We know the father’s justifying love through his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

**IF YOU FEEL
COMFORTABLE, WHY NOT
SING THIS SONG?**

Take the risk. God hears the heart. Or just listen to it if you feel awkward about singing.

The Lord's My Shepherd

The Lord's my Shepherd I'll not want
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green he leadeth me
The quiet waters by

My soul he doth restore again
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness
E'en for his own name's sake

Yea though I walk in death's dark vale
Yet will I fear no ill
For thou art with me and thy rod
And staff me comfort still

My table thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes
My head thou dost with oil anoint
And my cup overflows

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling place shall be

Francis Rous | Jessie Seymour Irvine | William Whittingham
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Consider this:

“The Creed is not written on paper or parchment, but is retained in the hearts of the faithful” (Rufinus, Commentary 2 [NPNF2 3:543]).

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,*
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*The ‘catholic church’ denotes the totality of God’s people through the ages who hold firm to the classic teachings of Christ’s apostles, regardless of denomination. It affirms the unity of the church.



We think pausing at the end of the Romans Reading is the right place to ask: 'What has God shown you?'

Bible

Psalm 23

A psalm of David.

¹ The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,

³ he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,

I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
for ever.

Bible

Romans 8:22-39

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have?²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

‘For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.’

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



You might like to press pause at the end of the reading and invite responses if in a group or have a time of reflection if you are on your own.

Someone could read it again and to let it sink in. Don't take too much time.



Kids! Grab your Church Hill Kids' Activity Pack and have a go at the activities.

Message

Through The Valley v 1-4 (29 March)

To The Other Side v 4-6 (5 April)

Consider a key. Is there a 'key' in the Time of the Coronavirus?

Only a vandal ... would want to take to pieces the best-loved Psalm in the book. I promise to put [the Psalm] together again, having perhaps shown in the process that it is even more special than we thought.

~ **Michael Wilcox**

1. Let me take V4 and V5 apart

2. Let's put the verses back together again.

Romans 8:31 What, then, shall we say in response to these things?

Conclusion:

Christ is our (seems unimportant, undervalued and misplaced) KEY to life.



AT ANY POINT DURING THESE PRAYERS YOU COULD PAUSE FOR A TIME OF PERSONAL OR GROUP PRAYER.

Those on zoom could use the chat channel.

You could also write some prayers down in the space provided.

Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, creator and redeemer,
we praise you for the beauty of the world around us,
and for every gift we enjoy.**

**Thank you for creating us
to know you, to love you and to obey you.**

**Most of all we praise you
for your amazing love**

**in sending your Son,
to restore your world,**

**by dying for us
and rising to give us new life.**

**Accept our praise and thanksgiving,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

A Time of Prayer

Collect for the Sunday Next Before Easter

**Almighty and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards
mankind, hast sent thy Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon him
our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should
follow the example of his great humility; Mercifully grant, that we may
both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of
his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**IF YOU FEEL
COMFORTABLE, WHY NOT
SING THIS SONG?**

Take the risk. God hears the heart. Or just listen to it if you feel awkward about singing.

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hand hath made
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour, God to thee
How great thou art, how great thou art
Then sings my soul, my Saviour, God to thee
How great thou art, how great thou art*

And when I think that God his son not sparing
Sent him to die I scarce can take it in
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home what joy shall fill my heart
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim my God how great thou art

*Stuart Wesley Keene Hine
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Don't forget

1. DAILY REFLECTIONS AS YOU WALK WITH JESUS:

You can read the Bible every day with Paul White and others through our Bible Reading App: 'A Year With Jesus'. Go to subsplash.com/ayearwithjesus/app

2. LET US KNOW HOW YOU ARE, OR HOW YOU CAN HELP:

We recognise the relational, emotional and financial strain that many among us will be going through at this time. Some of you will have lost work and income. If you are in this situation please let the staff know so we can pray with you and be of whatever assistance we can at this time. Others among us might be able to help, in various ways, others among us in their time of need. Either way our Community Care Form might be helpful to let us know. Go to bit.ly/churchhillcommunitycare

3. GIVING AT THIS TIME:

If you are able, as a member of this church, to continue your financial giving we encourage you to do so, and perhaps even more at this time (since some won't be able to). The Wardens and Parish Council are considering prudent cost cutting measures, and will be looking at our financial position at the end of April, and then May. We are, as followers of our glorious Lord Jesus, moving forward in faith, while at the same time we are being careful to be responsible in such times. We would so appreciate if you could consider your regular contributions at this time, especially if you normally give in the 'plate'.

To give electronically please use the following details online:

Bank: Westpac

Account Name: Anglican Parish of Church Hill

BSB: 032 000

Acc No: 810 878

Reference: Giving + the service you attend

Benediction

Romans 8:31-32, 37-39

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?...

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**SOME OF YOU MAY
HAVE THE CHANCE TO
SHARE 'MORNING TEA'
OR 'SUPPER' TOGETHER
THOUGH ONLINE
CHANNELS**

The great mass of Christ's work, was like a stable iceberg. It was hidden.
It was his dealing with God, not man. The great thing was done with God.
It was independent of our knowledge of it.
The most ever done for us was done behind our backs.
Only it was we who had turned our backs.

- P.T. Forsyth

CHURCH
17 HILL 88
ANGLICAN
SYDNEY

Join us on
**Good
Friday**

Friday 10 April 2020 from 9:30am

The service will be a more traditional service. Morning Prayer according to the 1662 Book of Common Prayer . You'll love it.

• **CHURCH HILL ANGLICAN** •

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