

HOLY TRINITY B R U S S E L S

Lent 4 19 March 2023

Our readings this week

1 Samuel 16:1-13 The one who is to be the future king of Israel is not the strongest or the most outwardly impressive. God, who knows what is really needed, guides Samuel to the one who knows what it means to be a shepherd to his sheep. This picture of the true king as a shepherd to his people is used time and again in the Bible, ultimately by Jesus of himself. God sees things in ways that are not obvious to us humans.

Psalm 23 The psalmist sees two particular qualities in his Lord: first that he is his shepherd; and second that he is his generous host. To these two pictures are added many more that reveal to us what that shepherding and hosting might mean. Each of us is invited to find in this poem something that touches our own experience and then to realise that the possibilities go farther yet when we open ourselves to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:8-14 Christians are people who have moved from darkness into light. Paul exhorts us to see things clearly by this light rather than living in the unseeing world of darkness. The last words of v14 give a lovely picture of what happens when we become Christians: we awaken to true reality, we move out of the dark in to the light, and come to see things as they truly are.

John 9:1-41 Jesus sees the man born blind, but the man cannot see him. Yet by doing as Jesus asks, he gains sight. Jesus brings light into his life. He is open to Jesus and to learning from him. But those who claim to be clear-sighted cannot see what has happened, or where he comes from. They see sin in the healing. Jesus, who sees no sin in a disability, yet sees sin in those who, confronted with the evidence of their own eyes, wilfully refuse to draw the right conclusion.

Pointers for prayer

- Pray that those in darkness may awaken into God's light.
- Meditate on your own experience of God's light and generous care in your life.
- Give thanks to the Lord who shepherds us.

Worship this week

Sunday 19, March 2023

9:00 Holy Communion

Leading & Preaching: Annie Bolger

10:30 Holy Communion

Leading: Annie Bolger Preaching: Jairo Ares

Zoom; YouTube

14:00 Holy Communion

Leading: John Wilkinson Preaching: Jean-Bosco Turahirwa

YouTube

18:00 Service of the Word Leading: Sue Bird Preaching: Annie Bolger

Contact our Interim Youth Coordinator Philip Milton for more details about children's and youth activities.

Wednesday, 22 March 2023

12:30 Holy Communion

Leading & Preaching: Paul Vrolijk

Page 2

Gift account for **pledges** and donations:

The Friends of Holy Trinity Brussels asbl IBAN: BE67 1030 7048 2187

Donations to the **Community Kitchen** @HTB ASBL Gift Account IBAN BE92 3631 1846 4423 BIC code: BBRUBEBB

The Prayer Chain

welcomes requests for prayer for any situation with complete confidentiality. Please contact Janine Vrolijk on janine.vrolijk@gmail.com or Carole Ludlow on <u>celudlow@gmail.com</u>.

Please avoid taking photos or videos during the Service unless you have sought prior permission to do so. Thank you!

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

Lent booklets The meditations for Lent written by members of our community are still available church website on the https://www.holytrinity.be/lent-and-easter. You can read them daily or download as а book. They are posted daily on https://meditationswrittenbymembersofholytrinityprocathedral.wordpress.com/ and the Holy Trinity Brussels Facebook page.

This year's **Bishop's Lent appeal** is to support the Anglican community of St Augustine's in Rabat, Morocco. Read all about it in Bishop David's letter. Contributions can be made via Holy Trinity from our donation station or to **The Friends of Holy Trinity IBAN: BE67 1030 7048 2187 with reference 'bishop's lent appeal'**. All funds will then be transferred to the Diocesan account in the UK.

Lent Lectio Divina group We will offer a Lectio Divina (prayerful Scripture reading) group during Lent. Join us on **Wednesdays at 11:15 at Church House**. It is entirely possible to stay afterward for the midweek service at 12:30 and for Lent soup if you so desire. Contact Annie for more details (annie.bolger@holytrinity.be).

Lent Soup Join us for the midweek service on **Wednesdays at 12:30** and stay afterward for a simple lunch of soup and bread. Donations will be collected to support the Community Kitchen. Contact Annie for more details (annie.bolger@holytrinity.be).

Soapy Sunday is today! Please share the following items this Sunday which we will pass along to the Salvation Army and the women's prison: women's sanitary items, nappies, new underwear for women, men and children (open packages are just fine), and **unopened** shower gel, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, men's razors and shave cream. We have a box for you to deposit them at the back of church. Thank you for your generosity!

Seniors' Spring tea party

We will hold an in-person tea party at the home of Pam Clements at 31 Avenue Leopold III, 1970 Wezembeek-Oppem on **Thursday, 23 March** from **15:00 to 17:30**. You are welcome to come along! Please let <u>admin@holytrinity.be</u> or Pam Clements (<u>pamclements@outlook.com</u> / 0474 970 876) know if you would like to attend.

Books away Sunday! - 26 March Clear your shelves! Refresh your shelves! No cash involved, all for free. Christian books only, in a reasonable condition. Bring books down to the hall before the 10:30 service, take books after the 10:30 and 2 pm and evening services - bring a bag (or two). (N B, we have no storage space, left over books will be binned after 2 weeks). Contact Ann Milton for further info <u>ann.r.milton@gmail.com</u>

Bishop Robert will be with us on Sunday 7 May (afternoon) for a Confirmation

Service. If you would like to think about being confirmed or would like to know more about what it means, please have a word with one of our clergy, register online or email admin@holytrinity.be.

Page 3

Online Morning and

Night Prayer

On weekday mornings at 9:00 some of us from the various congregations join together to pray. We use the app found at https://www.chpublishing.co. uk/apps/time-to-pray Everyday the congregation is different, you may know the people you may not but we join together as children of God. The service lasts about 15 minutes. The zoom link is https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82 809036058#success and the password htb.

On weekday evenings at 21:00 some of us from the various congregations join together to pray. We use the app found at https://www.churchofenglan d.ora/prayer-andworship/join-us-service-dailyprayer. Everyday the congregation is different, you may know the people, you may not but we join together as children of God. The service lasts about 20 minutes. The zoom link is https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89 837499334#success and the password htb.

For requests and offers of accommodation or employment, Holy Trinity Brussels is not responsible for asking for appropriate checks and references, nor for any contracts. These are the responsibility of all the parties involved. **Tracy Sibomana**, wife of Eric and member of our 14:00 congregation is starting her own business in communication. Before that, she would need to create a portfolio of projects she has worked on. Hence, she is offering her services (in French) for free for writing newsletters, press releases, speeches and thank you notes (or any kind of notes). She can be contacted by email on tracysibomana@gmail.com.

If you are new or visiting us for the first time, and would like to stay in touch, please <u>sign up here</u> to receive our weekly newsletter.

Accommodation wanted A young Masters level student Tomas Marhefka is looking for accommodation in Brussels from 14th June to 26th July (6 weeks). During his stay, he will be employed by the office of a member of the European Parliament. If you can help or if you know of any place, please contact him via email tmarhefka811@gmail.com or phone +421940240340.

The Wider Church

The chapel for Europe (Rue Van Maerlantstraat 22-24 B-1040 Brussels) is running a series of 5 workshops on **Spirituality for busy people**. The first one will be held on Thursday, **23rd March from 18:30-21:30** and is entitled **"Following Bible leaders, discovering your own personal profile**". For more details on the Speakers, other practical information and to know how to sign up, please go <u>here</u>.

The Brussels Women's Club is holding a Spring Market on Saturday, 25 March from 10:00 to 14:00 at Rue au Bois 509, 1150 Brussels. Free entry and non-stop café. For more info, <u>www.brusselswomens.club</u>

Godspace is offering a day-retreat in English – time away for inner reflection. A few hours of prayer, reflection, and time to be still. This will be held **on 1st April from 10:00 to 15:30** at Les Fraternites du Bon Pasteur, Rue au Bois 365 B, 1150 Brussels **Price: 15 eur per person** Sign up via <u>https://stpaulstervuren.churchsuite.com/events/irfexe7j</u> Booking is now open. For more details contact Sonja Stark on <u>Sonja.starkbe@gmail.com</u>

LifeStream Europe is organising **LSE23** '**Together**' a summer event for International Christians in Europe (English speaking) from **1-5 August** at HopperDeKluis, Belgium. Camp, bunk or stay off-site. Programmes for all ages – Worship, Teaching, Prayer, Fun. For more info and booking, see poster in church lobby or go here <u>www.life-stream.eu</u>.

The Pro-Cathedral of Holy Trinity Brussels Rue Capitaine Crespel 29, B-1050 Brussels

Website: www.holytrinity.be Facebook: www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityBrussels Instagram: @holytrinitybrussels Phone: 02 511 71 83 Email: admin@holytrinity.be Whatsapp: +32 460 950449 Office hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9:15 to 12:30; Tuesday 9:15 to 16:00 Newsletter items: to admin@holytrinity.be by 9:00 Wednesday Senior Chaplain & Canon Chancellor: The Revd Canon Dr Paul Vrolijk paul.vrolijk@holytrinity.be Canon Pastor: The Revd Canon John Wilkinson john.wilkinson@holytrinity.be Associate Chaplain: The Revd Dr Catriona Laing <u>catriona.laing@holytrinity.be</u> Assistant Chaplain: The Revd Jean Bosco Turahirwa jean.bosco.turahirwa@holytrinity.be Assistant Curate: The Revd Annie Bolger <u>annie.bolger@holytrinity.be</u> National Anglican prison chaplains based at HTB: Mrs Grace West, The Revd Charles Kabera, Mr Eric Sibomana MES Intern: Guido Bowen guido.bowen@holytrinity.be/Teus Vermeer teus.vermeer@holytrinity.be Readers: Ms Heather Roy; Mrs Ozichi Baron; Mr Jacob Quick; Mrs Grace West; Mr Arttu Makipaa Interim Youth Coordinator: Philip Milton philip.milton@holytrinity.be Precentor/Music Director: Dr David Mitchell david.mitchell@holytrinity.be

> Central Committee of the Anglican Church in Belgium (based at HTB) Chaplain-President: The Revd Canon Prof Jack McDonald Secretary General: The Revd Canon Stephen Murray <u>secretary@anglican.be</u> Second Secretary: Mr Charles Melebeck