



SAINT JOHN'S MALONE



The Sower III (version 2)

Notes: A short essay on the artistic and spiritual meaning of this artwork is available from The Visual Commentary on Scripture, <https://thevcs.org/parable-sower/there-went-out-sower-sow>.

Date: 1888 Artist: Gogh, Vincent van, 1853-1890 Building: Van Gogh Museum

Third Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to Saint John's especially all who are visiting today.

An audio loop system is in operation for those with hearing aids. The order of service is available to download from the website and the 10.30am is livestreamed on St John's Malone YouTube channel. Those baptised in the name of the Holy Trinity and are communicant members of their own church are welcome to receive Holy Communion, according to conscience.

Today: Sunday 16th June 2024

9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel

10.30 a.m. Family Eucharist & Sunday School Gift Day

The Eucharist ~See service booklet for 10:30am if available or below for page references in the BCP 2004

The Gathering page 201/125

Presiding The Rector

Opening Hymn 488

Collect of the Day

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading -

Psalm -

Second Reading

Gradual Hymn 39

Gospel (stand)

Sermon Maxine Judge – Diocesan Reader

The Prayers of the People pg.206 or alternative form is used

Music from the Sunday School

~ Sunday School Gift Giving ~

The Peace (stand) page 207 / 131

Offertory Hymn 643

Liturgy of the Sacrament Great Thanksgiving (1) page 209

The Lord's Prayer

Communion

Motet Now the green blade riseth – Trad. Arr. Lindley

Great Silence

Post Communion Hymn 361

Going Out page 220 ff /145

Post Communion Prayers page 220

Blessing

Dismissal

Organ Voluntary Nun danket alle Gotte- Karg Elert

Office Setting Davison



Collect

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
Give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Second Reading **2 Corinthians 5: 6-10, 11-13, 14-17**

6 So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading *Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to Mark chapter four beginning at verse twenty six. **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ***

Mark 4: 26-34

26 He also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

30 He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

O God,
whose beauty is beyond our imagining
and whose power we cannot comprehend:
Give us a glimpse of your glory on earth
but shield us from knowing more than we can bear
until we may look upon you without fear;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

READINGS

Ezekiel 17:22-24: God speaks through the prophet using an image of a small branch that is planted on a high mountain, becoming a large tree. The message is that God makes small trees large and brings down large trees, and God makes green trees wither and dead trees live.

Psalms 92:1-4, 12-15: A celebration of God's goodness and unfailing love, and an affirmation of how the godly flourish and produce fruit.

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17: Followers of Christ live by faith and not by sight, and do everything with the view to please God. Although we may at times seem crazy, we are controlled by Christ's love. So we no longer live our old life, but a new one in Christ for whom we live, and who was raised for us.

Mark 4:26-34: Jesus shares two parables of God's Reign using the metaphor of seeds. In the first, he speaks about a farmer who plants seeds without knowing how they grow. In the second, he describes how the small mustard seed grows to become a large plant in which birds can nest.

REFLECTIONS ON THEME:

Both the Gospel, and its related readings, and the continuous Old Testament reading present two main thoughts this week. The main theme is that of small things which grow to have significant impact and influence. In Samuel, the arrogant Saul is replaced by David, the youngest son of an insignificant family in an unimportant village. It is God who sees the heart, and takes the "small" person who trusts in God and makes him or her someone of significance in God's purposes. Similarly, Psalm 20 reflects on how those who trust in God know God's victory and success. In the Gospel, the small mustard seed becomes a large tree, revealing how important small contributions, commitments and actions are for the growth of God's Reign in our world. This is supported by Ezekiel's vision of the small branch that becomes a mighty tree on a mountaintop. The second, complementary thought in this week's readings, is that God nurtures and sustains God's people and God's Reign, bringing growth, fruit and flourishing even though we may not know how this comes to be. The Gospel expresses this clearly in the first parables in this week's passage, but Psalm 92 also expresses this as it celebrates how God enables the godly to flourish. Finally, Paul's letter calls us to respond to God's gracious, mysterious kingdom work in our hearts and lives by committing to living lives rooted in Christ's love, and based on faith, not on the sight of goal-orientation or of human expectations. Flowing from last week's challenge to our allegiances, and the call to remain faithful to God in spite of what may come, this week's promise of God's hidden activity to bring growth, fruit and flourishing in our lives is a comforting, encouraging gift.

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Services this week

Wednesday 19th ~~Zoom Compline 7:30pm~~. Resumes in September

Thursday 20th *Birth of St John the Baptist Eucharist (tr)* **10.30am** with prayer for those in need will take place in the Side Chapel. The prayer list is in the Side Chapel.

A cup of tea/coffee is now available after this service.

Next Sunday: Trinity 4 | 23.06.24

9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel

10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist Coffee/tea follows this service and all are welcome.



Notices: | Sign up for the regular email Update at secstjohns@btconnect.com

Giving and Stewardship in St Johns' much of our income received is through the Free Will Offering Scheme using either envelopes or increasingly, by Standing Order. Standing order forms are available by asking the Churchwardens or contacting the Office or secstjohns@btconnect.com. Alternatively if you wish to make a donation then the account details for St John's are also available from the Wardens. Your donations help us maintain our buildings and support ministry and outreach here in St John's and more widely.

The select vestry currently is running a Stewardship Appeal in the parish. An Appeal leaflet explaining this is being distributed to all homes and an update has been sent by email recently.

IF YOU HAVE NOT AS YET RECEIVED THE LEAFLET PLEASE TAKE ONE FROM THE BACK OF THE CHURCH IN THE WHITE ENVELOPE

Your consideration will be greatly appreciated as we seek to address the shortfall in meeting our day to day costs and plan for the future.

Organising your wedding in St John's

Weddings are special occasions in the life of any family and of the Church. We'd be delighted to talk to anyone contemplating their wedding in St John's. When considering getting married please check possible dates with the Rector before confirming any other arrangements. It is expected that couples will make a regular commitment to the life of the Church in preparation for marriage.

Hospital Visiting

The Rector would appreciate knowing if parishioners are going into or are in hospital or discharged and is pleased to offer pastoral support.

Safeguarding

The Rector, select vestry and parish leaders are committed to uphold the good practice to the parish's ministry with children, young people and vulnerable adults. Should you have any concern or suspicion regarding child welfare in the parish please contact a member of the

parish panel.

Rev Canon Stephen Fielding 9066 6644

Mrs Patricia Armstrong 07854005699

Dr Anthony Stevens 07710647080



If you are considering donating any items to the foodbank then we would really appreciate any of the following below...

Also, you can either pop the items directly into the basket at **Tesco Newtownbreda** or donate directly to the foodbank.

We are open for donations every Wednesday 1-3pm and every Thursday 10am-12pm.
Our warehouse is Unit 4, 23 Sunwich Street, Belfast, BT6 8HR

Any questions regarding donating please call us on 07743332489 or email us on info@southbelfast.foodbank.org.uk

ITEMS REQUIRED AT PRESENT: Please place in the baskets in the entrance vestibule/porch.

Coffee and Tea; Tinned tomatoes; Tinned spaghetti; Tinned fruit; Tinned potatoes; Pulses; Rice; Biscuits; Household cleaning products; Shampoo/Conditioner; Toilet paper; Snack Bar

Sunday 23rd June 2024

There will be an open Sunday School next week for those who come along.

www.malone.connor.anglican.org

stjohnsmalone@wordpress.com

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The Parish Office for administrative matters, or for information about organisations connected with St John's (90667861) e-mail: secstjohns@btconnect.com

The Rector, Rev. Canon Stephen Fielding can be contacted on pastoral matters (90666644)

e-mail : malone@connor.anglican.org

Please take this booklet home with you for the readings, notices and reference during the week and recycle.



@malonestjohns