



**St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh**  
**WORSHIPPING AT HOME**  
**St Luke The Evangelist**  
**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**WELCOME . . . .** to our Worshipping at Home resources for this week, provided for us by The Rector.

**THIS WEEK . . . .** *(Events in red will be 'virtual' events!)*

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October – St Luke the Evangelist:**

**8am: Said Holy Communion (1662)**

**10am: Church at Home**

**11.15: SEA Church (for young people)**

***(the Zoom joining code for these is ID: 148-785-166)***

**11am: Said Holy Communion (Common Worship)**

***(This Service will be live streamed on our Youtube Channel)***

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October:**

**12noon: Said Holy Communion (1662)**

**4pm: Virtual Afternoon Tea and Chat**

***(the Zoom joining code for this is ID: 804-694-233)***

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October:**

**10am: Quiet Time for Prayer**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October – Bible Sunday:**

**8am: Said Holy Communion (Common Worship)**

**10am: Church at Home**

**11.15: SEA Church (for young people)**

***(the Zoom joining code for these is ID: 148-785-166)***

**11am: Said Holy Communion (*Common Worship*)**

***(This Service will be live streamed on our Youtube Channel)***

**IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE: Coming to Church During COVID-**

**19**: The risk from the Coronavirus is significant in our area. Please read our safety notices before coming to worship at Church! Face Coverings must be worn at all Church events! Things change very fast, and for all up to date guidance and regulations, always refer to the St Nicolas Church Website. In order to allow maximum heating before services, across the winter months we do ask you to arrive no more than 15 minutes before the start of the service.

## **ST LUKE THE EVANGELIST:**

### **COLLECT:**

Almighty God, you called Luke the physician,  
whose praise is in the gospel,  
to be an evangelist and physician of the soul:  
by the grace of the Spirit  
and through the wholesome medicine of the gospel,  
give your Church the same love and power to heal;  
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.

**FIRST READING: *Isaiah 35: 3-6.***

Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
‘Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you.’

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

**GOSPEL READING: *Luke 10:1-9.***

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, “Peace to this house!” And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if

not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, “The kingdom of God has come near to you.”

### **SERMON (*Written by The Rector, Canon Roy Woodhams*)**

Many of you, like me, will be old enough to remember that TV advertisement for the AA, where the Mum in the car which has broken down is with her small children on a dark rainy night: “*can you fix it, Mummy?*” asks one of the children, anxiously. “*No*”, replies the Mum, “*but I know a man who can*”.

Today we celebrate Luke, the Evangelist. What do we know about him? We know that he was a close friend of Paul, we believe that he is the writer of the Gospel of Luke, and also of the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, and we are told that he was a Physician.

From all of that, we can deduce that he was a clever man – there was no medical school in those days, and no Royal College of Physicians, so Luke would have been someone who had probably learnt his doctoring skills for himself! He was also, we know from his writings, an eloquent and skillful writer and story-teller!

I have a certain affinity with Luke – his feast day was also my Mother’s birthday, along with her twin sister, my Aunty Betty,

who only died two years ago. Today would have been their 93<sup>rd</sup> Birthday! And I know that they both, too, felt an affinity with Luke, the Physician!

In addition to that, my first organist's job, while I was still at school, was at a Church in Ramsgate, in Kent, which was dedicated to St Luke! And my experience of the ministry of healing goes back over forty years to my time there – it was a charismatic evangelical church, very different to the churches in which I had grown up! I have to admit that, looking back on it, I only did the job because it gave me a nice organ to play whenever I wanted to, and the 'fine' salary of £2 a week, in those days, went a long way towards putting petrol into my newly-acquired Austin A30!

But one of the things that has stuck in my mind from all those years ago, is the monthly Service of Healing which was held there each Wednesday evening. It was the only church in the area which held such a service, and so people came from miles around to it – minibuses and ambulances were hired, and wheelchairs came in their droves to fill the barn of a Victorian church!

At first, I was disillusioned, because I saw the same wheelchairs and crutches going out of the church as I had seen coming in – nobody seemed to be being healed, and nobody seemed to be getting any better!

But as time went on, I ventured to stay and have coffee after the services and began to talk with some of the people. And as I did, I discovered to my surprise that although there might not have been much physical healing going on, these people had, almost without exception, experienced a drastic change in their lives since coming to the services!

Their infirmities may still have been there, but somehow they no longer mattered – the people seemed to have discovered an inner strength, and an inner peace which meant that they were able to live new lives, strengthened by the touch of God's hand.

And across the years I have seen that same thing time and time again, in the lives of people who have been touched by God through the ministry of healing. And what that teaches me is that there is more to healing than just being made better – that what God's healing is really all about, is being made whole. People who have been touched by God in this way are people whose lives have become complete - they have a serenity, a peace and a presence which is enviable!

But, of course, we shouldn't be surprised by this, because in the pages of the New Testament we find example upon example of God's amazing power to heal, which Jesus had himself, which he passed on to his disciples, and which he promised was for all people and all ages.

As a Christian, and particularly as a parish Priest, I often find myself being put in the position of that Mum in the broken down car: “*can you fix it?*” I’m asked! And as Christians, while we have to accept that we can’t fix everything, we are able to repond, “*No, but I know a man who can*”.

But God’s amazing healing power can only be experienced by people who know Jesus. So, our job is to introduce them to him – to help them to build a relationship! And, it is not possible to be a healer unless you are an evangelist too – something, which, no doubt, Luke discovered at some point in his life!

And I do sense that there are many, many people in our communities who are hungry to meet Jesus and to learn about him, and from him, and to apply that knowledge in their daily lives and situations. I meet these people when I visit the bereaved, I meet them when I go to talk to parents who want their babies baptised, I even meet them in the pub – I am often surprised by total strangers, who, if they find out that I’m a Vicar, want to talk about faith – they don’t have it, but they want it!

And another area where I meet these sorts of people is when I visit those who are sick – they have many questions on their minds – illness, particularly sudden illness often causes people to need to take a fresh look at the whole way they live their lives, and they often sense that I, as priest, can point them in the right direction – to the ‘*man who can*’!

The question, 'does God heal today?' is an important one, and it is one which will receive very different answers from both inside and outside the Christian church.

It is one to which many would want to answer 'no', because that has been their personal experience, and yet there are many others who would want to answer 'yes' because they, themselves, are living testimony to the truth that he does!

And what about those other people I spoke of earlier who are searching for Jesus?

You see, the problem is that the way is hard - in following Jesus there is no 'half' way – either we do, or we don't! We follow to the Cross, or we stumble and fall on the way.

Those who want to follow often haven't the strength to do it, and so it's the task of people like you and me to help them as best we can to turn their hearts towards that cross and to follow in his way.

And never has our world been so in need of a healing God as it is today – not just healing the physical problems of Coronavirus, but healing the fractured and distorted world of corrupt and selfish leaders and government, and bringing hope and healing to the marginalised of our society!

Next time we find ourselves in a situation where we are in the presence of someone who is hungry to know Jesus, may that same Jesus give us the voice to speak the words of encouragement which, for that person, may make the difference between life in the fullness of Christ, or life in the darkness of the world, the flesh and the Devil!

Above all, remember the lesson we have learned from the young Mum in the advertisement: *“can you fix it?” “No, but I know a man who can”!*

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

Lord God, the source of truth and love,  
keep us faithful to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship,  
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,  
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **WEEKLY PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

### **Church and Christian Ministry:**

- For the work of the Diocesan Housing Advisory Committee, Diocesan Advisory Committee and Property Team
- For all engaged in the Ministry of Healing and the Ministry of Evangelism.

## **National and World Affairs:**

- For all Doctors, nurses and health advisors, seeking to bring healing across the world.
- For all affected by Coronavirus, and for the Governments and scientists across the world, seeking to find ways of combatting the virus.

## **Community and Family:**

- For those who live in Barnfield.
- For the work of the Church Missionary Society.

## **The Sick and those in Need:**

- Ray Corver, Mike Ford, Stefan Godier, Stella Goldsmith, Michael Hart, Louise Harbutt, Amy Loveless, Libby O'Brien, Brian Pettyfer, Jean Quallington, Adam Speers, Bert and Eileen Steed, Maureen Steele, Dennis and Rosemary Talbot, Marion Tomkins, Mac Walker, Angela Wild, Henry Young and Nicholas (*and from Dunsfold and Hascombe: Amanda and Hugh, Tim Bailey, Barbara Crabb, Sally Rivett, Jacky Williams, Alli, Judy Bolt, Sue and Dennis Evans, Peter Hutley, Sally Davis, Lorna Thompson, Sami Bennewith, Dru Ridley*)

## **The Departed:**

- All we have known and loved, and especially: Robin Burnett, Jim Fawley, Charlie O'Rourke

# NOTICES:

**Church Office:** Nicola Craven Smith is now fully at work in her role as Interim Administrator. She is largely working from home, so the office remains closed for the foreseeable future.

**\*\*\* There are times when Nicola or the clergy are in the office printing, and people have begun to drop in! PLEASE ONLY COME TO THE OFFICE IF YOUR VISIT IS UNAVOIDABLE, AND OF YOU DO, YOU MUST WEAR A FACE COVERING AND SANITISE YOUR HANDS\*\*\***

Nicola's working hours are different (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30am – 2.30pm, but you can leave her messages outside those hours and she will get back to you when she is next working. For anything urgent please contact The Rector or Curates, whose contact details are on the back cover of the magazine. The office Telephone number remains 01483 273620 and Nicola can be emailed on the new address [nicolas@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:nicolas@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)

**Live-streaming of 8am Service:** Some of you have rightly commented that we haven't live-streamed an 8am 1662 Service. We aim to put this right by streaming the service on the first Sunday of each month, beginning on November 1<sup>st</sup>. The joining code will be issued in the weekend mailing on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October, along with the code for the 11am Service and the

afternoon Bereavement Streaming. It will be a busy day for our techy people!

**All Souls Commemoration of the departed:** On the nearest Sunday to All Souls Day we normally hold our Annual Service for the Bereaved, when we also remember the names of loved ones who are now in God's keeping. As it will not be possible to hold a large service in Church this year, we will be recording a Service of Remembering, which you will be able to view from the Church Website on and after **3pm on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November**. During that Service we will read the names of all those whose funerals we have conducted in the Parish across the past 2 years, and if you would like other names read out, please email them to the Church Office: [nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk), or call during the new office hours. **\*\*\*No names can be added after 12noon on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October\*\*\***

**Plants:** From Win Bracking (275573) – If you are dividing perennials that have outgrown their allotted space please remember the Church Plant Stall. I do not need any more Alchemilla, Sedum (Ice Plant) or the ubiquitous Crocosmia (Montbretia) but last year someone gave me some beautiful Hemerocallis (Day Lilies) which were red/bronze. I would love some more of those as they were popular in the sales

**Traidcraft:** Sue Knight is offering Traidcraft goods for sale by appointment or would be willing to deliver to Cranleigh on receipt of an order. She will have catalogues or you can go on line at

[traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://traidcraftshop.co.uk) to see the whole range and if she has to order it in, this usually takes about a week. You can pay for any orders by BACS or she will accept cheques. Call Sue on 275032 or 07950 025137.

**Paying Money to the Church:** If you wish to pay any monies to St Nicolas, cheques should be made payable to 'Cranleigh PCC'

**Curate Visiting:** Our Curates, Tim and Rutton, continue to safely visit parishioners during this time of change and uncertainty. If you would like one of them to visit you, either socially distantly in your garden, on the telephone or on Zoom/Facetime, please contact them.

Please send notices for next week to Margie Nursey at 1, Elm Cottages, Smithwood Common (01483 273693) [notices@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:notices@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk) by **7pm on Tuesday**

**Keep in touch:**

**The Rector (Roy): 01483 800655 or email**

**[roy@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:roy@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)**

**The Curate (Revd Tim Clifford Hill) 01483 276267 or email**

**[tim@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:tim@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)**

**The Part time Curate (Revd Rutton Viccajee,  
works Wednesday, Friday, Sunday)**

**[rutton@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:rutton@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)**

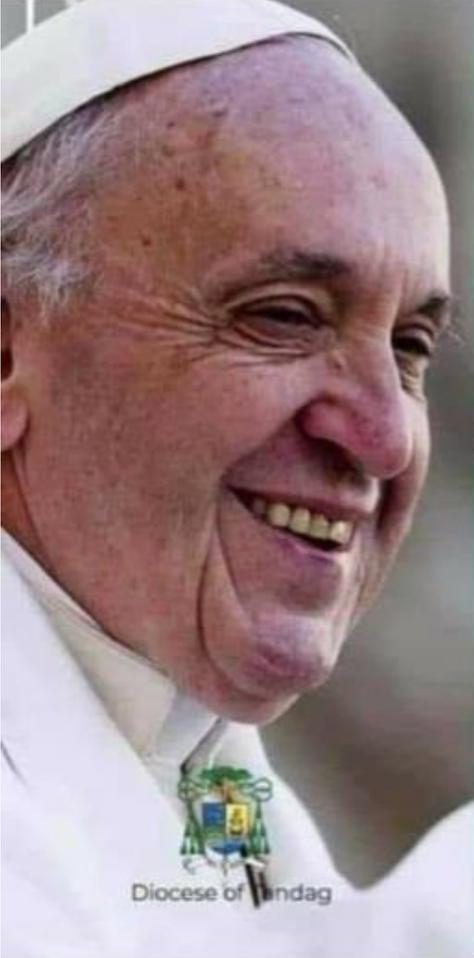
**Interim Administrator (Nicola Craven-Smith): 01483 273620 or  
email [nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)**

**Young People's Minister (Gabrielle Clarke): 07427 748408  
[gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)**

**Church Website:**

**[www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](http://www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk) and on FaceBook**

I absolutely LOVE this quote from Pope Francis!



**“** Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you.

**”**

**Pope Francis**

 /TandagDiocese

**If you know of anybody who would like to receive a printed communication like this each week, please call us on one of the numbers above! Alternatively, if you no longer require this weekly publication delivered, please can you let Nicola know**