

Time to Reflect

In the fifteenth year ofwhen Pontius Pilate was governor....and Herod was ruler, and Philip ruler and Lysanias ruler ... during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas..the word of God came to John In other words, says Luke, the writer of our Gospel this liturgical year, this story I am about to tell.... happened. It happened in this time frame and in this place and these were the secular "big men". This is real history. And, as we shall see, into this real history God inserts himself.

I love the start of Luke's Gospel. Luke is a story teller but he wants us to know that this story is not a myth, not some dreamy experience drafting free from reality like the myths of the gods of Rome and Greece. Real events, real people, real places are involved. He does the same in part 2 of his writing, the book we call "The Acts of the Apostles". Go see.

And what is the first thing that Luke tells us that happens? Luke tells us that John (who turns out to be Jesus' cousin) started a preaching ministry. More specifically, it was a ministry of correction, of admonition. Here's one of the keys to Luke's Gospel; Luke focusses on our amazing capacity to make a mess of things. That's his diagnosis of the human condition. We mess up.

And his treatment for our condition? Luke says that God has the cure. The cure is found in confession, in humility, in seeking forgiveness. The cure is found in Jesus, in allowing him to enter into us and transform our lives by his presence. And, says Luke, watch how Jesus behaves and learn from him.

Worship and Activities this week

Today	12.00am	Parish Lunch in Blackburne Hall
	5.00pm	Office Hour
	6.30pm	Evensong
Mon	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	1.00pm	"In-house" @ House on t'Rock
	7.00pm	Bury Hospice Carol Service
	7.30pm	Youth Central @ Church Hall
Tues	7.30pm	ATC Carol Service
Wed	11.00am	Holy Communion
	7.00pm	Advent Study Group@ Ashton Room
Thurs	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	10.00am	Tiddlers @ Church House
	12.45pm	Holy Communion
	7.30pm	Bury Grammar Carol Service
Fri	8.00am	Dust Busters
	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	12.30pm	Lunchtime Concert : Sarah Atter (flute) and Lauren Turner (piano)
	4.00pm	Junior Choir
	7.00pm	Full Choir Practice
Sat	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	Carol Singing at Tesco

Next Week: 3rd Sun. of Advent 16th December

8.00am	Said Holy Communion
8.40am	Adult Sunday School in the Robert Peel
10.00am	Parish Eucharist and Sunday School
5.00pm	Office Hour
6.30pm	Evensong

Baptisms, Blessings, Weddings.

Speak to any of the clergy after the service. They will be at the back of church. Spot the dog collar! Our monthly Parish Magazine has a full list of contact details for clergy and organisations on the inside of the back page. For inclusion on the weekly pew sheet: please email: bpc.office@tiscali.co.uk by Wednesday.

Advent 2

9th December 2018

www.buryparishchurch.com



We welcome you and hope you enjoy being with us. If you're not familiar with our services, don't worry. We follow a written order of service and at times will tell you which page we're on.

We also welcome children in church. If your child gets restive in church, don't be afraid to get up and move around if this helps. There is a toilet at the back of church. There is a children's area at the back of Church.

8.00am Said Holy Communion
President: Julian Heaton, Rector
Preaching : Julian Heaton, Rector

10.00am Parade Eucharist and Sunday School
President: Julian Heaton, Rector
Preaching : Julian Heaton, Rector
Hymns: 54; 35; 601; 393; 591
Motets: Charles V Stanford :
Pray that Jerusalem
John Stainer :
How beautiful upon the mountains

6.30pm Evensong
Minister : Julian Heaton, Rector
Preaching : David Foss
Hymns: 235; 234; 28
Psalm: 75 (pg. 440)
Isaiah 40. 1-11 (pg. 574)
Luke 1.1 -25 (pg. 837)
Anthem: **Paul Manz :**
E'en So Lord Jesus

Cornerstone

Serving Bury, deepening our faith, caring for the marginalised, sharing the Good News of Jesus.

Today's Readings

The Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians (Philippians 1.3-11)

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
(Luke 3.1-6)

Glory to You, O Lord

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ



The Archbishops of Canterbury and York invite you to sign up for daily emails to take the life-changing Christmas journey. Sign up here;
www.churchofengland.org/followthestar

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People of God: be glad!
Your God delights in you,
giving you joy for sadness
and turning the dark to light.
Be strong in hope therefore;
for your God comes to save.
You are God's children.



**Lord, make us one in the love of Christ
today and for ever. Amen.**

Afternoon Tea at the Rectory

Jackie and Julian invite you to the Rectory on Saturday 29 December from 2.30pm. Come when you can, go when you must. Chance to chat, to eat and drink and catch up with old friends and make new ones.



Christingle Making

Ashton Room

22nd December from 9.00am



We need a huge pile of Christingles ready for our service on Christmas Eve. We need lots of help running a production line. If lots come, should be all done in an hour or so.

Christmas Tree Festival

Groups in our parish will be decorating the church with Christmas Trees. Thanks in anticipation to all who are making such great effort. Bring your friends, tell your neighbours. Let's make this place buzz with joy and expectation.

