

Reflection for Trinity Thirteen

This week's readings give us a huge choice of where to go, almost too much choice. So, on Sunday we shall be centring on Romans and Matthew.

But today I would like to ponder a little on Exodus 3:1-15. More specifically on v3 onwards. My favourite verses.

³ So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up."

⁴ When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

And Moses said, "Here I am."

⁵ "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."

⁶ Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

God then sends Moses off on his great commission to rescue the people of God from Egypt, this man, watched over by God from before his birth bringing brought to the moment when he can choose to do as God has asked of him, or decline.

How many times a day do we stand on holy ground and make choices to follow Jesus in honouring and loving our heavenly Father, or turning to our way? Us, mere humans, loved by a God who created all that has been brought into being,

Rev George



NEXT SUNDAY 06.09.26 *Creation In Christ*
10.30am in the Church



OT Isaiah 55: 12, 13
NT Colossians 1: 15-20
GOSPEL Matthew 8: 23-27

CONTACT US

Ian Totterdell, Church Warden 07536 459096
ian.totterdell@cantab.net

Mary Daunton, Church Warden 07779742792

Phil Baker, Licensed Lay Minister 07970 216740
lionelbaker@outlook.com

Revd Terry Litherland, 07594 633195
tlitherland36@gmail.com

Liz Pioneer Community Worker & LLM
pioneerstthomas@gmail.com

Email: parishoffice@stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sttexeter

Website: www.stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

Office Tel: 01392 437486 Messages at any time.



St Thomas, Exeter

30th August 2026

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am in the Church

Today

Sung Eucharist

Hymn Numbers

46 *At the name of Jesus*

465 *Take up thy cross, the Saviour said*

122 *Father, Lord of all creation*

56 *Be thou my vision*

Wednesday 2nd September

10am Walsingham Mass

Thursday 3rd September

9.30-11am St Thomas Tots

10.30-12noon Knit & Natter at Jenny
Tuckett's house

Friday 4th September

9.30am Morning Prayer

10am Staff Meeting



Collect

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Jeremiah 15: 15-21

O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. Therefore, thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you says the Lord. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Romans 12: 9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who per-

secute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16: 21-28

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? 'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

Post Communion

God our creator, you feed your children with the

true manna, the living bread from heaven: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Notices

Today we welcome the Rev Georgina Vye to preside and preach at our service

Rev Hannah Alderson, our new Rector, will be licensed to our parish at 7.30pm on **Monday 7th September**. Please continue to pray for Hannah and her family as they prepare to move into our community.

We will be serving refreshments in the hall after the Licensing service and if you would like to help serve the refreshments on that evening, please speak to Mary.

Saturday 19th September 6pm

The Churchwardens and PCC of the Parish of St Peter, Budleigh Salterton warmly invite you to come and welcome the Revd Sarah Mounoury as Vicar of the Parish of St Peter, Budleigh Salterton at a service of Institution, Induction and Licensing.

Anyone who has an email can RSVP to **raleighmc@gmail.com**

Heritage Open Days. On Saturdays 12th and 19th September the bellringers will be holding drop in sessions to learn more about bellringing in our church, and on 19th September Ian will be running short tours of the church highlighting the history and heritage of our building. Come along and learn something new!