



17 OCTOBER 2021

Please join us online via our Facebook page to worship with us this weekend.

Lectionary Readings

This week 17 October, 2021

Job 38:1-7, (34-41)
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c
Hebrews 5:1-10
Mark 10:35-45

Next week 24 October, 2021

Job 42:1-6, 10-17
Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22)
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 10:46-52

COVID Update

Church Council met on Thursday night and discussed returning to worship in person.

Whilst churches can reopen to everyone regardless of vaccination status once we reach 80% double-vaxxed, we are concerned about the risks of exposure to the virus, especially in an indoor setting. There would also be no singing and no morning tea and masks would be mandatory, so we have decided to wait until **Sunday 5th December.**

Should the COVID Roadmap change again, and the 1st December date be moved forward by the government, we will reconsider this and let you know.

The Op Shop will remain closed until Wednesday 1st December to protect the volunteer staff from issues that may arise from having to deny access to those who are not double vaccinated.

Return dates for the Craft group and Bible Study Groups will be confirmed next week.

At The Right Hand Of God **Mark 10:35-45**

How should we think about James and John, the sons of Zebedee? How should we think about the day they went to Jesus and said to him: "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." My belief is that we should regard James and John as if they were *us*. They really do sound very much like us. Therefore, we should give close attention to what Jesus had to say to them and to the other disciples since he is also speaking to you and me.

Now let me qualify this. Most of us never dream about actually sitting at the right hand of God and receiving all the glory and honour *that* position holds. But we are all still like James and John. We have their nature in us. And so today, in our gospel story we have been given a reminder of who is at the right hand of God and of some of the reasons for why Jesus is there. This reminder is for us, so that when we consider what is worthwhile and what is worthy of respect, let us then, first consider Jesus and his way, and be encouraged to know that he has gone before us and leads us on the path to the side of God.

Jesus has shown us that it is better to give than to receive, better to serve than to be served, this is the way to true happiness, joy and peace in our life. And, is it not those very blessings we want for ourselves and for our children?

Finally, we are also called this day to remember James and John, and how we ourselves are like them. They did listen to Jesus and continued to be counted among the chosen ones. As Jesus served, so did James and John the sons of Zebedee.

Jesus' greatest act of service was to give his life for all of us, for you. As a result, we have a place in heaven, in God's kingdom whether to the right or to the left of him, God will embrace us like a loving parent because of what Jesus did. And there's more, our true treasure of glory and honour awaits us when we continue to follow Jesus, the Servant Exemplar.
Adrian