

Beaminster Area Team

God our Father, renew our hope. By the Holy Spirit's power, strengthen us to pray readily serve joyfully and grow abundantly rejoicing in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Week: 27th June 2021, Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Old Testament: Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15; 2: 23-24

Psalm: Psalm 30

New Testament: 2 Corinthians 8: 7-15

Gospel: Mark 5: 21-43

Reflection on the Gospel reading, by Ven Patrick Evans

Mark tells one story inside another.....the main story the healing of Jairus daughter unfolds the intimate healing story of the woman with years of haemorrhages.

It's worth spending time and entering into these interwoven stories as we meet fear and faith, Jesus' compassion and creative healing power, sovereignty and gentleness, despair and hope. We don't know exactly what was happening in the stories and Jesus shunned any thoughts about being a miracle worker and he was not a one-man medical centre! Notwithstanding different recollections and exaggeration we are left with many questions, but the thrust of the gospels is that encounters with Jesus so often had a life changing effect. Perhaps these and other healing stories are a foretaste of Jesus ultimate focus on bringing God's healing power in the deepest sense to the world....to and through individuals. Awakening insights and recognition of God's love and sovereignty. What were the gospel story tellers and writers trying to say to those around them?

Healing, health, salvation, wellbeing, and wholeness all have common roots. God's peace is also deeply embedded. 'Go in peace' says Jesus to the woman here. God's peace 'Shalom' is almost impossible to translate into English since it covers total well being, health of body mind and spirit, being at one with myself, my family and community, at one with God's creation. In the biblical world this health, wholeness, shalom was expressed in community ...the shalom of any individual was for the good of the whole. Through this current pandemic it seems that the world still has much to learn about the things that belong to its health.

Collect for the Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

A Useful Telephone Link from The Church of England. This is a free number where you can listen to prayers, reflections and hymns and join in worship with others.



Worship to enjoy at home

BBC Radio 4, 8.10am, Sunday Worship; Songs of Praise BBC1 1.15pm