



**Letter #35 – 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

Dear Beloved Sisters and Brothers,

*'In the beginning was the Word and the Word was...'* [John 1:1]

If the first verse of John's gospel were not so well known we would be forgiven for thinking that it finished solely with *'...and the Word was God'* not *'and the Word was with God, and was God'*. Yet – as Ellis Porter points out in his excellent little book *3 Theories of Everything* – the relationship between the Father and the Son precedes the Son's individual divine identity.

*'Individuality is... understood first and foremost in the context of relationship.'*

To our individualistic Western world, where formal relationships are increasingly seen as problematic, the wonderful invitation of John's gospel is that we are invited into the eternal relationship of the Trinity (John 17:21). This is **life** (John 17:3). Life that starts now as we are born again from above, life that even death cannot end. It is *this* life that we prayerfully reach out to our corner of the harvest field with.



**Life – Autumn 2020**

In July we adopted a new vision as a church family. We *want to know Jesus and make Him known*. We have been especially challenged to *reach* others in our own parish and within Sevenoaks. One way which you could do this is through *Life – Autumn 2020*. Please [click here](#) to see what is planned.

**Wednesday evening Holy Communion, 8pm**

Last night saw our final Communion service. Jamie Read concluded our series based on Tim Chester's book 'Truth We Can Touch' – all six sermons can be found [here](#) on our YouTube Channel in the "Encouragement from the Clergy" playlist.

**Sunday morning – online and in the St Nicholas Church building, 10am:**

To access all our Sunday services, go to the [website](#). You will also find details of how we are seeking to comply with Covid-19 guidance from both the government and the House of Bishops.

Thanks to pray for:

- Please pray for God's word being preached this Sunday morning. John will be preaching on Proverbs 9 at Grace / 4 O'clock. I will be finishing the morning series in the early chapters of John's Gospel. In the evening Angus will be preaching on the final Psalm and we will also be saying thank you to Dan Boshoff as he finishes his time as a Ministry Associate.



- Pray for our three new Ministry Associates who join us on September 1<sup>st</sup>. All three will be known to parts of the church family, but please pray that Hannah Jackson and Matthew and Jemimah White will settle well into ministry among us in Sevenoaks.

### Praying together...

As next week sees the beginning of a new month, you will find the [September Prayer Diary](#) available here. Equally, with the start of a new month, please also join us for our **monthly prayer gatherings**:

- [St Nicholas prayer gathering](#) is on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 20.00 (Meeting ID: 862 7779 3728 Password: 595317). Please do bring your prayer diary.
- [Grace and 4OCC joint prayer gathering](#) is also on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 20:00 (Meeting ID: 864 0403 4658 Password: prayer)

Our prayer initiative also continues in relation to praying about the implementation of the Truscott Report. We gather on Mondays at 8pm and Thursdays at 8am.

The Zoom Link is: <https://bit.ly/TIGprayer>, Via Zoom account or by telephone (on 0203 481 5237) – Meeting ID 876 9748 8958 / password 410376.

### Finally, a prayer and a song on the theme of the Trinity ...

The Song – [Come Praise and Glorify](#), by Tim Chester and Bob Kauflin

The Prayer is taken from *The Valley of Vision* (page 3)

THREE IN ONE, ONE IN THREE, GOD OF MY SALVATION, Heavenly Father, blessed Son, eternal Spirit, I adore thee as one Being, one Essence, one God in three distinct Persons, for bringing sinners to thy knowledge and to thy kingdom. O Father, thou hast loved me and sent Jesus to redeem me; O Jesus, thou hast loved me and assumed my nature, shed thine own blood to wash away my sins, wrought righteousness to cover my unworthiness; O Holy Spirit, thou hast loved me and entered my heart, implanted there eternal life, revealed to me the glories of Jesus. Three Persons and one God, I bless and praise thee, for love so unmerited, so unspeakable, so wondrous, so mighty to save the lost and raise them to glory. O Father, I thank thee that in fullness of grace thou hast given me to Jesus, to be his sheep, jewel, portion; O Jesus, I thank thee that in fullness of grace thou hast accepted, espoused, bound me; O Holy Spirit, I thank thee that in fullness of grace thou hast exhibited Jesus as my salvation, implanted faith within me, subdued my stubborn heart, made me one with him for ever. O Father, thou art enthroned to hear my prayers, O Jesus, thy hand is outstretched to take my petitions, O Holy Spirit, thou art willing to help my infirmities, to show me my need, to supply words, to pray within me, to strengthen me that I faint not in supplication. O Triune God, who commandeth the universe, thou hast commanded me to ask for those things that concern thy kingdom and my soul. Let me live and pray as one baptized into the threefold Name. AMEN

Keep pressing on,

Matt Taylor

**To access the articles / items referred to in the letter, use the links below:**

<a href="#">Click here</a>	To find out more about Life
----------------------------	-----------------------------



# St Nicholas Church

SEVENOAKS

<a href="#">Click Here</a>	To access the Wednesday night sermons
<a href="#">Click Here</a>	For details of all our services
<a href="#">Click Here</a>	To download the September prayer diary
<a href="#">Click Here</a>	To join the St Nicholas prayer gathering on Tuesday evening
<a href="#">Click Here</a>	For Zoom link to weekly TIG Prayer Meetings
<a href="#">Click Here</a>	To listen to "Come Praise and Glorify"

Reach

Nurture

Equip

Send

To know Jesus and make Him known locally and globally