



3 OCTOBER 2021

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

Lectionary Readings

This week 3 October, 2021

Job 1:1, 2:1-10
Psalm 26
Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12
Mark 10:2-16

Next week 10 October, 2021

Job 23:1-9, 16-17
Psalm 22:1-15
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

COVID Update

While the Public Health Orders will determine actual permitted return to worship dates, Church Council, following guidelines from the Synod, will need to decide when we actually return.

Our decision will be made easier if we know the majority of our members are double vaccinated.

We encourage you to get vaccinated, not only to protect yourself but also your family and friends.

If you are needing a medical exemption, make sure you visit your GP and obtain a medical exemption certificate.

Marriage & Divorce **Mark 10:1-16**

Many Christians take the teaching of Jesus in Mark 10 at face value and speak of marriage as being 'indissoluble'.

Jesus teaches a high view of marriage. It is an exclusive covenant between two people, calling for faithfulness within the relationship and chastity outside it.

His censures against divorce are intended to protect the weaker party (women, in his culture) and those who would suffer as a result of one partner breaking the marriage bond. The sinned-against are not condemned here, as we sometimes think.

Whenever we debate a sensitive ethical or moral issue, we need to remember that real people are involved. Real people with painful experiences. And real people with deep convictions.

In the Gospel there is healing for the wounded and broken-hearted. There is a God who, in Jesus Christ, shows us that, however other human beings may have betrayed us, he is constantly faithful. In him we find hope, and he calls his people to model that faithful love, not only in family life but also as we love the wounded.

But above all, let us pray for and give practical support to those in our midst who are married; to those who suffer the ongoing pain of divorce; to those who have lived through faithful marriages but now miss their spouses; to those who are not married – some happy with that situation, others not so; some who may yet marry and others who never will. For the love of God in Christ makes each one dearly valued and esteemed by him.—Adrian