

## MAGAZINE OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH HAARLEM

July 2022, Issue 192

*The Anglican Church Haarlem is an Anglican church in the Netherlands with a simple philosophy – to teach the word of God and provide a haven of comfort, fellowship and Christian love amongst our community.*



<https://anglican-church-haarlem.nl>

email us at [anglican.church.haarlem@gmail.com](mailto:anglican.church.haarlem@gmail.com)

Recent issues of *Lifeline* can be found on <http://www.anglican-church-haarlem.nl/category/all/lifelines>

### Priest in Charge

Wardens

Secretary

Lifeline Editor

### Rev. Bruce Rienstra

Martin van Bleek, John Scott

Anni Kearney

Philip Whittaker

All payments, donations, general, missions, subscriptions to postal printed *Lifeline* (minimum to cover costs €12.50/year), please to: bank nr: NL87 INGB 0000 5776 41, Church of England Haarlem. Please indicate purpose of any payment made (donation, mission, Lifeline, etc.)

*Lifeline* contains the official Haarlem chaplaincy news and various articles. However, the views expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the Chaplaincy or the Editor.

## *From our Chaplain - Rev. Bruce Rienstra*

It's the end of June / beginning of July and it's summertime.

In our house we keep our windows and doors open to let the fresh air in; even when it's a bit cooler the door remains open. This is partly because Jake our border collie would drive us crazy wanting to go in and out all the time: my mother would have said "...d'r in d'r uit, d'r in d'r uit, d'r in d'r uit, ....." . Whatever the reason for the open door, we're very happy we can do so finally.

I'm reminded of a retreat house I knew in the Cotswolds - the House of the Open Door Community. Their Community is to encourage discipleship. They are an open door to people of all faiths and not only Christianity. They are about "*Behold I have set before you an open door which no-one can shut ...*" (Revelation 3 v.8),

The principle and indeed the example of an open door is a very good one. An open door is welcoming; if a church has its doors open then people will quite naturally enter. Whether or not they are religious, people will come in, to sit quietly, to look around or perhaps simply to let their minds wander just a bit.

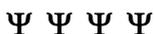
But our lives can also be equated to a door. If we are like a closed door we make it difficult for people to get to know us; if we open up the door then relationships happen. Why? because we are open to it.

The same applies to our relationship with God. We need to be open to God, we need to allow God into our lives. If we remain closed to God then the Holy Spirit won't work in us.

When we reflect on that verse from Revelation, *God has his door open, and nobody can shut it*. If we wish to enter, then he will let us in. But our door also needs to be open because relationships work both ways. We have to respond to God; His door is open, but are we open to allowing the Holy Spirit to enter?

This summer as you open your door to the garden, to the balcony, or to the street to let the summer warmth in, reflect if your own door, the door to your heart and soul, is open to others and to God? Amen.

*Bruce Rienstra*



## ***Music Matters***

On Whitsunday the choir, together with the Anglican Singers, sang our annual Choral Evensong in the Bavo; this followed after the Choral Eucharist in our own church. This was our first evensong in the Bavo in three years, and felt heart-warming! Our service opened their Vesper season and was well attended. Fr Bruce read the lessons and prayers in Dutch, but ended with the blessing in English. We were delighted to have Christina Edelen playing for us, as her final farewell before she and Fred return to the States.

On Trinity Sunday, 12 June, we had our special Celebration Service to celebrate the appointment of our chaplain Revd Bruce Rienstra.



Although Bruce had been appointed in January, Covid measures forced us at that time to keep the service small. This celebration service was a choral evensong. The mayor and his wife and representatives from other Haarlem churches attended the service as did most of the clergy, Anglican and Old Catholic, who had helped us so wonderfully through our almost 5 year long vacancy.

After the service we all walked to the Sociëteit De Vereeniging for the Reception.

We had the opportunity there to thank all the clergy for their contributions keeping us going as a church during its long inter-regnum, each with a bouquet of flowers. We were also able to thank our mayor Jos Wiene for his support of the churches in Haarlem.



As 'toetje' Laretta treated us to Dame Myra Hess' adaptation of Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring on the grand piano in the hall.

Looking ahead, Sunday 17 July will be our last choral eucharist before the holidays, as our choir will be on holiday until 4 September, for our first Choral Eucharist. This break will be somewhat of a working holiday as we shall be singing the services in Portsmouth Cathedral from 1 - 7 August. The Evensongs will be at 5.45 pm, with Thursday as our day off. If you are in the neighbourhood we should be delighted to see you.



After the summer holidays we will be re-introducing the St. Mary's Mass for our Choral Eucharists, continuing to use the Folk Mass for the Sung Eucharists without the choir. Eventually we will bring back the Morning and Evening Prayer services followed by communion. So gradually we will go to the more varied pattern of services which we enjoyed before the Corona pandemic.

We wish you all a very good holiday and our thanks for your continued support!

*Martin van Bleek*  
*Director of Music*



## Children's Church Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup> during the service

Things got a little technical in last month's Children's Church when we discussed the Trinity.

We started by looking at the lovely church window with its three circles in one larger circle.

We enjoyed inspired discussion - "How can God be three in one?"

And we noted, even though there is just one of each one of us, we are many things to many people - brother, sister, friend, student etc (some sticky post-it notes helped to demonstrate this!)

A game involving some cutlery provided a fun end to our session!

Check out the photo - how quickly can you do this?

Children's Church runs on the fourth Sunday of each month with games and fun as we learn!

Contact us for more information: [Anglican.church.haarlem@gmail.com](mailto:Anglican.church.haarlem@gmail.com)



## ***Breakfast Club, 25<sup>th</sup> June***

The breakfast on Saturday 25th June at 9.30am proved a big success - and it will be happening again after the summer - check the website for the next one. It is a traditional British Brekkie, a great way to start the weekend, and of course the chance to socialise.



## ***The Lent Discussion Group – March / April 2022***

*(omitted from some copies of the last Lifeline)*

**During Lent** the discussion group met once again online. This is proving a great way of seeing each other in a relaxed way in our own homes.

The 14 participants were divided into two groups meeting for four sessions either on a Tuesday or Thursday evening as preparation leading up to Holy Week and Easter.

The York course booklet

***Handing on the Torch – Sacred words for a secular world*** was the starting point for sharing and discussing our faith.

We discussed how the ‘Christian Country’ of childhood days has changed through individualism, secularisation and affluence. We considered what this means for us as Christians living in a secular society where Church going is no longer the norm. It was inspiring to share different experiences in our journeys of faith and the relevance for our everyday lives.

As food for thought here are two questions for reflection:

***Who handed on the torch of faith to you?***

***How can we pass on the love and light of Christ to those around us as individuals and as Haarlem Anglican Church?***

Diana & Gert

Ψ Ψ Ψ Ψ

**Absence**

I visited the place where we last met.  
Nothing had changed, the gardens were well-tended,  
The fountains sprayed their usual steady jet;  
There was no sign that anything had ended  
And nothing to instruct me to forget.

The thoughtless birds that shook out of the trees,  
Singing an ecstasy I could not share,  
Played cunning in my thoughts. Surely in these  
Pleasures there could not be a pain to bear  
Or any discord shake the level breeze.

It was because the place was just the same  
That made your absence seem a savage force,  
For under all the gentleness there came  
An earthquake tremor: fountain, birds and grass  
Were shaken by my thinking of your name.

*Elizabeth Jennings*  
*(July 18<sup>th</sup> 1925)*

+ + + +

God die ieder mens lief heeft,  
wij verlangen ernaar te leven  
in verbondenheid met U,  
dag in dag uit, in de stilte,  
in vrede en in liefde.

God who loves everyone,  
we long to live  
in touch with you  
day in, day out, in the quiet,  
in peace and in love.

*(thanks to Marga)*



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All are **most** welcome to our services in Church

Details can be checked in advance on our website [www.anglican-church-haarlem.nl](http://www.anglican-church-haarlem.nl)

<b>Sunday 3 July</b> <i>Thomas the Apostle</i> <i>Trinity 3</i>	14.30	<b>Choral Eucharist</b> - Rev. Bruce Rienstra
<b>Sunday 10 July</b> <i>Trinity 4</i>	14.30	<b>Sung Eucharist</b> - Rev. Bruce Rienstra
<b>Sunday 17 July</b> <i>Trinity 5</i>	14.30	<b>Choral Eucharist</b> - Rev. Bruce Rienstra
<b>Sunday 24 July</b> <i>Trinity 6</i>	14.30	<b>Sung Eucharist</b> - Rev. Bruce Rienstra
31 July - 7 August		The choir will be singing the daily services in Portsmouth Cathedral, U.K.
<b>Sunday 31 July</b> <i>Trinity 7</i>	14.30	<b>Said Eucharist</b> - Rev. Bruce Rienstra
<b>Sunday 7 August</b> <i>Trinity 8</i>	14.30	NO SERVICE
<b>Sunday 14 August</b> <i>Trinity 9</i>	14.30	<b>Sung Eucharist</b> -Rev. Bruce Rienstra
<b>Sunday 21 August</b> <i>Trinity 10</i>	14.30	<b>Sung Eucharist</b> - Rev. Bruce Rienstra
<b>Sunday 28 August</b> <i>Trinity 11</i>	14.30	<b>Sung Eucharist</b> - Rev. Bruce Rienstra
<b>Sunday 4 September</b> <i>Trinity 12</i>	14.30	<b>Choral Eucharist</b> - Rev. Bruce Rienstra
<b>Sunday 25 September</b>	14.30	Children's Church (during the service)



