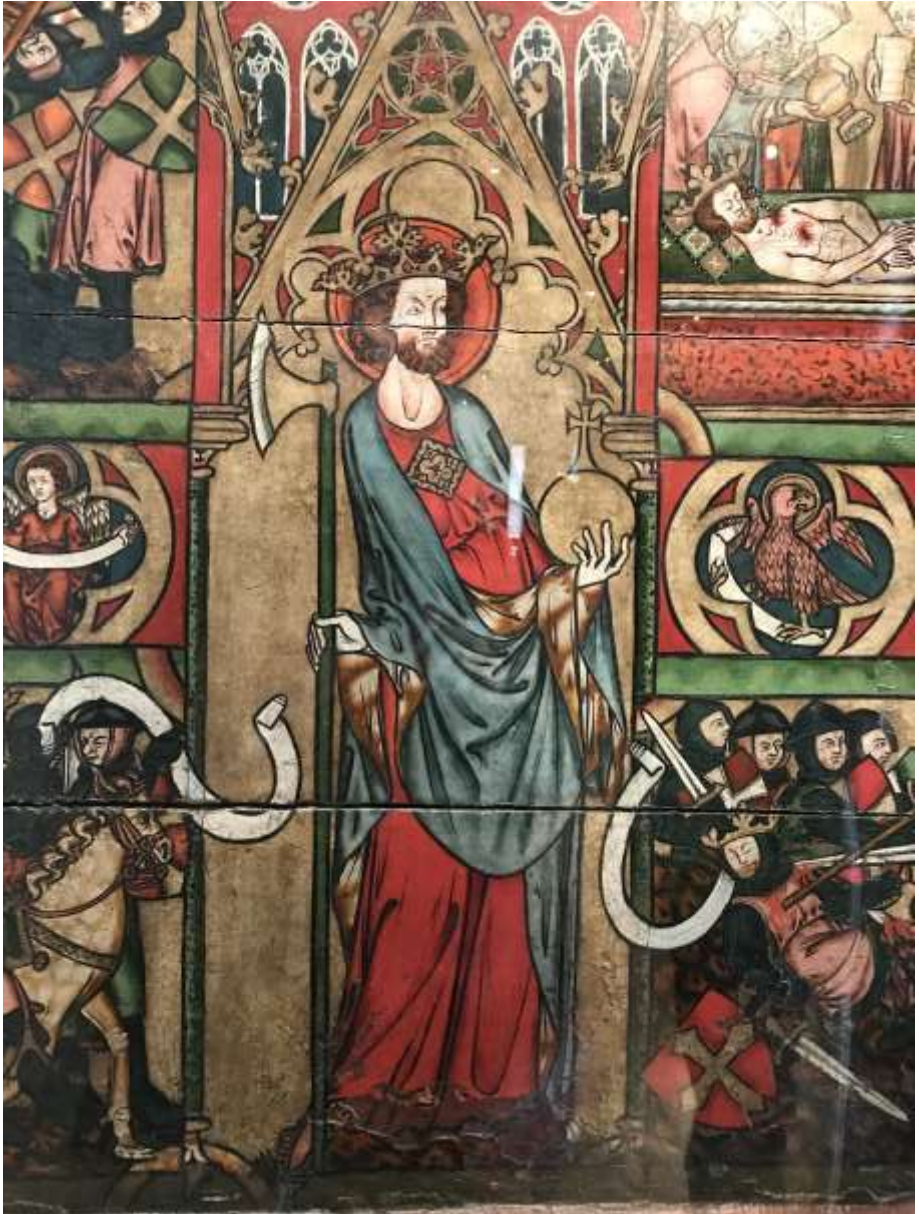


TOGETHER

The magazine of the Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway

OCTOBER 2022–JANUARY 2023



St Olav

The theme of this issue is Pilgrimage

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From the Senior Chaplain

**So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
(Colossians 3.1)**

Whatever can be said of the Christian life, it is not static. We are all on a journey, and our destination is the fulness of our life in Christ which we look forward to when we reach our heavenly home in the fulness of God's presence. In the meantime, we are pilgrims on a journey through this life, a journey of faith and of hope. It is a journey we travel in company. As affirms a beautiful hymn:

We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow travellers on the road.

We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

This issue of *Together* takes *Pilgrimage* as its theme. Pilgrim journeys in this life evoke the heavenward journey which we seek. Norway is a country with a rich history of pilgrimage and where the church has very much recovered a sense of pilgrimage in recent decades. The pilgrim routes to Trondheim, the burial place of St Olav, have been revived, tracing pilgrim routes which go back to the Middle Ages. Pilgrim priests have been assigned pastoral responsibility in different locations, and the ministry to pilgrims in Trondheim is alive and flourishing.

So Trondheim offered a fitting venue for the international conference of the Anglican Lutheran Society held there in late July during Olsok, the feast of St Olav, on the theme *Pilgrimage of Hope*. In fact the conference began on the feast day of St James, the great apostle who continues to inspire pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. As we gathered outside the Nidaros Cathedral before the celebration of Evening Prayer, a laurel wreath was ceremoniously placed over the figure of St James by one of the pilgrim priests, aided by a cherry picker. Later in the week, the figure of St Olav received a similar accolade.

As the conference explored themes of pilgrimage and hope, the climax of the week was participating in the St Olav celebrations: the early morning pilgrimage down into Trondheim; the evening pilgrimage through the streets and in churches narrating the story of St Olav from early sources with prayers and hymns interspersed; the Olavsvaka vigil in the Nidaros, with moving music contributed through the night by the Kyiv Chamber Choir, and the glorious Cathedral

celebration on the feast day itself rounded off by Ecumenical Vespers. It may certainly be said that liturgy here on earth offers a foretaste of heaven!

The conference benefited too from the close cooperation between our Anglican Congregation in Trondheim and The Church of Norway, being welcomed by members to the Nidaros Chapter House for worship and to a shared preaching of the word by the clergy, Sheila Rosenthal and Andreas Hilmo Grandy-Teig. The Church of Norway supported the conference splendidly throughout, including a keynote contribution from the Preces, Archbishop Olav Fykse Tveit, who with his own experience as General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, drew the connection with the WCC's *Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace* and to the importance of being open on our pilgrimage to receiving the gifts of others.

That pilgrimage has entered a new stage this summer with the 11th Assembly of the WCC held in Karlsruhe Germany. Again pilgrimage has been given important emphasis, with an invitation for our pilgrimage to go deeper still to become a *pilgrimage of justice, reconciliation, and unity* as we go forward in fellowship together. More on this significant gathering can be found later in this issue.

Gratitude to Sheila and to Jo White for their reflections on what it means to be a pilgrim. Jo also points us to the journey's end for a pilgrim, recalling the recent death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and her constancy as a pilgrim to the very end of her life. It has become very apparent how the Queen's faithful and dedicated service has been an inspiration to people around the world. What a fine witness she has been to her faith in the Lord who has sustained and guided her through her long reign.

Her passing represents a great loss for us, but also serves to point us to the heavenward goal to which we are ourselves invited to orientate our lives. As the Letter to the Hebrews reminds us, here we have no lasting city, but we are looking for the city that is to come. That is the destination of our pilgrimage. What greater accolade or comfort could we seek than to hear the voice of our Lord 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'

May the Lord bless and strengthen us in our pilgrimage, and may he bring us to that everlasting home in his presence.

Revd Canon Joanna Udal, Senior Chaplain

Bergen notes

Greetings from Bergen! Ministry over the summer months was relatively back to normal after two summers of the pandemic. Tourists returned to Bergen as did their attendance at our services in Mariakirken, averaging around 50–60 in attendance each Sunday. It was wonderful to have so many visitors among us once again. While new faces appeared, many of the familiar faces of Ukrainian refugees who were with us in the spring were gone after being relocated to other parts of Norway throughout the summer. We were sad to say goodbye but wished them well as they begin to build a new life in other parts of Norway. I am very glad to report that a few of the refugees have remained with us after being placed in Bergen. Some have become quite involved in our congregation by helping with our coffee hour fellowship and Mila Poturæva continues to read the first lesson and give the intercessory prayers in Ukrainian each Sunday.

To kick off the summer, we held our first potluck lunch and Beetle Drive since the pandemic ended. This was a wonderful time of food, fun and fellowship. The funds raised from the Beetle Drive were given to the church building project we support in Uganda at St. Luke's Anglican Church – Muni. We have also been working on building up our youth ministry. We held our first youth gathering for teenagers in June in Mariastuen. This first gathering focused on helping the kids get to know one another with board games and pizza. The next gathering is planned for the end of September which will include a 'holy hike' and litter pick-up activity on top of Fløien to care for God's creation.

The summer ended on a sad note however, with the death of Susan Elizabeth Gjerde, a cherished long-time member of the congregation. Many of you throughout the Chaplaincy will have known Susan who was our synod representative. Susan was a faithful servant of Christ and a great friend to many, and we miss her deeply. In September we moved into our observance of the Season of Creation in order to bring awareness of, advocate and protect God's creation. Our congregation has been working diligently to implement the Chaplaincy Environmental Policy in recent months. One particular initiative that we are excited about is organising recycling bins (paper, plastic and metal) for Mariastuen. There are now numerous groups besides us that meet in Mariastuen each week and we hope the new bins will encourage them to recycle, including

us! We are also looking forward to Harvest Festival on Sunday 2 October, which will include a potluck lunch and Beetle Drive.

Looking even further ahead to Advent, our Christmas Choir will soon begin rehearsing each Thursday in Mariakirken. The schedule is set for our Service of Nine Lessons and Carols in both Korskirken on 17 December (at 15:00) and Mariakirken on 18 December (at 18:00). The carol services continue to be a highlight of our ministry during Advent and we will hold a Christmas Day service of Holy Communion in Mariakirken at 11:00. Wishing the Chaplaincy every blessing throughout the autumn and into the new church year!

Revd Dr Kirk Weisz, Bergen Assistant Chaplain

Stavanger notes/jottings

The latest and best piece of news from Stavanger is that a young couple from the congregation has become young parents! Baby Josephine was born on 14 September to Isabel and Jan Olav!

The first service after our traditional July 'off' was taken by Revd Sheila, whose original plans for a road trip 'down south' with bobbi, husband and dogs were thwarted by circumstances beyond her control. Sheila rapidly rejigged her arrangements, flew down (and a little across) to lead a wonderful and refreshing Holy Communion service. Revd Morten, André and 'our' Revd Geir filled our calendar of Sundays for the rest of August and into September. I take the opportunity here to reiterate our thanks to all the clergy, lay readers and leaders who offer to take our services, be they in person or online. Stavanger has been, and continues to be, so blessed in this respect.

In August, André and Jo joined the North Sea Baptists and the International Church of Stavanger in organising and leading another successful Vacation Bible School, this year under the theme 'Celebrating God's Greatness'. In the coming months, our committee intends to reflect on how to make our Sundays at church together more attractive to (parents with) young children ...

Jane has 'raised' a church ladies social group which meets in a different restaurant every six weeks or so for an evening of fellowship and good fare. We are carefully monitoring the church chaps to see if they follow suit!

The Stavanger congregation, led by Revd Geir, whilst mourning Queen Elizabeth's passing, also gave thanks on Sunday 11 September for her life and extraordinary devotion to her duty and peoples. Jane baked a Victoria sponge in her honour.



Last but not least, during a family trip in August, we happened to find ourselves (after a visit to a Norwegian vineyard!!), not far from Balestrand. We took a short detour and were able to visit the beautiful St Olaf's Church that we had heard so much about but had never seen.

Sarah Denieul-Lalljee, Assistant Churchwarden, Stavanger



Trondheim notes

To say it has been a quiet few months is too strong, but it's almost accurate. July was beset with Bergen weather, non-stop rain and low temperatures, so nothing much seems to stay in the memory for this time. We had the pleasure of being involved a little with the Anglo-Lutheran conference of which we spoke in the

last Together magazine. We were blessed to have Mary Strømmen, one of our previous chaplains here, take a service for us in August whilst I was in the Black Forest on holiday.

We have a new assistant churchwarden, Logan Boese. He's an American working in Trondheim and a great asset, as he has studied theology as well as having a good business eye for accounts and suchlike.

In late September we will have had an exclusive visit to the cathedral given to us by the Head Verger. Sjur Olsburg will be showing us round the parts of the cathedral never usually seen by tourists, a great privilege indeed. Sadly, at the time of writing this the event has yet to happen so no pictures yet! We will celebrate Harvest in October on the theme of the eternal nature of God, taking the phrase 'as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be' as our due for reflection. This takes place in the delightful surroundings of Fjellseter chapel, in the hills above the city.

In November we will have the annual service of remembrance and the craft and goodies sale to boost our coffers a little and the Carol Service on December 13 in the cathedral and the sokneprest, Andreas Hilmo Grandy-Tieg will be preaching.



Everybody's memory is of course occupied with the funeral of the late Queen. When the news came through I was in southern Germany but the great team that we have here swung into action with our colleagues from the Church of Norway, especially the Dean, Ragnhild Jepson, playing host to the British Consul whilst Susan Boyd provided a Book of Condolence under the flags of the Royal Navy and the King of Norway.



After so long a time of rain, the coming of the sun is tinged with some trepidation, as once the cloud cover has gone, the temperatures will start to fall and the dark days of winter will be with us. But our Carol Service falls on the feast day of Saint Lucia so the theme of Eternal Light will be somewhere in the background as we welcome the city to our very Anglican service. The year turns and the whirligig of time turns with it, but faith, hope and love abide.

Revd Sheila Rosenthal, Trondheim Assistant Chaplain

Oslo notes

Summer has been a fruitful time with two ordinands in training for ordained ministry on placement with us at St Edmund's. Hannah Chester was with us from Trinity College, Bristol, on the Sundays of June and beginning of July while on placement with the Church of Norway parish of Lillestrøm, a splendid example of Porvoo Co-operation in action. Seb Lundberg was with us full-time for the whole month of August from Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford.



Both were a real blessing to have with us and brought fresh ideas and insights. It was particularly fruitful having Seb as part of our life of prayer and ministry for the whole of August, enabling us to have the church open for daily Morning and Evening Prayer during the week, and enabling us to plan and conduct events to welcome new students and researchers. We had a lively basement tea party, with even more scones and cake than students, so we very much needed the holy hike in the forest of Nordmarka to walk it all off! We also enjoyed a barbecue for youth and families and were blessed with the most beautiful evening of the late summer. It has been a joy to welcome newcomers to St Edmund's and to welcome back old-timers. We plan to continue our activities with a Creationtide forest hike as we mark the Church's Season of Creation.



We had already launched into these new activities when we received the sad news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. This was especially poignant to us having so recently celebrated with joy her Platinum Jubilee. We opened St Edmund's for prayer and signing the book of condolence over the following days and incorporated special prayers into our services. On Sunday 18 September the church was full to capacity for a Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving for The Queen. The British Ambassador read a lesson and we were glad of the participation of the Canadian Ambassador too, as we all expressed our gratitude for Her Majesty's lifetime of devoted service and her Christian faith which sustained her.

As the leaves now begin to change colour, Oslo Kulturmatt has brought new visitors to our doors for Choral Evensong to enjoy the canticles setting in C by Stanford, while the Drammen Ladies' Guild have continued their prayers and fellowship in Bragemes Church. We look forward to the celebration of harvest, both at St Edmund's on 2 October and, we hope, with a Harvest Evensong on 1 October at Horten.

Revd Canon Joanna Udal, Oslo Chaplain

To be a pilgrim

When asked to write a piece of the newsletter and told the theme is 'pilgrimage', the first thing that came to my mind was an old (circa late 1600s) hymn by John Bunyan entitled 'He who would valiant be ...'. It was a hymn I sang at primary school and enjoyed for three reasons. Firstly – the music is lively. Well at least our teacher who played the piano in assembly played it with pace so it was fun to sing in comparison to singing hymns in church at the time (without revealing age – late 1970's). Secondly, John Bunyan was imprisoned (for refusing to conform to the state church, and I definitely

identified with that!) near my primary school for a time, down a road that began at the pub 'The Wicked Lady' and near the 'John Bunyan' pub (spot the child rebel) and thirdly, and perhaps most importantly, I liked the words and the meaning behind them.

My primary aged child liked the idea of being 'valiant against all disaster'. A head filled with the Arthurian legends, Grimms fairy tales and Enid Blyton adventures through reading, this seemed like a challenge I could join in, especially as the other verses mention hobgoblins, foul fiends, lions to fright and giants fight! These words gave life to the phrase 'our fight is not against flesh and blood but against ... the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.' Ephesians 6:12.

There were other words and phrases that a child experiences such as 'discouragement', 'dismal stories' and particularly – 'fear(ing) what men (other children) say'. But alongside these words there are comments of encouragement such as 'let him in constancy follow the Master. There's no discouragement shall make him once relent, his first avowed intent', 'his strength the more is' and greatest of all 'he knows, he at the end shall life inherit'. It ends with the pilgrim being re-energised 'then fancies fly away, he'll NOT fear what men say, he'll labour night and day to be a pilgrim.' (emphasis mine)

The pilgrim has made a vow to 'follow the Master' until 'he at the end shall life inherit'. The vow is made with an assurance, a confidence that he KNOWS, he at the end shall LIFE INHERIT. With this confidence the pilgrim can face discouragement and not relent, they can fight giants and not fear lions, hobgoblins or foul fiends. The pilgrim knows her strength is greater because it is strength from God – 'The Lord is my strength and my song: He has given me victory.' Psalms 118:14 and 'For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.' Philippians 4:13. The pilgrim believes these verses and trusts them. This is the pilgrim's secret to keeping going on the long journey. The pilgrim knows it's work 'he'll labour night and day' but for the promise at the end, keeps going. This is pilgrimage, and this writer liked it and wanted to 'be a pilgrim'.

It is often said that the company of other pilgrims along the way also plays an important part of the pilgrimage. Whilst this is true, and at times it is important to have others to walk with

you and for you to walk with others, it is important that the pilgrim also learns to walk alone with God, developing a personal relationship, learning to depend solely on God and deepening an understanding of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. However, as a child at primary school responding to the hymn, this pilgrim didn't have same aged pilgrims to walk with her but was supported and encouraged by family that walked the pilgrimage with confidence and assurance.

I still respond to the challenge, hope, confidence and inspiration in this hymn and continue 'to be a pilgrim'.

This week people have reflected on the life of Queen Elizabeth II. Constancy, strength to keep going and the acceptance that it is hard work have been repeatedly highlighted. Queen Elizabeth dedicated her life to serving her country. But she said it was her faith in The Lord that helped her keep this promise: she 'pilgrimed' to the end of her life.

He who would valiant be
 'gainst all disaster,
 let him in constancy
 follow the Master.
 There's no discouragement
 shall make him once relent
 his first avowed intent
 to be a pilgrim.

Whoso beset him round
 with dismal stories,
 do but themselves confound -
 his strength the more is.
 No lions can him fright,
 though he with giants fight,
 but he will have a right
 to be a pilgrim.

Hobgoblin nor foul fiend
 can daunt his spirit;
 he knows, he at the end
 shall life inherit.
 Then fancies fly away,
 he'll fear not what men say,
 he'll labour night and day
 to be a pilgrim.

John Bunyan 1684 (The hymn version from the book *Pilgrim's Progress*)

Jo White, Stavanger

		Oslo			Bergen		Readings		Stavanger		Trondheim	
OCTOBER												
Sun	02	Trinity 16	11:00	All-Age Sung Communion Harvest Festival	11:00	Harvest Festival Eucharist	2 Timothy 1.1-14 Luke 17.5-10	10:30	Holy Communion Menighetshuset	11:00 18:00	Online service Holy Communion Chapter House	
Sun	09	Trinity 17	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	2 Timothy 2.8-15 Luke 17.11-19	10:30	Family Communion Menighetshuset	11:00 18:00	Harvest at Fjellseter Holy Communion Chapter House	
Sun	16	Trinity 18	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Eucharist	2 Timothy 3.14-4.5 Luke 18.1-8	10:30	Service of the Word Menighetshuset	18:00	Holy Communion Cathedral	
Sun	23	Last after Trinity	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Eucharist	2 Timothy 4.6-8,16-18 Luke 18.9-14	10:30	Harvest Festival Menighetshuset	18:00	Holy Communion Chapter House	
Sun	30	All Saints	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Eucharist	Ephesians 1.11-23 Luke 6.20-31		Sorry no service	18:00	Holy Communion Chapter House	
NOVEMBER												
Sun	06	3 before Advent	11:00 18:00	All-Age Sung Communion Service of Light	11:00	Eucharist	Job 19.23-27a Luke 20.27-38	10:30	Family Communion Menighetshuset	11:00 18:00	Online Service Holy Communion Chapter House	
Sun	13	Remembrance Sunday	10:30	Service of Remembrance	11:00	Remembrance/ Service of the Word	Malachi 4.1-2a Luke 21.5-19	11:00 12:00	Eiganes Cemetery Sola kapell	10:45 18:00	Stavne Commonwealth War Graves Holy Communion Chapter House	
Sun	20	Christ the King	11:00	Sung Communion Patronal Festival	11:00	Safeguarding Sunday/ Eucharist	Jeremiah 23.1-6 Luke 23.33-43	10:30	Service of the Word Zoom	18:00	Evening Prayer Cathedral	
Sun	27	Advent 1	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Eucharist	Isaiah 2.1-5 Matthew 24.36-44	10:30	Service of the Word TBA	18:00	Holy Communion Cathedral	
DECEMBER												
Sun	04	Advent 2	11:00	All-Age Sung Communion	11:00	Eucharist	Isaiah 11.1-10 Matthew 3.1-12	10:30	Service of the Word Menighetshuset	11:00 18:00	Online service (Zoom) Holy Communion Chapter House	
Sun	11	Advent 3	11:00 18:00	Sung Communion Nine Lessons and Carols	11:00	Eucharist	Isaiah 35.1-10 Matthew 11.2-11	10:30	Christingle Menighetshuset	18:00	Holy Communion Chapter House	
Sun	18	Advent 4	11:00	Sung Communion	18:00	Service of Nine Lessons and Carols	Isaiah 7.10-16 Matthew 1.18-end	10:30	Family Communion Menighetshuset	18:00	Holy Communion Cathedral	
Sun	25	Christmas	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Eucharist	Isaiah 9.2-7 Luke 2.1-14[15-20]	10:30	Family Communion Menighetshuset	11:00	Holy Communion Vår Frue	
JANUARY												
Sun	01	Christmas 2	11:00	All-Age Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	Isaiah 63.7-9 Matthew 2.13-end	10:30 TBC	Family Service Menighetshuset	11:00 18:00	Online service (Zoom) Holy communion Chapter House	
Sun	08	Epiphany 1	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Eucharist	Isaiah 41.1-9 Matthew 3.13-end	10:30 TBC	Holy Communion Menighetshuset	18:00	Holy Communion Chapter House	
Sun	15	Epiphany 2	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Eucharist	Isaiah 49.1-7 John 1.29-42	10:30 TBC	Family Communion Menighetshuset	18:00	Holy Communion Cathedral	
Sun	22	Epiphany 3 Unity Week	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Eucharist	Isaiah 9.1-4 Matthew 4.12-23	10:30 TBC	Café Church Menighetshuset	18:00	Holy Communion Chapter House	
Sun	29	Candlemas	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Eucharist	Malachi 3.1-5 Luke 2.22-40		Sorry no service	18:00	Hoy Communion Chapter House	

Pilgrim, tourist, resident, just passing through

The pictures are of the front/west end of the cathedral, 2 Norwegian friends in national dress and the globe that hung in the cathedral during this year's Olaf festival.



Trondheim, as you know, is a centre of pilgrimage – or rather it's where pilgrimages finish. There are the requi-

site pilgrim accoutrements: a tomb, a statue, a chapel, a Pilgrim Centre with books, a place to eat and rest, a cathedral for prayer and worship and someone to stamp your proof of travel and arrival when you finally make it over the hills from far away. There is also a shop where you can buy pilgrim things with the pilgrim badge on. Looks like a pilgrim, sounds like a pilgrim (smells like a pilgrim!) must be ...

Others come here as tourists, they do not come to worship or to reflect, they come to see, to meander, to take photos of the cathedral bells when they are ringing (I do not understand this, the bells cannot be seen to be ringing but photos seem mostly to be taken when the bells can



be heard) spend money – and dodge vicious seagulls. The intention is to see, hear, taste, and go on to the next place where all of the above will be repeated. Those who live in other tourist areas the world over, will recognise the type. Looks like a tourist, spends like a tourist, must be ...

Those of us who live here can tell the difference between these 2 groups. The tourists tend to wear the same-coloured jackets if they've come off a cruise ship or tour bus and hold maps/GPS devices whilst peering hopefully.



Pilgrims look peaceful and not a little smug if they've done the route by foot (these often limp with understandable pride). Pilgrims inhabit the cathedral as if given a special right of occupancy when their pilgrim pass was stamped. In

winter, foreign tourists slip on the ice while we residents know about pigs on shoes (aka spikes) and where the ice is most likely to gather. Residents launch themselves onto pedestrian crossings whereas tourists hesitate – this is especially so of English tourists who know the ways of English motorists and not the Norwegian Protocol of the Absolute Rights of Pedestrians at Crossings. Both pilgrims and tourists are often found eating waffles and drinking hot chocolate outside – something residents rarely do, especially in July, as the perishing seagulls will steal your buns. Pilgrims have a way about them that is sedate and steady, tourists are eager to get to the next thing; residents just 'go about their business' watching out for erratic behaviour from either group when something is suddenly seen that must be 'selfied'.

Trondheim is the umpteenth neighbourhood I have lived in. Counting from the place I was born to here and now takes me more places than I care to count this side of a gin and tonic. I am truly an itinerant, a nomad, a rootless person. For me home really is, as they say, where the Wi-Fi connects automatically. And yet I feel 'at home' in many places and none, always aware there may be another move to make, always aware that graves do not hold memories, hearts do. I envy those who have stayed in one place for all their lives and yet am amazed that one place can be sufficient for some for all that A Life can hold.

Revd Sheila Rosenthal

A coastal pilgrimage of sail

M/K Faxsen is a veteran fishing boat built in 1916, now operated by the coastal Heritage organisation 'Salta' in Bodø. The Pilgrims' organisation St. Nikolas arranged this trip.

In July 2021, myself and 7 others went aboard M/K Faxsen with 4 crew members, setting out from Bodø on Saturday 17 July, and arriving in Trondheim at the beginning of St. Olav's festival on 29



July. A wonderful Cathedral service was held in the evening welcoming especially all pilgrims.



We were accompanied by 2 sailing boats, one with a pilgrims' priest who led our services and gave us information about the various church-

es from the Middle Ages we visited along Helgeland coast: Gildeskål, Dønnes, Herøy, Alstadhaug, the Petter Dass Museum and Olavskilden in Sønna.

Susan Boyd, Trondheim

World Council of Churches Assembly

This summer the World Council of Churches Assembly has been held in Europe for the first time since 1968 when it was held in Uppsala, Sweden. The 11th Assembly this year has been held in Karlsruhe, Germany from 31 August to 8 September. I was delighted to travel there as part of the Norwegian delegation, together with other representatives of the Norwegian Christian Council and of the Church of Norway.

A special ecumenical train from Copenhagen was arranged by the Danish Christian Council to take participants from Denmark, Sweden and Norway to the Assembly in Karlsruhe, Germany. Not only was this a contribution to reducing the carbon footprint for our travel but it also provided an enjoyable opportunity to get to know others from the region. In the morning I travelled with the Danish Bishop of Elsinore, a Swedish theology professor and a Swedish lawyer, and later with the leadership of the Danish Christian Council. The time passed very quickly, and it was very gratifying to find they even understood some of my efforts in Norwegian!

Unity through worship and prayer together

The World Council of Churches Assembly brought together over 4000 participants from churches around the world. A joyous assembly gathered in worship and prayer combined with deep engagement and reflection on far-reaching issues faced around the world. It was a remarkable feat of logistics and impressively led by the moderator, Dr Agnes Aboum, an Anglican from Kenya who after 9 years now passes on the baton to the German Lutheran Bishop of Bavaria.

Christ's love moves the world

The purpose of God's love in Christ for the whole of creation was the focus of the first thematic plenary session which raised concerns from around the world over threats to the environment and climate justice. The voices of indigenous peoples gave this added urgency, including from Sami people whose natural world, culture and way of life are threatened. How does Christ's love move the world to act in solidarity and for the wellbeing of all?

As part of a plenary on Europe, a delegation from Ukraine described the daily fear and suffering of their people following the Russian invasion. With Russian church representatives also present, they urged the necessity to stand up for truth and for a just peace in their country. Amidst this lamentable disunity, how does Christ's love move the world to reconciliation?

A pilgrimage of justice, reconciliation, and unity

Going forward, the Assembly committed to seeking a closer unity founded in Christ's love, confident that this love will sustain us in overcoming division and exclusion and in embracing everyone. We are reminded of the wider vision of the reconciliation and unity of all humanity, and indeed of the entire cosmos. We are all invited to be part of this pilgrimage of justice, reconciliation, and unity.

On a personal note, it was also a joy to be reunited with ecumenical friends from around the world, including some of those I had once studied with in the Ecumenical Graduate School of the World Council of Churches at Bossey in Switzerland. The ecumenical movement continues to be a rich and inspiring resource to the life and mission of the church. An ecumenical formation contributes not only to unity among the churches but also towards unity across differences of culture, ethnicity and identity around the world. I was glad of this opportunity to share something of the impact this has had for my own subsequent life and ministry.

Revd Canon Joanna Udal, Senior Chaplain

Diocesan Synod Report

It was good to be able to meet again in person after two years on zoom.

This was the beginning of the new triennium with approximately 50% of new delegates, 53 elected and ex-officio members. We returned to our very comfortable venue the Cardinal Schulte Haus.

The opening session included the general welcome to all, Process and Practice of Synod, past minutes for approval and then going onto the Presidential address by Bishop Robert.

Worshipping, daily Bible study and partaking of meals together is of equal importance as our chosen topics and necessary formal matters to discuss, such as finances. The financial report was presented by Andrew Caspari and Mike Fegan. Tremendous work done by so few people in the office. Excellent explanations were given, and time for questions, which were few. The financial plan was presented up to 2025. Adjustments will be made annually when and if necessary. The finances are approved in October at Bishop's Council. A big thank you was given to those who have paid into the hardship fund. There is still some money available for those Chaplaincies in difficulty. Please look hard at the criteria before applying. Also a big thank you was given to all who have paid their Common Fund contributions on time, which was most of us. Bishop Robert paid tribute to the resilience, perseverance and hard work of all as we coped with yet another year of uncertainty and unpredictability. 'In 2022 we face some new challenges: war in Ukraine ... rising inflation in Europe as a result, and the threat of famine in the global south'. We have almost 300 congregations in 40 countries in Europe, Russia and North Africa, being organised in 147 chaplaincies. 'The principal activity of the DBF, Diocese in Europe Board of Finance, is to promote, assist and advance mission.'

Each morning began with Bible study led by the Revd Jenni Williams. 'Recovery: Reflections on the Book of Haggai'. She tied in the happenings of the people in Haggai with what a similar situation could look like today, bringing in for many the traumatic impact of the pandemic and other traumatic situations that some face today, e.g. the refugee crisis.

Trauma Informed Ministry for times such as these, part 1 Individual trauma, part 2 Collective Trauma: these sessions were led by Revd Hilary Ison. Through her participation, 2017–20, at how better to prepare ministers to cope with tragedy and trauma in congregations, led her to develop resources and delivery training days for ordinands and curates, and during covid, providing online workshops for those in ministry.

<https://tragedyandcongregations.org.uk>,
<https://ison.systems>.

I was impressed by how well the various topics/themes/ Bible study/ worship of synod fitted in so well with each other.

Dr Clare Amos presented the new 'Walking Together in Faith: Learning for Lay People in the Diocese in Europe'. This course is for anybody in our churches who would like to have a deeper understanding of the basics and may be a springboard for further studies if so desired. We are fortunate that she has agreed to attend our Archdeaconry Synod to present this course to a wider audience. A letter was sent 25th May to all clergy and Readers explaining the aims of the course.

The Anti-Bullying Policy was presented by Revd Canon Bruce Bryant-Scott leader of the working group. This policy was asked for by a previous Synod so that we could have a procedure to follow when harassment or bullying occurs by lay or ordained in our chaplaincies. We have a clergy disciplining policy in place but nothing to help those struggling with bullying cases in our church communities by lay persons. We need to give the procedures as was said «more teeth». There is little in law to which unacceptable behaviour can be dealt with. We unanimously passed a motion supporting this matter to be taken forward to General Synod. Two documents are available on request:

The Effects of Bullying & Harassment of a Person on a Chaplaincy and the Diocese.

Promoting and Personally Adopting a Christian Culture of Tolerance, Respect, and Understanding.

The working group on Racial Justice gave us an update on their work and presented results from the audit report. Not all chaplaincies took part. We are strongly invited to take part in the new survey as this will help give a truer picture of % of racially minoritized people in positions of responsibility in our chaplaincies and congregations. Resources are being worked on: a prayer booklet, Bible studies on the theme Racial Justice, and training programs will become webinars. These resources will be found in the future on <https://europe.anglican.org/resources/resources>. The Revd Smitha Prasadam and The Ven Dr Leslie Nathaniel are two of the four in the working group from our Deanery.

We had a Synod session with the Net Zero Working Group. The Caring for Creation Policy was approved as were requests for this group to continue their work to promote the activity plan which was presented.

The Diocese of Europe is committed to 3 projects:

- ◇ Eco Church,
- ◇ Working towards Net Zero Carbon by 2030,
- ◇ To prioritise the Season of Creation from this year. We are urged to meet stated objectives in this report and updated reports will be presented at further councils and Synods.

Please encourage your Chaplaincy/ Congregational Environmental officers to look on the Diocesan website. I have a copy of the Phase 1 Activity Programme (2022–24) It is focused on energy, buildings, work-related travel. New points will be added as work progresses.

Other topics

The war in Ukraine and the Appeal for Aid. A big thank you to the people's generosity, helping will be necessary for a long time to come.

Safeguarding update was given by the Diocesan Safeguarding manager Grace Fagan-Stewart. Safeguarding cases are increasing as Safeguarding training is rolled out, this is expected as our awareness grows on what is a Safeguarding matter. A big thank you was given to all those involved in this challenging work. We had a very engaged, positive and encouraging presentation. A waiting list for courses has been created, there are monthly Safeguarding courses on various topics for Safeguarding officers (and ass. SO's). A Dashboard online tool has been developed to help with SO administration. We need to have a Safeguarding email address to use this tool. Checks: if you are having difficulty, please contact the DS Team as exemptions are given. One of the priorities for 2022–23 is to develop the Survivor Engagement Strategy.

Communications: Here the big plea was we are here to help you promote what is happening in your church. Stories, pictures gratefully received.

Women's Ministry had an informal meeting
LLF Advocate: reflections on the process thus far by the Diocese of Europe's Advocate: Canon Jack McDonald and Bp. Robert. A short video was shown from a Chaplaincy to give their thoughts on the course. Bishop Robert explained the timetable, way forward before the General Synod meeting in 2023. Lay representation would be included. The question of how this would be done, needed some further thought.

Ministry Experience Scheme Presentation by young people involved.

It was a good Synod with lots of interesting presentations, many of which will be presented at our Archdeaconry Synod in Stuttgart. Looking forward to seeing you there. Best wishes.

Susan J. Boyd, one of two Diocesan Synod reps for the Nordic and Baltic Deanery

A Call to Act Together

The message of the
World Council of Churches Assembly
held in Karlsruhe, Germany,
31 August–8 September 2022

The Love of Christ urges us on
(2 Cor. 5:14, NRSV)

'Come, follow me!'

1. From the time he journeyed on earth, and even in this present moment, Jesus unceasingly addresses these words to every human being. Jesus' life, words, and actions are a constant invitation to movement – from one physical place to another, from one group of people to another, from one mindset to another. Above all, amid the problems of the world, Jesus calls us to come to him and to abide in his love, a love which is offered for all the world (cf. Matt. 11:28).



2. The very last book of the Bible, Revelation, speaks of ancient forces of human suffering at work in the world: war, death, disease, and famine. As the assembly of the World Council of Churches gathered in Karlsruhe in 2022, we were conscious of their manifestations in the world today. In their wake come injustice and discrimination, where those who have power often use it to oppress others rather than to build inclusion, justice, and peace.

3. Individuals, peoples, and countries also face catastrophes arising directly from an irresponsible and broken relationship with creation that has led to ecological injustice and climate crisis.

As the climate emergency accelerates, so does the suffering experienced by impoverished and marginalized people.

4. Yet continuing our pilgrimage together as an assembly of the World Council of Churches, our mood has been one of anticipation and hope, and even joy, because through the power of the Holy Spirit, Christ's invitation remains open to everyone, in fact to the whole of creation.

5. *'Christ's love moves the world to reconciliation and unity.'* This love, in answer to the cries of those who are suffering, compels us to come to him in solidarity and to respond and act for justice. We are summoned to be reconciled in God's love, and to witness to that love revealed in Christ (1 John 4:9-11).

6. Reconciliation is a movement toward God and toward each other. It implies a readiness to listen to God and to one another. It is a conversion of the heart, from selfishness and apathy to inclusion and service, acknowledging our interdependence with creation. We confess that, even as we desire with our whole hearts to serve God and our neighbour, we have found ourselves failing, disagreeing, and sometimes walking in opposite directions. We confess that we need the transformative power of Christ's love to move to a world truly reconciled and united.

7. Christians, and the structures that we have built, have been complicit in the abuse of others, and we must repent and join in this movement of reconciliation. In the face of war, inequality, and sins against creation today, Christ's love calls us all to repentance, reconciliation, and justice.

Our journey together

8. Amid all our diversity, we have relearned in our assembly that there is a pilgrimage of justice, reconciliation, and unity to be undertaken together.

Meeting together in Germany, we learn the cost of war and the possibility of reconciliation;

Hearing the word of God together, we recognize our common calling;

Listening and talking together, we become closer neighbours;

Lamenting together, we open ourselves to each other's pain and suffering;

Working together, we consent to common action;

Celebrating together, we delight in each other's joys and hopes;

Praying together, we discover the richness of our traditions and the pain of our divisions.

'Go into the whole world'

9. From the time of his ascension into heaven, and even in this present moment, Christ unceasingly gives this command to all who follow him.

10. As reconciliation brings us closer to God and each other, it opens the way toward a unity founded in God's love. As Christians we are called to dwell in Christ's love and to be one (John 17). Such unity, which is a gift from God, and which arises from reconciliation and is grounded in his love, enables us to address the world's urgent problems. We will find a strength to act from a unity founded in Christ's love, for it enables us to learn the things that make for peace, to transform division into reconciliation, and to work for the healing of our living planet. Christ's love will sustain all of us in the task of embracing everyone and overcoming exclusion.

11. We have tasted the experience of such love as we gathered from 352 member churches with our ecumenical partners, friends from other faith communities, and from all regions of the world to seek unity amid our diversity. Together we have listened to voices often marginalized in the world: women, youth, people with disabilities, Indigenous peoples.

12. We long for a wider movement, the reconciliation and unity of all humanity, and indeed of the entire cosmos. This would be a unity in which God establishes justice, an equal place for all, through which creation may be renewed and strengthened. We rely on Christ's love as we act and advocate for climate justice. We join our voices with the Amsterdam assembly (1948) that 'war is contrary to the will of God,' and the Nairobi assembly (1975) that 'racism is a sin against God.' We lament that we have to repeat these statements.

13. In our assembly, we have used many words, but from these we have fashioned a new resolve. Now we ask God's assistance to transform our commitments into action. We commit ourselves to working with all people of good will. As we reflect on the fruits of our work in Karlsruhe, we invite all to become pilgrims together. For in Christ, all things will be made new. His love which is open to all, including the last, the least, and the lost, and is offered to all, can move and empower us in a pilgrimage of justice, reconciliation, and unity.



CAROL SERVICES IN NORWAY 2022

TUESDAY 6 DECEMBER

Bragernes Church, Drammen at 19.00

SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER

St Edmund's Church, Oslo at 18.00

TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER

Nidarosdomen, Trondheim at 18.00

SATURDAY 17 DECEMBER

Korskirken, Bergen at 15.00

SUNDAY 18 DECEMBER

Mariakirken, Bergen at 18.00

THURSDAY 22 DECEMBER

Oddernes Church, Kristiansand at 18.30

FRIDAY 23 DECEMBER

St Petri Church, Stavanger at 18.00

SATURDAY 24 DECEMBER

Carol singing outside St Edmund's Church, Oslo at 12.00



From the registers

BAPTISMS



Oslo

Alma Yelena Linnebo

St Edmund's Church

7 August 2022

Drammen

James Barnaba Chonye

Kele Luke

Joseph Emmanuel Moma

Phibe Joseph

Tula Chenga Lwada

Nenche Luke

Kema Luke

Buti Luke Noge

Roda Konya

Zenab Silomon

Billy Barnaba

25 September 2022

DEATHS



Bergen

Susan Elizabeth Gjerde

29 July 2022

THE ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY IN NORWAY, SUSAN, IRIS & NORAH INVITE ALL CHILDREN TO

Choom, Children's Zoom

ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 9.40–10.15

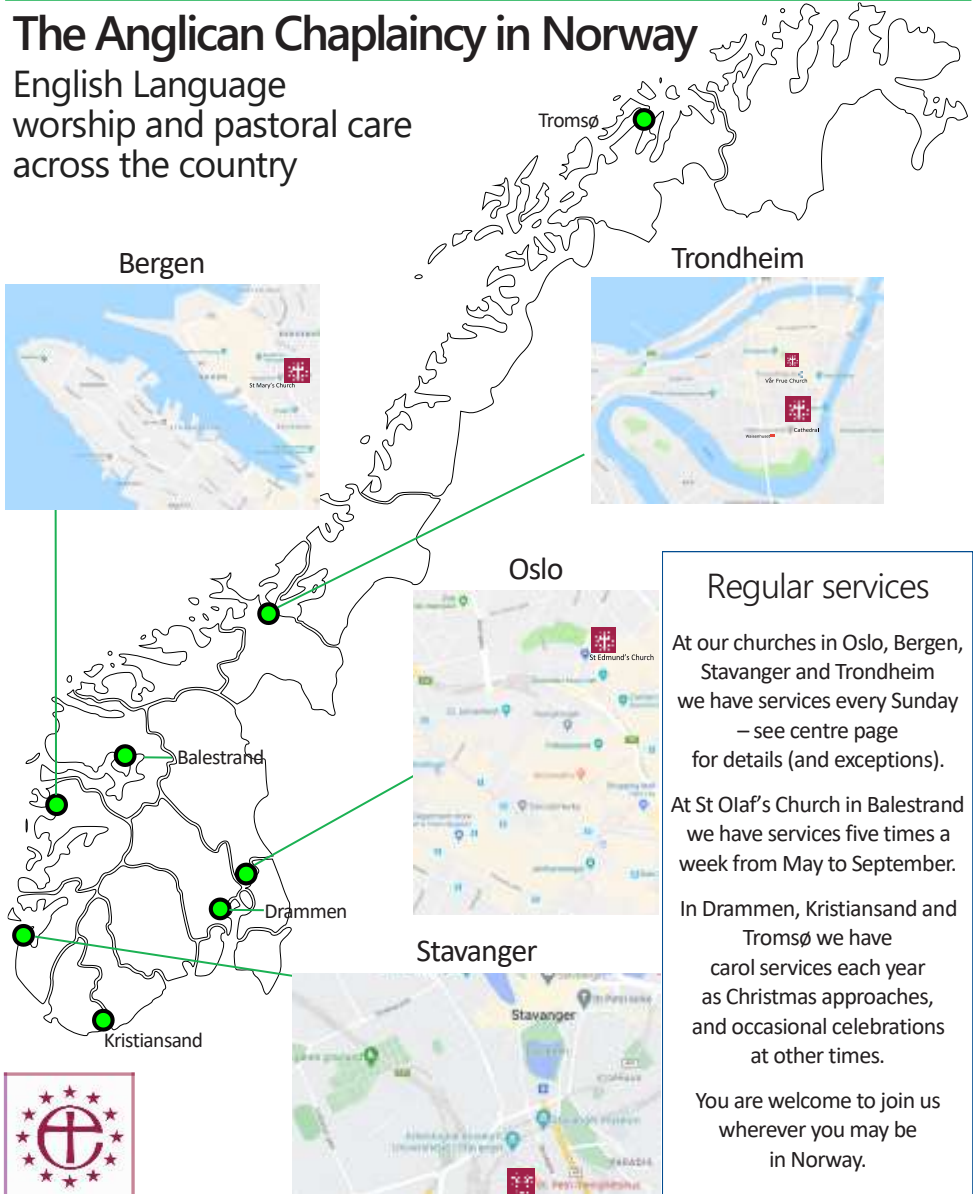




Retur: British Embassy,
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0244 Oslo

The Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway

English Language
worship and pastoral care
across the country



Regular services

At our churches in Oslo, Bergen, Stavanger and Trondheim we have services every Sunday – see centre page for details (and exceptions).

At St Olaf's Church in Balestrand we have services five times a week from May to September.

In Drammen, Kristiansand and Tromsø we have carol services each year as Christmas approaches, and occasional celebrations at other times.

You are welcome to join us wherever you may be in Norway.

