

# SERMON NOTES      Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October

## sunnysidechurch

**Bible passages: Psalm 33; Hebrews 4.12-16**

### Introduction

Letter to Hebrews focuses on three important things about Jesus and one about our response:

- Christ is superior over all things
- Christ fulfilled promises God made to Israel in Old Testament
- Christ is our High Priest which means he represents us before God
- we are called to stand firm and persevere in our faith

### Hebrews 4.12-16

- Word of God is alive and active
  - written word - Bible
  - living word - Jesus
  - shows us how to live as we were created to live
- Bad news
  - 'Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.' (v13)
  - we cannot escape this so might as well get on with it
  - let the word of God change us
- Good news
  - Jesus is on our side
    1. he understands what it means to be human (v15)
    2. he brings us into the presence of God (v16)

### Conclusion

Our response: 'Therefore...let us hold firmly to the faith we profess (v14)

### Some questions for discussion

1. What book (other than the Bible!) has had the greatest impact on you and why?
2. Read Hebrews 4.12-16. In what ways does this seem like bad news and good news to you?
3. 'The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me.' (Martin Luther) What do you think Luther meant?
4. How might you allow the word of God to be alive and active in your life?
5. What impact would it have on us if we lived as if we really believed that nothing is hidden from God?
6. How does this passage help you understand prayer better?
7. Read Psalm 33. In what ways does this Psalm deepen your understanding of the power of God's word and our response?
8. What is God asking you to do as a result of what he has said to you through these passages? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something he wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do. Make a note of it so you don't forget!

May your unfailing love be with us, Lord,  
even as we put our hope in you.

Psalm 33.22

Why not spend some time silently listening to what God is saying to you?

Revd Rebecca Fardell