

# Weekly Pewsheet

*Service Details and Notices*

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## Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

### Sunday 20 September 2020

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St Mary Ashwell



*“So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”*

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Notices or reports for inclusion in the pew sheet and website should be sent by Tuesday evening to [notices@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:notices@oakhamteam.org.uk)

## Safeguarding Officers

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*Please contact one of the Ministry Team if you would like a chat or a visit.*

## Bereavement Support

If you would like ongoing support while the Bereavement Group is not meeting, please leave your name, phone number and email (if applicable) at one of the contacts below. We will endeavour to get in contact. Sian Cheverton (01572 755286); Madeleine Morris (07754 414437); Parish Office (01572 724007) or email [bereavementsupport@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:bereavementsupport@oakhamteam.org.uk).

# From the Team Vicar

Dear Friends in Christ,

Yes, my greeting has changed deliberately this week. Why?

In the older translations of the Bible (of which my old faithful Jerusalem Bible, 1974 edition, is one) it often says 'brothers' whereas in the more recent inclusive translations it will say 'brothers and sisters'. I was echoing this previously in my greeting 'Brothers & Sisters in Christ' and to ensure that there was no question of all being equal sometimes reversed to 'Sisters & Brothers in Christ'!

Equality is something that Jesus addresses in today's gospel reading, the familiar story of the workers who, regardless of the length of their shifts, are all payed equally. There have been many interpretations of this story over the centuries, and a common initial response is that equal pay for unequal work is just not fair. But I wonder, are we missing the point? The point is not how much is paid but how each person is treated fairly, there is no hierarchy.

This has made me think about what Jesus says to his disciples on that last Passover night, he says 'You are my friends, if you do what I tell you.' John 15:14. And Jesus goes on to explain that servants don't know what the master is doing whereas they, as friends, know everything that the Father has shared with Jesus. As friends they are chosen and appointed to do good things, to 'bear fruit that will last'.

The dictionary describes a friend as 'a person with whom one has a bond of mutual affection' and 'someone who has your back, no matter what', which I think brings us back to the workers in the vineyard, they are not employees tasked with a job, they are friends. Friends being welcomed into the 'kingdom of heaven' and being appointed to good things, things that will bless them and their friends.

The kingdom of heaven is a place for friends, for those who have each other's back. To have someone's back involves going behind them... is this what Jesus is referring to when he says 'the first will be last and the last will be first'? And of course, if this pattern repeats there is a constant changing of position leading to a cycle of equality.

It sounds so simple yet in reality why do we find it so difficult...?

I wonder if our struggle is linked to the heart of last week's story – forgiveness. The slave who had been forgiven much, struggled to forgive another, even of a smaller amount, why? Is it because they see themselves as slaves and masters, a hierarchical structure that has no room for friends?

I have been reflecting further on forgiveness this week and the church's sacrament of reconciliation. On one level this is practised regularly in our services when we say together words of repentance and confession and receive absolution. This is a comfort and a blessing but for many it is not enough, more is sometimes needed to

help us to be relieved of our heaviest and long-carried burdens, to receive the affirmation of God's love, to know God's acceptance and forgiveness, and it is for this that the church offers the sacrament of reconciliation, a precious moment with priest and penitent coming together into the illuminating presence of God.

This week I sat with a friend who is nearing the end of his life. He is 65 years old. In his 20s, following a very painful and troubled childhood, he committed numerous crimes and the final one resulted in him spending 25 years in prison. He struggles to forgive himself and consequently is unable to receive God's forgiveness, acceptance, and love. Sadly, he will not allow himself to be reconciled and knows no peace. I pray that he will find peace, if not in this world then the next.

The sacrament of reconciliation is a gift that brings a peace and an acceptance of knowing we are a friend of God. It is a gift that, echoing the old Heineken advert, truly refreshes the parts that nothing else can, and if you would like to know more please get in touch.

Love & blessings,

*Deborah*

## **Church service times during September -**

Following the recent PCC meetings, the services will continue as follows –

### **St Andrew's, Whissendine**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 11am Morning Prayer

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 4pm Evening Prayer

### **St Peter & St Paul's, Market Overton**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 10am Morning Prayer

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 10am Holy Communion

### **Holy Trinity, Teigh**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 5pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 9am Morning Prayer

### **St Mary's, Ashwell**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 10am Holy Communion

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September No service

### **Compline on Wednesdays at 5pm**

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September at Ashwell

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at Market Overton

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September at Whissendine

**ALL the services will use resources that are in the current  
pewsheet  
please remember to bring it with you**

## **Opening of church buildings outside of service times**

During September, following risk assessments and the implementation of the measures indicated, the churches are beginning to again for unsupervised times. We aim to continue having a period of time every week of 72/48hrs break, to stop any build-up of virus and to simplify cleaning.

**Holy Trinity, Teigh** is now open daily Sunday – Thursday.

**St Andrew's, Whissendine** is now open daily Sunday – Wednesday.

## **Harvest Thanksgiving Services**

Church services are not affected by the new legislation regarding 6 people only to gather, except that people will be asked not to gather/sit in groups of more than 6 people. So we are continuing with our plans for Harvest Thanksgiving services this year which are as follows –

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October

11am St Andrew's, Whissendine – in church with Harvest hymns

12.30pm Holy Trinity, Teigh – in the churchyard with Harvest hymns

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October

12noon St Mary's, Ashwell – in the churchyard with Harvest hymns

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October

10am St Peter & St Paul, Market Overton – in church with Harvest hymns



## **A favourite hymn and why...**

chosen this week by Hilda Townsend from St Andrews Church Whissendine.

My favourite hymn since I was about 10 years of age has been. My song is Love unknown, My Saviour's love to me,

The words, all of them, speak for themselves, especially to me.

If you have a favourite hymn to share please send the title, and up to 200 words saying what makes it special, to Liz - [ps0@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:ps0@oakhamteam.org.uk)

## My Saviour's love to me



1. My song is love unknown,  
my Saviour's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown,  
that they might lovely be.  
O, who am I,  
that for my sake  
my Lord should take  
frail flesh and die?

2. He came from his blest throne,  
salvation to bestow;  
but men made strange, and none  
the longed-for Christ would know.  
But O, my Friend,  
my Friend indeed,  
who at my need  
his life did spend!

3. Sometimes they strew his way,  
and His sweet praises sing;  
resounding all the day  
hosannas to their King.  
Then 'Crucify!'  
is all their breath,  
and for his death  
they thirst and cry.

7. Here might I stay and sing,  
no story so divine;  
never was love, dear King,  
never was grief like thine!  
This is my Friend,  
in whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
could gladly spend.

\*4. Why, what hath my Lord done?  
What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run,  
he gave the blind their sight.  
Sweet injuries!  
yet they at these  
themselves displease,  
and gainst him rise.

5. They rise, and needs will have  
my dear Lord made away;  
a murderer they save,  
the Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful he  
to suffering goes,  
that he his foes  
from thence might free.

\*6. In life, no house, no home  
my Lord on earth might have;  
in death, no friendly tomb  
but what a stranger gave.  
What may I say?  
Heaven was his home;  
but mine the tomb  
wherein he lay.

*Words: Samuel Crossman (c1624-1683)*

*Music: Love Unknown, John Nicholson Ireland (1879-1962)  
(Ancient & Modern – 147)*

# Sunday Worship - Holy Communion

## The Gathering

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

**Almighty God,**  
**to whom all hearts are open,**  
**all desires known,**  
**and from whom no secrets are hidden:**  
**cleanse the thoughts of our hearts**  
**by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,**  
**that we may perfectly love you,**  
**and worthily magnify your holy name;**  
**through Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

## Preparation

“For me, living is Christ and dying is gain”

*Philippians 1.21*

## Prayers of Penitence

### The Beatitudes

Let us hear our Lord's blessing on those who follow him.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,  
for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,  
for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,  
for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for righteousness' sake,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

## Silence for Reflection

### Confession

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,  
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,  
in what we have thought,  
in what we have said and done,  
through ignorance, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We have wounded your love  
and marred your image in us.**

**We are sorry and ashamed,  
and repent of all our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and lead us out from darkness  
to walk as children of light.**

**Amen.**

### Absolution

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
who in his great mercy  
has promised forgiveness of sins  
to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith  
turn to him:

have mercy on you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and bring you to everlasting life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Gloria in Excelsis

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
**Amen.**

## The Collect for Trinity 15

Almighty God,  
whose only Son has opened for us  
a new and living way into your presence:  
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills  
to worship you in spirit and in truth;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Word of God

### First Reading – *Jonah 3.10 - 4.11*

A reading from the Prophet Jonah

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, 'O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast

love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the LORD said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.' But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the LORD said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Second Reading – *Philippians 1.21-30***

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well – since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading – Matthew 20.1-16

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Reflection

### The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,**

of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**  
**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**  
**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**  
**and the life of the world to come.**  
**Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

The Lord is here  
**His Spirit is with us**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, good Father to us all,  
your face is turned towards your world.  
In love you gave us Jesus your Son  
to rescue us from sin and death.  
Your Word goes out to call us home  
to the city where angels sing your praise.  
We join with them in heaven's song:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Father of all, we give you thanks  
for every gift that comes from heaven.

To the darkness Jesus came as your light.  
With signs of faith and words of hope  
he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son,  
yet at the end they turned on him.  
On the night he was betrayed  
he came to table with his friends  
to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;  
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:  
This is my body, given for you all.  
Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;  
he took the cup, gave it and said:  
This is my blood, shed for you all  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup  
we celebrate the cross  
on which he died to set us free.  
Defying death he rose again  
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is our story.

**This is our song:**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Send your Spirit on us now  
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ  
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.

May we and all who share this food  
offer ourselves to live for you  
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven  
where all creation worships you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **Giving of Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

**Most merciful Lord,  
your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean,**

**our hearts were unprepared;  
we were not fit  
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,  
and share your bread with sinners.  
So cleanse and feed us  
with the precious body and blood of your Son,  
that he may live in us and we in him;  
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,  
may sit and eat in your kingdom.  
Amen.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;  
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,  
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,  
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

### **The Blessing and Dismissal**

Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread,  
make us one in praise and love,  
and raise us up at the last day;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

be with you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace.

Mend what is broken;

unite what is divided;

live the gospel.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

### **Reflection** by *Vyv Wainwright - Reader*

Once upon a time Mr Very Angry arrived in a car park in a small historic market town somewhere in the centre of England. He loved to drive around in his very angry red fast car and would rev his engine hard to scare the dear ladies of the parish. He parked his car where he was not allowed to, as was his custom, and went to pay for his ticket. But then he got very very angry indeed and shouted out very loudly that the horrid car park company did not accept hard earned cash anymore in the parking ticket machines. So, he just went absolutely berserk to the point of seething with rage and utterly losing the plot. Even the Angry App on his phone started getting worried.

Meanwhile God heard how angry Mr Very Angry was up in heaven and wondered what on earth all this anger was about? God therefore decided to dispatched an angel called Timid Tina. Timid Tina begged not to go but God said just be yourself and all will be well. Have faith.

Timid Tina was very pleased with her little electric car that the car department had given her and so she parked it nicely in a nice little parking space especially for nice little electric cars and plug it in all for free. She saw how very angry Mr Very Angry was. She decided to tip-toe up to the ticket machine whilst Mr Very Angry was about to bust a blood vessel. She got out her phone and held it against the ticket machine. Out came a nice little ticket and Mr Very Angry was silent. Timid Tina now reached into the pocket of Mr Very Angry's suit and took out his phone and held it against the ticket machine and behold out came a ticket.

Mr Very Angry remembered who he was and would have none of this nice and kind behaviour! He was angry, so he snatched the ticket from Timid Tina, shouted at her for interfering and stabbed a telephone number into his phone. Within seconds he was answered and he shouted that he wanted to speak to his MP now. Timid Tina would not have this though. She took the phone out his hand and gave him a right good dressing down about all the nasty things he had done throughout his life by being so horrid and angry. And to cap it all she had been in touch with his Mum who was on her way right now to sort him out. Mr Very Angry now looked more like Mr Very Terrified, oh dear!

Jonah was seriously angry in our Old Testament reading. He had a ticket for the football match in Spain to see Liverpool versus Barcelona but oh no, in came a text from God asking him to go to Nineveh. Pardon me, says Jonah, but are Liverpool playing there? I think not. And so, to cut a long story short, having been delivered back from Spain, courtesy of a whale, Jonah has done as he has asked.

Jonah is not happy. Surely, he should be happy we all say. Have not the people of Nineveh heard the message that Jonah has given from God? Have they not responded? Indeed, they have. Well done surely Jonah? Well actually no, Jonah is well and truly cross. The thing is he thought that God was really going to sort out the city of Nineveh big time. He thought that the missiles would fly in and that zillions of tanks would flood across the plains into the city and there would be loads of street fighting and explosions. Instead the citizens and the cattle of Nineveh, all said sorry. Now we find Jonah in our reading having a good old-fashioned sulk. He is sulking so much that he totally ignores the fact that God is actually thankful for what he has done and is looking after him. Gosh look at this large leaf plant which just happened to sprout right next to you to provide who with lovely shelter. But Jonah is still sulking and angry. God decided the best thing to do is to ring Jonah and just tell him that actually really deep-down God loves Jonah and God also loves Nineveh and thank you for what you have done but hey don't get angry – please!

Meanwhile, in the New Testament reading the shop stewards meeting has been held and the workers have been consulted and they are disgusted with the way in which the brothers and sisters' workers have been treated. Thus, there is anger and upset and a cause for a ballot and industrial action. Mrs Vineyard owner is sad. She points out that actually she was only trying to help folk who had no work. She made an offer to each potential employee of one silver coin for working in her vineyard that day. Each person who was approached agreed to these terms and conditions and well they went to work. She therefore feels that she has be made an offer which has been duly accepted by each person and so they should not be angry but surely happy.

Just recently I noted a title on a book called *The Right to Anger*. On the cover was someone who was angry with their fist up in anger. Anger is a real emotion and a real emotion which often comes from the heart. And yet it can damage the heart and our lives as a consequence, as we know. Even Jesus got angry the day he went into the temple and kicked over the tables of the money changers.

As we see and know anger does occur in life. Over the last few years anger seems to have come out of the woodwork somehow with road rage, riots, violence against the police, ambulance crews, medical staff in hospitals and the fire service all when these very people are trying to help out. Anger against MPs, councillors and many professionals, teachers, workers and just about everyone. And where does it get us? Blood pressure, heart attacks, stress.

Surely as Christians we are people of peace? People who will listen to genuine concerns and upsets of others and do our best to understand. But surely, we are peace makers, are we not? Does not Jesus say that Blessed are the peace makers?

Cry out about injustice, cry out about the way in which the creation is being treated, cry out for peace on the planet, cry out about abuse and torture, march, protest and email your MP or councillor. Yet let us not forget that we are people of peace.

If you are feeling angry then count to 10, talk to someone (not shout) and get help if you feel you need it or you might like to say this prayer from the Northumbrian Community –

*Calm me O Lord as you stilled the storm*

*Still me O Lord*

*Keep me from harm*

*Let al, the tumult within in me cease*

*Enfold me Lord in your peace.*

*Amen*

### **Prayers of Intercession** by Nat Stiles, Trainee Youth Minister

Your kingdom come; **your will be done.**

Father, we pray for your Holy Spirit to guide us, as we follow your will in our lives. Forgive us when we have turned a blind eye or a deaf ear to your call, help us to be willing to answer, and not run the other way, strengthened by the power of your message.

Your kingdom come; **your will be done.**

Father, you are slow to anger and rich in love, let us delight in sharing your good news to each generation. We pray they will know your mighty and wonderful works, and praise our God of endless love, power, and glorious splendor, as we praise your name for ever and ever.

Your kingdom come; **your will be done.**

Father, we thank you for your gift of grace, in our lives. Help us to remember that your gift of heaven is through your grace alone, and not a reward for our good behaviour or position, but a sign of your generosity and forgiveness.

Help us to think less of ourselves and more of others, never looking down on our neighbours unless we are helping them up, seeing your image in those around us. We praise the reassurance of your grace.

Your kingdom come; **your will be done.**

Father, as we stand firm in the Lord and rejoice in you always, we pray for the God of peace to be with all who need our prayers.  
All who are ill, in hospitals, home or wherever they may be,  
We pray for the recently departed, and all those whose hearts have been saddened by death, surround them with your tenderness and support them in your everlasting arms.  
Calming God bring courage, tender Spirit bring peace, and gentle Jesus, be close to all.  
Your kingdom come; **your will be done.**

## Wednesday Worship

### Preparation

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.  
**Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord  
**who made heaven and earth.**

*A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.  
The following or other suitable words of penitence may be used*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess to you,  
before the whole company of heaven and one another,  
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed  
and in what we have failed to do.  
Forgive us our sins,  
heal us by your Spirit  
and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.**

○ God, make speed to save us.  
○ Lord, make haste to help us.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

*The following or another suitable hymn may be said or sung*

**Before the ending of the day,  
Creator of the world, we pray  
That you, with steadfast love, would keep  
Your watch around us while we sleep.**

**From evil dreams defend our sight,  
From fears and terrors of the night;  
Tread underfoot our deadly foe  
That we no sinful thought may know.**

**O Father, that we ask be done  
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son;  
And Holy Spirit, by whose breath  
Our souls are raised to life from death.**

## **The Word of God**

*Either*

**Collect Prayer and readings for the day** (see current Pewsheet)

*Or*

## **Psalm 16**

1 Preserve me, O God, for in you have I taken refuge; \*  
I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord,  
all my good depends on you.'

2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*  
upon those who are noble in heart.

3 Though the idols are legion that many run after, \*  
their drink offerings of blood I will not offer,  
neither make mention of their names upon my lips.

4 The Lord himself is my portion and my cup; \*  
in your hands alone is my fortune.

5 My share has fallen in a fair land; \*  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

6 I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel, \*  
and in the night watches he instructs my heart.

7 I have set the Lord always before me; \*  
he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.

8 Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; \*  
my flesh also shall rest secure.

9 For you will not abandon my soul to Death, \*  
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.

10 You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence is the fullness of joy \*  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.\*

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

### **Scripture Reading – I Peter 5.8-9**

Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil is prowling round like a roaring lion, seeking for someone to devour. Resist him, strong in the faith.

*The following responsory may be said*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

**I commend my spirit.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.

**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

### **Gospel Canticle**

*The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said or sung*

**Save us, O Lord, while waking,  
and guard us while sleeping,  
that awake we may watch with Christ  
and asleep may rest in peace.**

1 Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: \*  
**your word has been fulfilled.**

2 My own eyes have seen the salvation \*  
**which you have prepared in the sight of every people;**

3 A light to reveal you to the nations \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Luke 2.29-32

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Save us, O Lord, while waking,  
and guard us while sleeping,  
that awake we may watch with Christ  
and asleep may rest in peace.**

## Prayers

*Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.*

## The Collect

Keep watch, dear Lord,  
with those who wake, or watch, or weep this night,  
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.  
Tend the sick,  
give rest to the weary,  
sustain the dying,  
calm the suffering,  
and pity the distressed;  
all for your love's sake, O Christ our Redeemer.

**Amen.**

*Silence may be kept.*

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,  
and drive far from it the snares of the enemy;  
may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,  
and may your blessing be always upon us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**

now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;  
**for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.**

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,  
**for the night is at hand and the day is now past.**

As the night watch looks for the morning,  
**so do we look for you, O Christ.**

The Lord bless us and watch over us;  
the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us;  
the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.  
**Amen.**

## Next Sunday – 27 September (Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity)

Readings: Psalm 25.1-8; Ezekiel 18.1-4, 25-32; Philippians 2.1-13; Matthew 21.23-32

# Praying Alone

## Praying Together

### *Daily Prayer This Week*

*Morning Prayer is streamed live on Facebook at 8.30am from Monday to Friday, and is available after that on Facebook and the website.*



Readings & Collect Prayer for Daily Prayer in the coming week

Day	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
Monday 21 September <i>Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist</i>	Psalm 49 2 Timothy 3.14-end	Psalm 119.33-40, 89-96 1 Kings 19.15-end
Tuesday 22 September	Psalm 36 Acts 16.25-end	Psalm 33 1 Kings 8.63-9.9
Wednesday 23 September	Psalm 34 Acts 17.1-15	Psalm 119.33-56 1 Kings 10.1-25
Thursday 24 September	Psalm 37 Acts 17.16-end	Psalm 40 1 Kings 11.1-13
Friday 25 September	Psalm 31 Acts 18.1-21	Psalm 35 1 Kings 11.26-end
Saturday 26 September	Psalm 42 Acts 18.22-19.7	Psalm 46 1 Kings 12.1-24

### Collect

**Lord God,  
defend your church from all false teaching  
and give to your people knowledge of your truth  
that we may enjoy eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## News from the Team

### 50th Anniversary of Ordination

Congratulations to Reverend Canon Michael Wilson who was ordained priest on 20th September 1970. Canon Michael was ordained at Southwell Minster by the Bishop of Sherwood, the Right Reverend Kenneth Thompson. Michael served a curacy at Worksop Priory before taking up positions in Worcester Diocese and Leicester Diocese. In Leicester Michael held the posts of Vicar of the Parish of St Anne, Team Rector of the Ascension Team, and Canon Treasurer of Leicester Cathedral. Michael and Beryl retired to Oakham but he remains active in ministry in the Dioceses of Peterborough and Leicester.

Congratulations on your special anniversary Michael, and thank you for your continued support for the ministry here in the Oakham Team.

*Stephen*

### Traidcraft

It is pleasing to report that as the stall is continuing to run in the background sales are still buoyant with August's amounting to £127.93 - slightly up on July's figure which is great. My thanks as ever to all of you who continue to support the amazing work Traidcraft are continuing to do. I will shortly have supplies of the new Autumn/Winter catalogue which if you are not aware of all the wonderful things Tradicraft has to offer would be a good introduction.

Please do get in touch for one or indeed just to order some tea/coffee etc. [neecy.mcdonald@btinternet.com](mailto:neecy.mcdonald@btinternet.com)  
/01572722729/07981639649  
Denise

### Garden Volunteers wanted

Launde Abbey are seeking volunteers to work in the garden and grounds Can you spare one day a week? If you have gardening skills they will be welcome, if not they will be developed. You would be working outdoors in a marvellous, enjoyable environment with a small, dedicated team of staff and volunteers. For details and to apply contact Helen, on 01572 718803, or speak to Richard Plummer 01572 720505

### Theatre programmes

Gordon Woods has a collection of over 60 London Theatre programmes dating from 1950 – 1999. Please contact Gordon on 755371 if they would be of interest to you in return for a donation to the church.

### Ordination of Simon Aley

Simon will be ordained Deacon by the Bishop of Brixworth, the Right Revd John Holbrook, at Peterborough Cathedral on 26 September at noon. The service will take place in private due to Covid restrictions. We look forward to Simon joining the team as assistant curate. Simon's first service at Oakham will be on the 27 September at

10.30am. His first service at Langham will be on 4 October at 10.30am

## **Team Walk**

September 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am

The six mile walk will start from Seaton Road Uppingham. A picnic will be required. To get to the start turn left at the traffic lights with the Harley Davidson garage/petrol station on the left. After 400 metres take the third exit at the roundabout on to Seaton Road. There is ample parking. Everyone welcome for further details contact Liz or Richard Plummer  
01572 720506

## **Music at lunchtime**

Oakham School's series of weekly lunchtime recitals will resume in the School's Chapel every week from Wednesday 9 September onwards. For safety reasons, these will initially only be for an internal School audience, but video recordings of every recital will be uploaded 24 hours later to the School's website here: [bit.ly/oakhammusic](http://bit.ly/oakhammusic)

## **Foodbank Update for Rutland Churches and Key Partners August 2020**

I'm pleased to share another update from the Rutland Foodbank as we've been dealing with the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on those experiencing food poverty.

As many of you will know we are still unable to welcome back our over 70s volunteers. This is due to difficulties in ensuring we can provide them with safe

working spaces as per the Government Guidance. We miss the experience and support they give but I'm sure you understand that the trustees have a duty of care to ensure we don't risk individual safety.

We continue our operations from the new Oakham premises (36 Melton Road) and we are still open on Monday and Friday mornings 10.30 - 12.00 to receive donations and enquiries. At the present time we do not feel that we can re-start our drop-in sessions either at our premises in Oakham or at Uppingham Church.

Our links with Citizens Advice Rutland (CAR) are strong and we continue to have support from Rutland County Council (RCC). They have both helped by adopting the Trussell Trust electronic referral system as we are now operating with eVouchers. The CAR team (01572 723494) are also able to support and signpost to other services such as benefits and or debt management as needed. We encourage new and returning clients to speak to them for advice and assessment.

Our referral numbers have increased, since April 1st we have received over 300 referrals. We anticipate they will continue to rise especially as the economic impact of the pandemic begins to emerge. We are looking to expand the number of electronic referrers – if your church or organisation is interested please contact us – our details are at the end of this letter.

The doorstep delivery service is currently supported by Oakham School volunteers but as the school begins its new term we are looking at ways we can continue deliveries. The delivery service has enabled us to reach more Rutland residents, particularly those in rural villages. We continue to provide 7-Day food packs and are including out more fresh foods. We also have the capability for ad-hoc rapid response food pack deliveries.

We are fortunate that our food and toiletries donations have held up well, our supermarket collection points are still available. Our warehouse is well stocked at the moment but please keep an eye on our Facebook page for our shortages (Did you know that you don't need to be a Facebook user to see our posts here's the link [https://www.facebook.com/pg/rutland.foodbank/posts/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/rutland.foodbank/posts/?ref=page_internal))

At the moment we would welcome crackers and rice cakes for lunches. We also need men's shaving foam and deodorant. We also need washing pods (preferably non-bio which is more suitable for laundering children's clothing).

We are pleased to continue receiving financial donations from small to quite large. These have come from individuals, local and national business and from some amazing fundraising efforts.

The RCC /Voluntary Action Rutland Community Collection Scheme which brings in donations from local villages is working well and is a great example of

partnership working. It is enabling village residents to make donations without travelling unnecessarily.

We continue to develop and strengthen our networks and connection via online meetings and the RCC Voluntary, Community & Faith (VCF) group sharing best practice, national and local initiatives and concerns. The group is looking at the next steps as the lockdown eases, in the next 3-9 months and the following year or two is unknown so this group is proving a vital forum for us to work together to maintain local services.

If you have any queries or need to signpost anyone please contact [info@rutland.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@rutland.foodbank.org.uk) or the foodbank mobile 07582 783363

*Ali Wainwright*

*Chair Rutland Foodbank*

## **Oakham Christian Meditation Group**

We are an ecumenical group of Christians who meditate weekly throughout the year on Wednesday at 6.00/6.30 pm. The group met formerly at the chapel of St John & St Anne but Covid restrictions prohibit this at present so Stephen Griffiths has kindly agreed that the group may hold their meetings in The Lady Chapel, All Saints Church from Wednesday, 2nd September, 2020. All are welcome. Please wear a mask and follow social distancing. *Please contact Marjorie on [marjorieport46@gmail.com](mailto:marjorieport46@gmail.com) 07753870151 for more information.*

## Church Family News

If you have any news which you would like to share with the church family through the pewsheets please phone the office 724007 or email [notices@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:notices@oakhamteam.org.uk). The deadline each week for the pewsheets is Tuesday evening.

## Keeping in Touch

I am usually at home at my desk Wednesdays 2pm-4pm and happy to take calls if you would like to share news and chat. Please feel free to call 869483. *Stephen*

## Resources for Worship

During this time when we cannot worship together in church, there are a number of alternatives available:

- The Oakham Team Facebook page, where one of the ministry team will lead a live stream of **Morning Prayer at 8.30am** on weekdays and **Holy Communion or Morning Prayer at 10.30am on Sundays**. These will also be available on the Team website, together with the service sheet and Weekly Pewsheets;
- ROOTS (who produce the resources our Sunday School uses) have a weekly 'Live your Faith' page with prayers and reflections on the set readings, and this will be available on request. ROOTS also produce a weekly Children's Sheet which will be available as a separate sheet. They can also be found on the website with the pewsheets.
- The Church of England has an online resources page at <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>, including Easter Pilgrim and Time to Pray (see below).
- **Daily Hope Phone Line.** Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. A Church of England initiative in partnership with CONNECTIONS at Holy Trinity Claygate, and Faith in Later Life. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. Options available include materials also available digitally by the Church of England's Communications team such as Prayer During the Day and Night Prayer updated daily, from Common Worship, and a recording of the Church of England weekly national online service. A section called Hymn Line offers callers a small selection of hymns, updated daily. An option entitled 'Hymns We Love', provides a hymn and reflection and is based on an initiative by the Connections group.
- **Compline** David Perril continues a weekly online service of Compline, which continues this Wednesday at 8.30pm on Facebook.