

News and Prayer Update for 16th August

Rostherne with Bollington, St John High Legh and St Paul Over Tabley

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Do You Need to Talk To Someone? Call any of the above, we have other people who are also experienced in listening who are willing to help, so **please do call, we are here for you.** All conversations are in strict confidence.



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FACE COVERINGS – Face covering in church are now a legal requirement (unless you are exempt). Please check out the Government guidance on face coverings at

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-08/COVID%2019%20advice%20on%20face%20coverings%20v3.0.pdf>

Link for this week's Family Service: <https://youtu.be/UA6LShk2-9Y>

Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you, now and for ever. Amen

Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.
Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN: Jesus is Lord, Creation's Voice Proclaims It
(David J. Mansell, born 1936)

Jesus is Lord! Creation's voice proclaims it,
for by his power each tree and flower was planned and made.
Jesus is Lord! The universe declares it
- sun, moon and stars in heaven cry: `Jesus is Lord!'

*Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord!
Praise him with alleluias, for Jesus is Lord.*

Jesus is Lord! Yet from his throne eternal
in flesh he came to die in pain on Calvary's tree.
Jesus is Lord! From him all life proceeding –
yet gave his life a ransom thus setting us free.

Jesus is Lord! O'er sin the mighty conqueror;
from death he rose and all his foes shall own his name.
Jesus is Lord! God sends his Holy Spirit
to show by works of power that Jesus is Lord.

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READINGS FOR 10th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

First Reading: Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8

¹ GOD's Message:

“Guard my common good:

Do what's right and do it in the right way,
For salvation is just around the corner,
my setting-things-right is about to go into action.

⁶⁻⁸ “And as for the outsiders who now follow me,
working for me, loving my name,
and wanting to be my servants—
All who keep Sabbath and don't defile it,
holding fast to my covenant—
I'll bring them to my holy mountain
and give them joy in my house of prayer.
They'll be welcome to worship the same as the 'insiders,'
to bring burnt offerings and sacrifices to my altar.
Oh yes, my house of worship
will be known as a house of prayer for all people.”
The Decree of the Master, GOD himself,
who gathers in the exiles of Israel:
“I will gather others also,
gather them in with those already gathered.”

The Message (MSG)

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Gospel Reading: Matthew 15: 21-28

²¹ Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.”

²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”

²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”

²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.

²⁶ He replied, “It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs.”

²⁷ “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table.”

²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.

New International Version (NIV)

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REFLECTION ON THE READINGS – Revd Patricia

I wonder how many different groups you belong to?
First of all there will be your family, that's one group.

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Then, if you are school age you will be in a class, that's a group.
If you go to work you may have colleagues and that's a group.
You may be a member of a club or other organisation too.

Each group has a number of people in it – sometimes only a few – sometimes more people - but there are always lots more people who aren't in the group and aren't included.

There are also many different nationalities and races in the world. The thing we need to remember is that we are all part of God's creation and in particular all members of the human race and God cares about everyone.

I wonder whether you know about the promise that God made to Abraham thousands of years ago. Abraham was God's friend and you can trace his family right back to Noah. God promised Abraham two things. The first is that God would make Abraham's family into a great nation. The second is that all the people on earth would be blessed by this great nation which began with Abraham. Now that's quite a promise! and because God always keeps his promises it came true. Abraham's grandchildren and great-grandchildren and great-great-great-grandchildren did grow into a great nation of God's chosen people.

The people of Israel, as the nation came to be called, were rightly proud of being chosen by God with everyone else outside and not included. They called all the outsiders 'gentiles'. It's likely that most of us are gentiles.

Well that's the first part of the promise God made to Abraham: "I will make you into a great nation".

There was a second part as well. Can you remember? It was that all the people on earth would be blessed by the nation which God had started with Abraham. The OT is the story of God's people and there were prophets like Isaiah who reminded the people of this bit of the promise. 'This is not just for you, remember,' they said. 'We are called to bring blessing to all the other people on earth eventually!'

This was God's plan. Beginning with his chosen nation, God wanted all the people on earth to have the special relationship with him that Abraham had. Right back there in the beginning it was God's plan for everyone, from every nation, young and old, through all time, and from every country. It isn't just for one family, or one class, or even just one school, or club. It is for everyone so that no one is left outside God's love. God loves everyone, everywhere, all through time.

God's plan is that we do the same. He wants us to love everyone and not leave anyone out. We can do this when we're playing or working or helping or just chatting – make sure everyone is included. And remember, it is important that everyone knows about Jesus and God's love for them. When we are able to go back to doing all the things we normally do at church, we will have the opportunity to welcome everyone who wants to come once again.

God loves each one of us and everyone is important to God. So we can help by loving and including other people in our smaller groups and in God's big group.

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On the update we have included a brilliant action song you may like to try. Would have sung it in church had we been meeting together but you can still have fun singing along with it. It's called Father Abraham had many sons. You just need to follow the link in the News and Prayer Update or search the internet yourself, although there are other versions.

(Based on Living Stones Complete Resource Book Year A Complete Resource Book by Susan Sayers. Published by Kevin Mayhew 1998).

Collect for 10th Sunday after Trinity:

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
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.

HYMN: He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

Traditional arr. Christopher Tambling

He's got the whole world in his hands
He's got the whole world in his hands
He's got the whole world in his hands
He's got the whole world in his hands.

Refrain

He's got the brother and the sister in his hands(x3)
He's got the whole world in his hands.

Refrain

He's got the little tiny baby in his hands (x3)
He's got the whole world in his hands

Refrain

He's got everyone of us in his hands (x3)
He's got the whole world in his hands

Refrain

HYMN: Let All the World in Every Corner Sing

(Words: George Herbert 1593-1633 Music: Basil Harwood 1859-1949)

Let all the world, in every corner, sing:
My God and King!
The heavens are not too high,

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His praise may thither fly,
The earth is not too low,
His praises there may grow,
Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and king!

Let all the world in every corner sing:
my God and king!
The church with psalms must shout,
No door can keep them out;
but, above all, the heart
must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King!

Link for the song Father Abraham Had Many Sons:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5o_J30x6E6s

PRAYER in the coming week:

As prayer is a conversation, this week try to spend as much time listening to God as you spend talking to him. (Pray as normal but also give time to listen to his answers – this may be later in the day in unexpected ways – so at the end of the day try to spend some time to reflect on this and to give thanks).

Oh, let me hear Thee speaking,
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will;
Oh, speak to reassure me,
To hasten, or control;
Oh, speak, and make me listen,
Thou Guardian of my soul.

From "O Jesus, I have promised" by John Ernest Bode (1869)

Monday: pray about what you learnt from yesterday's Church service (whether you were there in person, watched a streamed service or listened to one on the radio).

Tuesday: pray about your work (whether you are in paid employment, still on furlough, looking for a job, or whether you are doing jobs around your home/garden or helping others).

Wednesday: pray about your local shops and the individuals who are working in them to provide a service for others (whether you go in person or are receiving deliveries, there are many people involved in getting the food and goods to you).

Thursday: pray for the young people in our parishes and families who face many unknowns in the next few weeks. Some will have received A-level exam results last week and others receive GCSE results today; these results may affect the next step of their education or training. Many more will soon be returning to school after a break of several months, or will be starting new schools with all the uncertainties that this brings.

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Friday: pray for all our local businesses and give thanks for all that they do; they need customers to return to purchase their services or goods in order to remain in business. As it says in the Parish Magazine “Please try to support our advertisers and other local businesses as much as you can.”

Saturday: pray for tomorrow’s Church services in our parishes, both physical services and streamed. Particularly pray for our ministry team, our wardens, treasurers, organists and all who have helped to prepare buildings or technology to enable us to continue to worship.

Good News – We’re Holding Services Again!

Please wear a face covering if you are attending services unless you are exempt from doing so. Please inform the service leader if you lip read.

Sunday 16th August:

10.00 Holy Communion at St John High Legh

10.30 Holy Communion at St Mary Rostherne

Sunday 23rd August:

10.00 Holy Communion at St John High Legh

11.00 Holy Communion Holy Trinity

Wednesday Mornings

09.00 Celtic Morning Prayer at St John High Legh

We regret that we are unable to open St Paul’s just yet because of building work taking place.

We will continue to stream services each week from St Pauls for the time being, alongside streaming live from St Mary’s.

It is important that no one feels they must come to services if they are reluctant, for whatever reason, to mix with a group of people.

The Weekly News and Prayer Update will Continue.

NOTICES

❖ Coffee and Chat Wednesday 19th August

We are having a Zoom Coffee and Chat meeting every Wednesday morning from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon. Just click on the link below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89021657184?pwd=Qm50VnpQck5CRkpackxUWTVjNFFLZz09>

Join the Prayer Chain:

Our Reader, Chris Stanisstreet has organised a **Prayer Chain** which is done by email and telephone. The idea behind this, is that when a specific prayer request is made, it is passed on by group e-mail to the people on the list who then pray for the particular situation.

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If you would like to receive prayer requests or would like to make a prayer request, please let Chris Stanistreet know:

Tel: 01925 755559; Mob 07918 981 723; stanbess2003@yahoo.co.uk

Offering and Fund Raising – Please continue to give if you can

The best and safest way to give is by monthly Standing Order or direct payment into the bank account and to do this please contact the Treasurer of the Church you attend for the account details. You may also send a cheque – please contact the relevant Treasurer.

St Mary's Treasurer: Mr Christopher Tetlow Tel: 0161 928 2137

St John's Treasurer: Nick Whimpany Tel: 07905 741969

Holy Trinity Treasurer: Mrs Hilary Girardier: Tel: 01925 754 717

St Paul's Treasurer: Judy Hancock Tel: 01565 733246

If your income has been adversely affected by the current situation, please do not worry about giving to the Church just now.

Morning and Night Prayer

If anyone does not yet have access to the "Worship at Home" booklet containing the Order of Service for Morning Prayer or Night Prayer, please contact the Vicarage, as there are large print copies and ordinary size ones that can be posted out or versions that can be e-mailed.

Bible Readings and Psalms for the Coming Week from the Lectionary.

Here are some suggestions for more Psalms and Bible readings to use with Morning and Night Prayer:

These readings usually follow on from each other so you get a bit more of the story each day (except on special Saints Days).

Monday 17th August: Psalm 71; 1 Samuel Chapter 24; Acts 3: 11-end

Tuesday 18th August: Psalm 73; 1 Samuel chapter 26; Acts 4: 1-12

Wednesday 19th August: Psalm 77; 1 Samuel 28: 3-end; Acts 4: 13-31

Thurs 20th August: Psalm 78: 1-39; 1 Samuel Chapter 31; Acts 4: 32 - 5:11

Friday 21st August: Psalm 55; 2 Samuel Chapter 1; Acts 5: 12-26

Sat 22nd August: Psalm 76; 2 Samuel 2: 1-11; Acts 5: 27-end

Night Prayer from the Day of Pentecost to All Saints Day

This Collect can be used at Night Prayer on any day throughout the year.

Lighten our darkness, Lord we pray,
and in your great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,
for the love of your only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

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Psalms:

Sunday: Psalm 104: 1, 21-33; 134

Monday: Psalm 4

Tuesday: Psalm 143

Wednesday: Psalm 31: 1-5 [19-end]

Thursday: Psalm 16

Friday: Psalm 139: 1-18

Saturday: Psalm 91 (this is the one in the Worship at Home Booklet)