



Llangollen Methodist Church
Worshipping by the River Dee

11th March 2018

Number – 957

Riverside Weekly

A warm welcome to our Mothering Sunday Worship

Mothering Sunday Flowers

Provided by Pam in memory of her great grandmother, a mother of 11 children. “Little Gran” was born 161 years ago in Betws y Coed. She and her family walked to Birmingham 5 years later, where she lived till almost 100 years old.

11:00 Morning Worship – Martin Woodhall

Music provided by Ted Blackman & Peter Brookfield.

You were greeted at the door by Norman Pybus

Books were given out by Elizabeth Roberts

Reading:–

Exodus 1:15–22 (*Yvonne Davies page 50 in the OT*)

Exodus 2:1–10 (*Elisabeth Pybus page 50 in the OT*)

Refreshments by Tommie & Petro

Today’s steward is Joan Wilson

Happy Birthday to:

Anne Sparrow (Last Tuesday)

Thomas Brookfield (Tomorrow)



*Do join us
for tea or coffee
after the service this morning*



Church Diary

Sunday 11th March Mothering Sunday

11:00 Morning Worship — Martin Woodhall

Monday 12th March

10:00 Messy Church planning meeting at the Buttered Crust

7:30 Circuit Meeting at Ruabon Methodist Church

Tuesday 13th March

10:00 Coffee Morning by Llangollen Museum at the Memorial Hall

12:30 Lent course at the Memorial Hall

7:30 “Jerusalem Joy Rehearsal” at Wrexham Methodist Church

Wednesday 14th March

10:00 Prayer Group meet in the vestry — you are very welcome to join us

11:30 Lent course in the Upper Room, St Collen’s

7:30 Bible Study at Paul & Anna’s – we will be Studying James chapter 5

Thursday 15th March

3:00–5:15 After school Drop-In at the Memorial Hall for Secondary School Pupils.

Friday 16th March

12:00–1:30 Lent lunch at Holy Cross Parish Rooms

1:00 “Open the Book” at Ysgol Bryn Collen

Sunday 18th March

11:00 All Age Worship — Maureen Jones

Monday 19th March

2:00 Home Group at 5, Gerddi y Bache

6:00–8:00 Games & activity Evening at the Memorial Hall

Tuesday 20th March

10:00 Coffee Morning by TENOVUS at the Memorial Hall

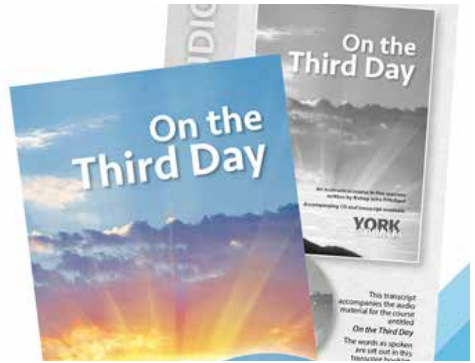
12:30 Lent course at the Memorial Hall

7:30 “Jerusalem Joy Rehearsal” at Wrexham Methodist Church

Lent Course 2018

You are invited to join us for our Tuesday Lunchtime Lent Course in

YORK COURSES On the Third Day



Llangollen Memorial Hall.

We will be studying, "On the Third Day" a new 5-session York course written by Bishop John Pritchard.

27th February. Have I got news for you!

6th March. So what? The implications of the Resurrection

13th March. 'Let him easter in us'

20th March. Celebrating and praying Easter

27th March. A risen Church

On the course audio Simon Stanley puts questions to Revd Prof Tom Wright, NT scholar and former Bishop of Durham; Paul Vallely, journalist and broadcaster; Revd Ruth Gee, former President of Methodist Conference and Bishop Libby Lane.

Copies of the course booklet cost £3.50 and will be available at the first session on 27th February

Sessions begin at 12.30pm, but we'll be eating lunch together from 12noon for those who can come early.

Phil Poole

LENTEN SOUP KITCHEN

At

Holy Cross Church Rooms
(along the alleyway opposite the Library)

Every Friday during Lent
From February 16th until
March 23rd (inclusive)
12 noon until 1.30



Proceeds to CAFOD
(for overseas development)
Includes table top sale

All Welcome

Spring Party 9th April 2018

The party will start at 6pm when lasagne and salad will be served followed by homemade desserts and a cup of tea.

The cost of the party will be £6.50 and will include “home grown entertainment” with audience participation!!

I will be collecting names up until Easter Sunday so please let me know if you want your name adding to the list. The list will be available on the coffee table each Sunday until Easter.

Many thanks

Sheila

Singing Practices for Church Spring Party

If you would like to learn to sing two lovely songs for the Church spring Party on Monday 9th April, please come along to two practices on the following dates.

Wednesday 28th March — 2:00 at Church

Wednesday 4th April — 2:00 at Church

Come along and have some fun! Refreshments provided

Peter & Amanda

The editor's jottings!

“Dry Rot” — external work to deal with rain water coming into the church building has begun. Soon the damaged wood will be removed and the stonework allowed to dry out before replacement.

We need listed building permission to put up pigeon deterrents, to help in documentation for this any photos we have of the church showing the large numbers of birds on the roof & gutters will be useful



Norman

Readings

John 3:14-21 "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." (v. 17)

Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22

Background

On the radio a scientist was talking about modelling the universe. He spoke of two models that were needed to help us understand how everything works. But there was a problem. If one model worked it excluded the other and vice versa. Trying to work out how God loves us seems to present us with the same sort of problem: one of logic, language and understanding. Theology is full of contradictions. In today's passage, the Gospel writer uses language which has become commonplace in the Church. The Father so loves the world that he gives his Son. But a foundation of faith is that God became human in the person of Jesus. So surely it is God who dies on the cross! You see what I mean? As Charles Wesley put it, "our God contracted to a span, incomprehensibly made man". And the idea of God sacrificing his son doesn't simply contradict the language of incarnation, it can be anathema to many and an obstruction to faith.

This is the sort of problem that scientists and theologians argue about amongst themselves. While the best scientists alter their theories over time, the Church tends to turn contradictions into creeds and if not fighting over them struggles with belief. So what is the bottom line?

I think it goes like this: God loves all of us more deeply than we can understand or express. God does not seek to condemn us but to love us. Yet we all want to ask 'how' of everything. Why not just trust it is so? It is interesting that the word we translate as 'believe' here, also means 'trust'! Let's just leave the 'how' as an unfathomable mystery. If the cosmos is hard to believe and full of contradictions how much more is God likely to be?

God loves us: enough!

To Ponder

How do you picture God?

How do you cope with contradictions in the Bible?

Bible notes author: The Revd Andrew Pratt

Some of the religious programmes on TV & Radio
each week

BBC1 13:55 Sunday 12th March — Songs of Praise

Mothering Sunday

To celebrate Mothering Sunday, Katherine Jenkins meets parents and their newborn babies at Basildon's Maternity Unit. It's particularly poignant for Katherine, as she's expecting her second child this April. She also talks to two midwives about the joys and the challenges of their work, and how they feel called by God to do their job. Katherine also meets Katharine Hill, UK director of the charity Care for the Family to hear her tips for parenthood and learns about often overlooked references in the Bible of maternal language to describe God.

Pam Rhodes meets Lizzie Lowrie, who held a service in Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral entitled Mother's Day Runaways last year. It was aimed at the increasing number of women who, for reasons of loss, singleness or infertility, cannot bear to be in church for a traditional Mothering Sunday service. The idea came from Lizzie's own personal journey - happily married to a trainee vicar, she expected children to follow, but has since suffered six miscarriages. Mother Pippa Ankers talks of bringing up her son Barney who has Down's syndrome. Barney speaks of his strong Christian faith and shows off his drumming skills, while Pippa shares her experiences of raising a child with additional needs.

Radio Wales — 7:30 Sunday — Celebration

9:00 Sunday — All Things Considered

Radio 2 — 6:00–9:00 Sunday – Good Morning Sunday – Rev Kate Bottley and Jason Mohammad

Radio 4(FM) — 8:10 Sundays — Sunday Worship

5:43am weekdays — Prayer for the Day – *A spiritual comment and prayer to begin the day with the Reverend Richard Littledale, Baptist minister.*

Radio 4 (LW) — 9:44 Weekdays — Daily Service – *A space for spiritual reflection with a Bible reading, prayer and a range of Christian music*

Information for 'Riverside Weekly' should be sent to the editor,

Page 7 **Norman Pybus** ☎(01978) 861390 Email:-editor@llangollenmethodist.org.uk

The Mothers' Honour Roll *Mothering Sunday*

'And a book of remembrance was written.'

Malachi 3:16 KJV

Is it possible that when we get to heaven there'll be a 'Mothers' Honour Roll', listing the names of all the faithful mothers who prayed day and night on behalf of their children and grandchildren? Maybe, but this much we do know: God honours mothers who honour God! He responded to the prayers of Hannah and gave her a son who would grow up to be a prophet and lead the nation of Israel. And Paul writes concerning Timothy: 'I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also' (2 Timothy 1:5 NKJV). The Bible tells us God keeps records: 'Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another... the LORD hearkened ...and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and...thought upon his name.' John writes: 'I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book



of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works' (Revelation 20:12 KJV). Susanna Wesley had nineteen children (nine died as infants), and she spent an hour every day praying for each one by name. Her prayers paid off. One of her sons, John, brought a spiritual awakening to Britain and founded the Methodist Church. Maybe there will be an honour roll for mothers in heaven, and maybe not. But one thing is sure — when mothers pray, God listens and lives are changed. So never stop praying for your kids, Mum.

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For free daily readings see
Elisabeth or Norman