



18th November 2018

Number – 992

Riverside Weekly

A warm welcome to everyone joining us for our worship today

11:00 Shoe Box Sunday – All Age Worship led by
Deacon Lisa Rathbone

Music provided by Ted Blackman and Peter Brookfield.

You were greeted at the door by Sheila Spedding

Books were given out by Paul & Anna Smith

Refreshments by Markus & Ellen Gellesch

Reading:

Mark 13:1-8 page 47 in the NT — Fiona Owens

Today's steward is Alan Williams

*Today's flowers provided by Ted & Marion
Remembering family birthdays during October &
November*

Happy Birthday to:

Martyn — Saturday



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



Church Diary

Sunday 18th November

11:00 Shoe Box Sunday — All Age Worship led by Deacon Lisa Rathbone

Monday 19th November

7:30 Book of the Month Bible Study at the Memorial Hall, all welcome

Tuesday 20th November

10:00 Coffee Morning by Tenovus at the Memorial Hall

Wednesday 21st November

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

11:00 Church Gardening all helpers welcome

7:30 Bible Study at Paul & Anna's — the book of Hebrews chapters 9 & 10

Thursday 22nd November

10:30 Stewards at the Buttered Crust

3:00 After-school Drop-In at the Memorial Hall

Friday 23rd November

12:30 'Open the Book' at Ysgol Bryn Collen

Saturday 24th November

Llangollen Christmas Festival

3:00 till 5:00 Messy Church at the Memorial Hall

Sunday 25th November

11:00 Morning Worship led by Phil Edwards

Monday 26th November

2:00 Home Group at 5 Gerddi y Bache

7:30 Local Preachers & Worship Leaders Meeting Llangollen Methodist Church

Tuesday 27th November

10:00 Museum Christmas Fair at the Memorial Hall

Wednesday 28th November

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

11:00 Church Gardening all helpers welcome

Thursday 29th November

3:00 After-school Drop-In at the Memorial Hall

“Book of the Month” club

A book reading group reading the Bible

Led by Richard Parkes, around the circuit, the group will read a book from the bible each month and then meet to learn more about and discuss the book. (Each months session will be repeated four times, in different places, so everyone can attend when and where it is convenient)

Review Genesis — prepare Exodus

Monday 19th November 7:30 at Llangollen

Tuesday 20th November 2:00 at Gresford and 7:30 at Wrexham

Friday 23rd November 2:00 at Caergwrle.

More Information from Richard 01978 852742

revrparkes@btconnect.com

A big

**THANK
YOU**



Llangollen Methodist Church

for supporting Wrexham foodbank.

Your donations make a **BIG** difference
to local people in crisis.

Wrexham foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust's UK wide foodbank network.

Registered Charity Number: 1162262 | Registered in England and Wales



Social and Fundraising 2019.

We are starting to plan activities for next year. If you have any ideas for social or fundraising events please let one of us know and then we'll have a meeting to collate ideas and publish a calendar of events.

Many thanks

Yvonne and Sheila

Help Needed

The Tree Festival Rota will be in church as of this Sunday, please fill in when you will be available to help steward the festival this year.

Lots of volunteers means it won't be a burden for a few people.

All you are required to do is encourage visitors to vote for their favourite tree, and offer refreshments.

Toy Sunday

The Salvation Army have once again put out their Toy Appeal so that they might distribute Christmas gifts to needy families in the Wrexham area. Please bring any donations of new, unwrapped gifts for children of all ages, including toiletries for teenagers, to church on December 2nd.

Thank you.

The editor's jottings!

Christmas trees — if you want to put a tree in the festival, do let Janet know to reserve your place.

Fish Chips and Film — a big thank you to David & Yvonne for arranging and organising this good fun evening.

'Church Christmas Fayre' — note the date Tuesday 4th December, now is the time to start getting baked goods prepared and items for sale and the tombola.

With a little work and support we can make this a very successful event!

Norman

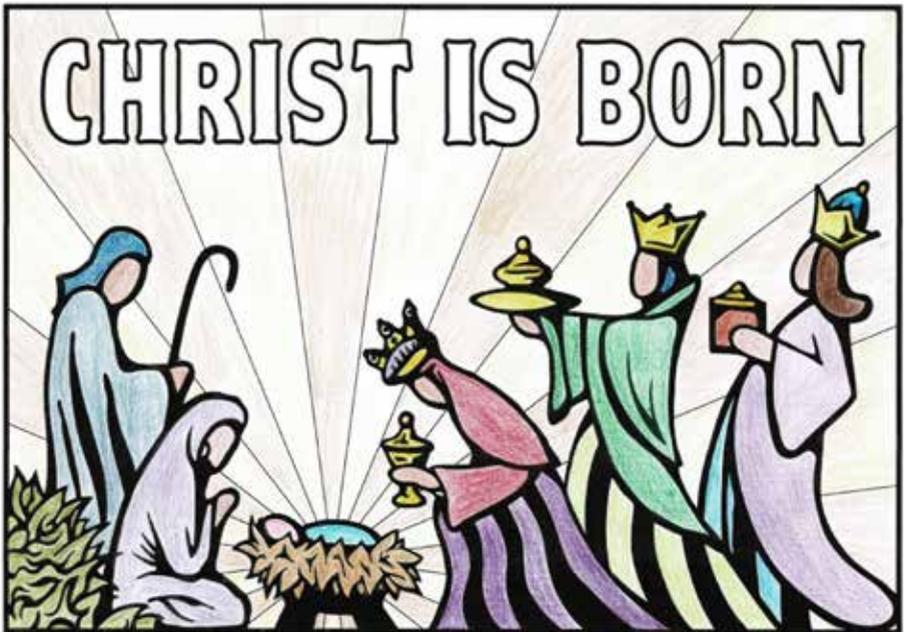


Llangollen Town Carol Service

Sunday December 16th

Music by:

Llangollen Silver Band and various Choirs



All are welcome in the Llangollen Town Hall.

Afternoon tea served from 5pm

Service starts 6pm

Some of the religious programmes on TV & Radio this week

BBC1 13:15 Sunday 18th November — Songs of Praise

Gospel Choir of the Year

David Grant hosts a highlight in the Songs of Praise calendar, the Gospel Choir of the Year Competition 2018. In the first of two programmes, five of the best amateur choirs in the country take to the stage at The Albert Hall Nottingham to sing in front of the judges, including award-winning choir director Gareth Malone, gospel choir leader Karen Gibson and actor and singer Shaun Escoffery.

The competing choirs are IDMC from central London, Keele University Gospel Choir from Staffordshire, Shalom Chorale from east London, Spring Into Soul from Worthing and C3 Vocals from Cambridge. There is also a performance of Blinded By Your Grace by The Kingdom Choir, who performed at the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex.

Radio Wales — 7:30 Sunday 25th November — Celebration — Are You Lost?

Pastor Lester Freckleton leads worship from Vine Community Church in Butetown, Cardiff.

9:00 Sunday — All Things Considered

Radio 2 — 6:00–9:00 Sunday 25th November – Good Morning Sunday with Rev Kate Bottley and Jason Mohammed

Radio 4(FM) — 5:43am weekdays — Prayer for the Day – A spiritual comment and prayer to begin the day with Guvna B, award winning rapper and Grime artist

8:10 Sunday 25th November — Sunday Worship *Live from Glasgow University Chapel. Reflecting Side By Side. a global faith movement of people working towards gender justice, in partnership with women around the world.*

Today is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and the start of the UN's 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence.

Radio 4 (LW) — 9:44 Weekdays — Daily Service God's promises:

A space for spiritual reflection with a Bible reading, prayer and a range of Christian music, led by the Rev Alex Robertson.

Readings

Mark 13:1-8 As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!' (v 1)

Psalms 16

Background

There's something unsettling about spending time with Jesus – and that's a good thing. Mind you, I sometimes feel sorry for the disciples when what may have been intended as a passing comment becomes a teaching opportunity.

We recently took a friend for her first visit to our nearest National Trust property and she spent much of the time saying, "This is beautiful!" I wonder should I have responded with a lecture on the oppression of working people who were forced to build the home and staff it.

Of course, the disciples' response is very different from our friend. Their awe and wonder is because the temple has become the pinnacle of worship in their day. Nothing compares.

Jesus, sensing that the apparently immovable power of the temple and its priests may be getting to his friends' hearts, warns against both structural authority and of falling for false power.

He needs them to hear and understand the eternal nature of the kingdom of God. That didn't depend on buildings – and still doesn't.

One of the questions that comes down to us from this is a challenge about which structures we put our faith in. Which of the latest 'faith fads' tempt us away from fixing our eyes on Jesus? How do we judge between the loud voices telling us to sign-up for their campaign? How does our faith inform our politics and our service to the community?

Let's be clear here, Jesus isn't offering a comfortable way out. He tells the disciples there will be wars and the posturing that could lead to conflict. There will be natural disasters.

Often these are the issues that cause people to question their faith, but he is reminding them that the dissatisfaction that ought to be in their hearts is a searching after the kingdom of God. Things can become eternally better even when the temporal structures around us are falling apart – as they will.

To Ponder

What experiences tempt you to lose your hold on the kingdom?

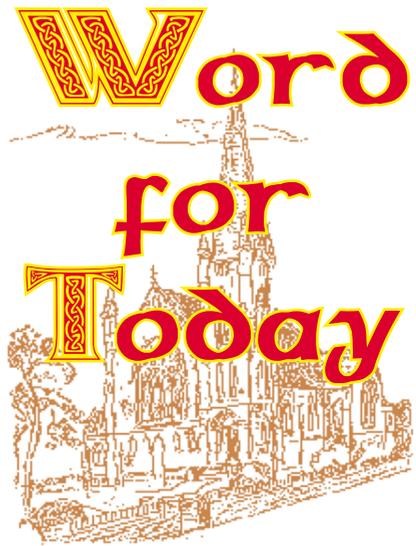
How do we live Good News in a climate where the loudest voices seem to get more attention?

Giant-Killers

'He picked up five smooth stones.'

1 Samuel 17:40 NLT

IN DAVID'S day they fought 'by representation'. One man would fight for the nation as a whole, and the country of the losing warrior became subservient to the country of the conquering warrior. The upside is obvious, isn't it? Everybody didn't have to die! So David versus Goliath was really Israel against the Philistines. It was a one-on-one contest: winner takes all. We're familiar with David's victory over the giant with faith, a stone, and a slingshot. Yet Scripture tells us he picked up not one, but 'five smooth stones'. Why? It wasn't a lack of faith — he knew that Goliath had four brothers. Observe: 1) Giant-killers realise that their giant represents greater issues. A giant never stands alone; behind him lie his causes. Overeating, addiction, abuse, and anger are all driven and supported by other issues. Somewhere behind the obvious giant are his supportive brothers — pain, guilt, loss, and shame. David was prepared with five stones — one for Goliath and one for each of his four brothers. What lies behind your giant? With God's help you can conquer both the giant and his support team. 2)



Giant-killers are not overwhelmed by the challenges. Never allow your fears to overwhelm your faith. The Bible says that 'God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind' (2 Timothy 1:7 NKJV). Fear will feed on the failures of the past, but you can't allow yesterday's failure to overwhelm today's faith. So take your failings; list them on a piece of paper and boldly print at the top of the page: 'Things I don't need to try again! Lesson learned.

Ask God to show you what lies behind the giants you're facing in life.

Published by UCB, Stoke on Trent

**For free daily readings see
Elisabeth or Norman**

