



23rd February 2020

Number – 1056

Riverside Weekly

*A warm welcome to everyone joining us for worship
this morning*

11:00 Morning Worship — Maureen Jones

Readings

Exodus chapter 24 verses 12 to 18, page 71 in the Old Testament

Matthew chapter 17 verses 1 to 9, page 17 in the New Testament

Read by Elizabeth and Grace

Music provided by Peter

Words projected by Norman

Books were given out by Grace

John & Gill will be providing refreshments.

Sue Cheshire is today's steward

*Today's flowers provided by Sheila in memory of Roger
who passed away on 28th February 2000.*



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



Church Diary

Sunday 23rd February

11:00 Morning Worship — Maureen Jones

Monday 24th February

1:30 'Open the Book' rehearsal at City Church then at Ysgol Bryn Collen

7:00 Church Council at the Memorial Hall — open to all members to attend and participate.

Tuesday 25th February

10:00 till 12:00 Coffee Morning by Ruabon Methodist Church at the Memorial Hall

3:30 till 5:00 Pancake Party at St Collen's Community Hall

Wednesday 26th February

10:00 The Prayer Group meets in the vestry — do come and join us in praying for our church and community

7:30 Bible Study at Paul & Anna's — 'Navigating conflict' study 4 from "There are no Ordinary people" (*see page 5 for more details*).

Thursday 27th February

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

Sunday 1st March

11:00 Holy Communion — Rev John Wiggall

Let's remember to give to the *Benevolent Fund* on Communion Sundays

Monday 2nd March

2:00 Home Group at Yvonne's Home

Tuesday 3rd March

10:00 till 12:00 Our first Coffee Morning of 2020 at the Memorial Hall

1:00 'Who is Jesus' the first lent study *see page 3 for full details, come early and eat lunch together.*

Wednesday 4th March

10:00 The Prayer Group meets in the vestry — do come and join us in praying for our church and community

1:30 Singing Practice for the World day of Prayer

Superstar!

An ecumenical course in five sessions written by David Wilbourne

David Wilbourne studied Natural Sciences and Theology at Cambridge. He has worked with three Archbishops of York and served as Assistant Bishop of Llandaff. He writes:

"Jesus Christ Superstar asked daring questions that gave colour to my former monochrome faith and fired my vocation. Half a century on, its message remains just as relevant, and we explore the themes from its iconic lyrics in the five sessions of this course."

3rd March - Who is Jesus

10th March - Miracles

17th March - The Psalms

24th March - The Church

31st March - Cross Purposes

Sessions will take place on Tuesday afternoons during Lent, in the Memorial Hall, Llangollen, beginning at 1pm. (Or come early to eat lunch together from 12.30pm.)

The course booklet will be available at a cost of £3.50

World Day of Prayer

Music and Song Practice followed by Preparing the Church

Wednesday March 4th at 1.30pm- 2.30 in the Methodist Church.

This is so that as many of us as possible can be familiar with the chosen songs, and to learn a special song selected by the women of Zimbabwe, which Peter will teach us. We would welcome any musicians to join us from your churches – any offers?

We will decorate the church for the service after the practice – so bring along any material, African craft work etc. - and cancel the arrangement we made for Thursday afternoon

If you are able to wear something red, white or yellow to the Service - perhaps a scarf? - please do. Red represents love, white for peace and yellow for reconciliation, some of the themes of the Service. But most of all - come and bring your friends!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020



Praying with Zimbabwe

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH



10~30 am

Llangollen
Methodist
Church

Llangollen Cytân (Churches Together)

A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE

Rise! Take Your
Mat and Walk

www.wwdp.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 233242

Social Events

Tuesday 25th February 2020, 3.30–5:00;

“Cytun Pancake Party” at St. Collen’s Community Hall. All are welcome!

Save The Date

For our “Harvest Hoedown!” on Saturday 10th October 2020 from 6:00–9:00 at the Town Hall. Let your friends know the date too! Great for all ages! Supper included.

Wednesday Bible Study

There are no Ordinary People — a study in 4 parts

Want to live an extraordinary life and faith?

Jeff Lucas uses the story of Barnabas as way to find God’s calling

This DVD course shares a message of living how God intended

Following on from the success of the accompanying book, join Jeff Lucas in this four-session DVD as he discovers that in the midst of the ordinary we can all live extraordinary lives with God. Featuring on-screen questions at the end of each session, this DVD is suitable for both small groups and individuals.

Discover:

What we can learn from the life of Barnabas

Why encouragement is so important

How God works in the ordinary to bring about the extraordinary

What it means to be an everyday hero

You are welcome to join us on alternate Wednesday evenings at Paul & Anna’s, final study in this series is on 26th February

Monday Home Group

The dates for our Group meetings at Yvonne’s house leading up to Easter are;

February 3rd; February 17th; March 2nd; March 16th; March 30th.

Refreshments served from 2pm, study starts 2.30 -4pm.

New members always welcome.

Readings

Matthew 17:1-9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.' (v. 9)

Psalms 99

Background

Often we might think that climbing up the mountain is the challenging part. But pilgrims who visit Mount Tabor in Israel, the traditional site of the Transfiguration, soon realise that “coming down the mountain” is just as frightening and just as important to get right! Mount Tabor’s winding roads and sharp bends take skilful negotiation as the drivers of the small minibuses speed weary pilgrims back to their coaches and on to their next destination. Likewise, in this passage, Jesus uses the journey down the mountain to make an important point, asking his beloved disciples to keep their experience on the mountain to themselves for the time being.

When we hear a good story or experience something that is difficult to understand, we want to rush to tell everyone we know. So today we often choose to share it on social media and follow how much interaction we receive as a result. But in this rush to share I wonder if we lose something about the importance of truly listening and reflecting. Henri Nouwen, the Catholic theologian, once said: “Listening is much more than allowing another to talk while waiting for a chance to respond.” So when God commanded Peter, James and John to ‘listen’ to Jesus and when Jesus ordered them not to tell anyone of their experience of the mountain, the disciples were being called to lay aside themselves, to open up to the experience and to learn anew from their encounter with Jesus

and with God.

There is something here for us: as we contend with a public debate that is polarised and fractious, when we encounter those who are different from us and who have stories to tell, and if we sometimes simply do not know what to do with an experience which surprises or unsettles us, we can take time to listen. As we travel down from the mountain we should give ourselves the time to reflect on our experiences and our encounters. For in not rushing to judge or conclude or even necessarily to share, we might find something new about God which might just get us through the next stage of our journey.

To Ponder

What experiences have you had that you have taken a long time to reflect on and to understand their true significance?

What things do we need to listen to in order to be better neighbours?

Bible notes author—Rob Thompson

The editor's jottings!

"Plan" — copies of the plan should now be available, please make sure that those unable to be in church today get their copy of the new plan.

Norman

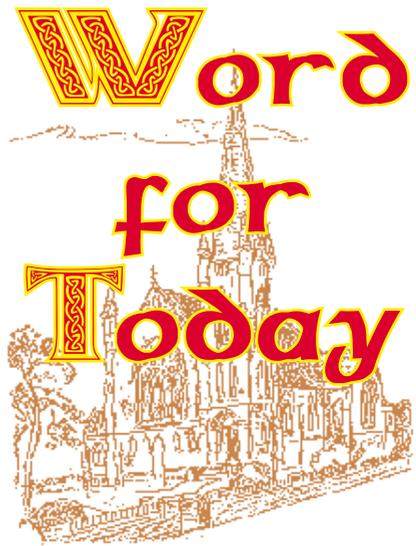


'Are You Asking God For A Child?'

'For this child I prayed, and the LORD...granted me my petition.'

1 Samuel 1:27 NKJV

HANNAH WANTED to be a mother so badly that 'she... prayed to the LORD and wept' (v.10 NKJV). In fact, she made a vow to God, pledging that if He gave her a son, she would 'give him to the LORD all the days of his life' (v. 11 NKJV). And it happened. The Bible says, 'It came to pass in the process of time that Hannah...bore a son' (v. 20 NKJV). The same thing happened to Ruth: 'Boaz begot Obed by Ruth' (Matthew 1:5 NKJV). Ruth was a penniless widow when God introduced her to Boaz, the owner of the field in which she was gleaning. She was a Gentile and he was a Jew, and by law they were forbidden to marry. But God removed the barrier that stood in their way, and from their union came a little boy called Obed. He was a progenitor to King David, and eventually to our blessed Lord Jesus. God said, 'I am the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?' (Jeremiah 32:27 NKJV). And in case you're not sure of the



answer, here it is: 'Lord... You... made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You' (v. 17 NKJV). Today if you're asking God for a child, stand on these Scriptures and believe Him: 'Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass... Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him' (Psalm 37:4- 5, 7 NKJV).

Pray for those who are struggling to have children.

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For free daily readings see
Elisabeth or Norman