



## Church News for Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021 Lent 2

Following the success of PhoneChurch during the first lockdown and with Covid-19 rates rising once again in our area, a discussion was held at an emergency meeting of the 6 Parishes. After reviewing the options, the PCC's opted to revert to PhoneChurch during the current National Lockdown, this has been approved by Bishop Nick. This was reviewed at our meeting on the 24th of February and a plan to move to a phased reopening for gathered worship from Palm Sunday (28th March) has been sent to the PCC's for approval. More information - soon! To join in simply call 03300 945 940 then at the prompt Room number: 55017514 # and use Guest PIN: 3885 # please see below for more detailed information.

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February Lent 2

09:00 Holy Communion

10:00 BCP Morning Prayer

16:00 Revive – Zoom

**Readings** Genesis 17.1-7,15,16, Psalm 22.23-31, Romans 4.13-25, & Mark 8.31-38

**Evening Readings** Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16

**Collect** Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Post Communion** Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**BCP Collect** Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves; Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### During the week – PhoneChurch

09:00 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday - Morning Prayer

09:00 Wednesday - Holy Communion

20:00 Saturday - Compline

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March Lent 3

09:00 Holy Communion

10:00 Morning Prayer

16:00 BCP Evensong

**Readings** Exodus 20.1-17, *Psalm 19\**, 1 Corinthians 1.18-25, John 2.13-22

**Evening Readings** Psalms 11, 12, Exodus 5.1 - 6.1, Philippians 3.4b-14

**Collect** Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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.

**Post Communion** Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**BCP Collect** We beseech thee, Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty to be our defence against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **During the week – PhoneChurch**

09:00 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday - Morning Prayer

09:00 Wednesday -Holy Communion

20:00 Saturday – Compline

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March Mothering Sunday**

09:00 Morning Prayer

10:00 BCP Holy Communion

16:00 Evening Prayer – Zoom (Taizé Music)

**Readings** 1 Samuel 1.20-28, Psalm 127.1-4, Colossians 3.12-17, & Luke 2.33-35

**Evening Readings** Psalms 13, 14, Exodus 6.2–13, Romans 5.1–11

**Collect for Mothering Sunday** God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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.

**Post Communion** Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **During the week – PhoneChurch**

09:00 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday - Morning Prayer

09:00 Wednesday - Patrick of Ireland

20:00 Saturday - Compline

### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March Lent 5**

09:00 Prayer & Praise

10:00 Holy Communion

16:00 BCP Evensong

**Readings** Jeremiah 31.31-34, Psalm 51.1-13, Hebrews 5.5-10, & John 12.20-33

**Evening Readings** Psalm 34\*, Exodus 7.8-24, Romans 5.12-21

**Collect** Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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.

**Post Communion** Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

**BCP Collect** O Lord, who for our sake didst fast forty days and forty nights; Give us grace to use such abstinence, that, our flesh being subdued to the Spirit, we may ever obey thy godly motions in righteousness and true holiness, to thy honour and glory; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

### **During the week - Phone Church**

09:00 Monday, Tuesday, Friday, & Saturday - Morning Prayer

09:00 Wednesday - Holy Communion

09:00 Thursday - Holy Communion - The Annunciation

20:00 Saturday - Compline

**PhoneChurch** is working well, but please remember it is live and unless you mute the microphone on your phone everyone can hear anything that is happening at your end of the line. We are still learning how to best use this system and whilst responses during the service are working well, communal singing is causing problems - so for the moment please just listen to the music as it plays rather than singing along.

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## Weddings Baptisms & Funerals

Weddings can only take place in incredibly special circumstances and with 6 people present. Funerals 30 people present. There continue to be complex restrictions and procedures in place and these services will look and feel very different to what you might be used to so please do talk with Rev'd Chris at the earliest opportunity to avoid disappointment. **For the latest update from the Church of England please visit** <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

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## Meetings

We continue to hold phone discussions for Churchwardens, PCC Secretaries, & worship leaders every other Wednesday. Our next meetings are on 10/03/21 and 24/03/21 at 16:15 on the PhoneChurch number.

Rev'd Chris will be taking Tuesday 2nd and Tuesday 9th as his rest days.

Our monthly Wensley Deanery Prayer meeting is on Wednesday 24th at 11:00 via Zoom

The latest newsletter from the Diocese is now available here

Our Annual Parochial Church Meetings are to be held in April this year and we hope to hold them in person if possible! Please keep these dates free for evening meetings.

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April St Patrick's Patrick Brompton

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April St Mary's Hornby

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April St Oswald's Hauxwell

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April St Andrew's Finghall

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April St Michael & All Angel's Spennithorne

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April St Gregory's Crakehall

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## Come and join us on Zoom for a time of Lectio Divina

Friday afternoons at 16:00 - Lectio Divina is a contemplative way of reading the Bible. It dates back to the early centuries of the Christian Church and is a way of praying the scriptures that leads us further into God's word. It is listening with the 'ear' of the heart that allows scripture to speak to us in new ways while also deepening our relationship with the Living God.

For further information and the Zoom link please contact:

Penny Johnson: 01677 450082 [pennyj.johnson5@gmail.com](mailto:pennyj.johnson5@gmail.com) or

Sue Bianco: 01677 450009 [susanbianco54@gmail.com](mailto:susanbianco54@gmail.com)

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## Visit of the

### President of the Methodist Conference

Rev Richard Teal President of the Methodist Conference is visiting our area (virtually) on the weekend of 5-7 March. This visit is focused on Rural Ministry and we have been invited to join - please follow the links below to book in.

#### Friday:

Virtual Walk Friday 4 PM open to all: <https://forms.gle/mrxf6riEDDepg8N69>

Meet the president 7 PM open to all: <https://forms.gle/MB7mVm4prcKmhCPq8>

#### Saturday:

Ecumenical conversation 10 AM: <https://forms.gle/x7mCCqZ12ZAhUnrs8>

UTASS & NFU 2 PM: <https://forms.gle/PptsgamMn3Ku4TCE7>

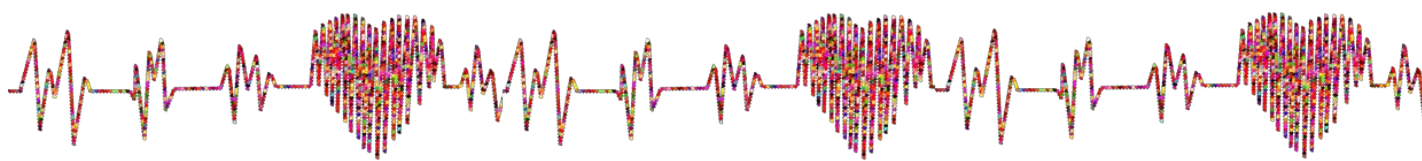
Meeting with the farmers: <https://forms.gle/LZvxB5ewxUvuiSQe7>



# Lent

## Study Group

### Rhythm of Life - Lent Course



Come and join us on Zoom for six sessions, as we explore a healthy spiritual rhythm of life.

Sessions will provide an opportunity to engage with the seven Rhythm of Life areas for deepening commitment:

Praying      Reflecting      Encouraging      Sharing  
Resting      Celebrating      Creating

Each session will be 90 minutes in length, including a 10-minute break. The framework will consist of video clips, Bible passages, discussion questions, break out groups for discussion and prayer.

The weekly sessions will begin at 19:30 on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February let us know if you would like to take part or simply join us on the night. The Link above will take you to the Zoom.

#### **Session 2 - Creating - 3rd March will be asking: -**

1. What did you last create, for yourself, for someone else, or for God?
2. Is there something you have stopped doing or something you would like to learn to do that could reawaken your creativity?
3. What one thing are you able to do regularly to ensure there is some creativity in every week?
4. What would you most like to create? On your own or with someone else?
5. Who would you most like to be creative with and how might your creativity be celebrated?

#### **Session 3 - Resting - 10th March will be asking: -**

1. What do we find restful apart from sleep?
2. Do we have enough sleep day by day? Do we recognise how profoundly our health is impacted by a lack of good quality sleep?
3. Einstein enjoyed micro naps that last as long as it took the spoon he was holding to fall to the floor. Churchill wrote, "Nature has not intended mankind to work from eight in the morning until midnight without that refreshment of blessed oblivion which, even if it only lasts twenty minutes, is sufficient to renew all the vital forces..." ' What do you think about these famous nappers?
4. If your schedule is over-busy, where do you think you could find brief times of respite and rest?
5. How can we help busy people find times of rest, for example, parents with young children?

***If you missed the first session please don't worry each session is stand-alone so please do join us when you can.***

#### **#LiveLent - Book and App**

Both the book and the accompanying daily reflections encourage all Christians to think about their calling, how to share their faith and reflect on the difference Christ makes in our lives.

We witness to God's story and the impact this has made to our story so that others might also find their story taking on new meaning in the light of God's love. While the current restrictions on daily life necessitated by the pandemic present significant challenges, the suffering and isolation many continue to face make the need for us to share God's love with our communities greater than ever. Rather than just being a Lenten discipline, this year's #LiveLent is a joyful invitation to make witness a normal part of the Christian life, the natural overflow of a life lived in devotion to Christ.

The App is available in the App Store and we have copies of the printed book available - please contact Rev'd Chris if you would like a copy.





## Compline

We will be rounding the week off with a service of Compline each Saturday during Lent on PhoneChurchDo come and join us.



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## Ash Wednesday

Although we were not able to be together in Church this year we still marked Ash Wednesday in the traditional way and as we couldn't see each other's crosses here are a few that were sent in after the service.

And a big thank you to all who help prepare the packs that go out to homes in and beyond our Benefice!



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## Lisle's Limericks

**Rev'd Lisle** has offered us the following reflections on the Gospel readings for the next two Sundays and this week some extra words about the Temptations in the Wilderness which doesn't feature in this year's lectionary!

Foretelling his suffering and rejection

Jesus spoke of coming crucifixion.

When by Peter rebuked,

"By Satan you've been duped;  
you're thinking with human perception."

"If you lose your life for my sake you'll save it,  
but gaining the world your life would be forfeit.

For this worldly fame

would put you to shame

when the Son of Man in glory abhors it."

*Lent 2: Mark 8.31-38*

On temple mount Jesus went to battle  
with those who were selling sheep and cattle.

With corruption about,

he drove them all out –

the coins of dealers on stones did rattle.

Indignant the Jews asked for a sign.

"Destroy this temple and its holy shrine

and within three days

another I'll raise."

His body upraised did confirm that sign.

*Lent 3: John 2.13-22*

In the wild for forty days was a test.

As he hungered the devil did suggest

turning stones into bread

so that he could be fed.

"There's more to life than bread." Jesus did stress.

Up at the top all the world could be seen.

"Its kingdoms could be yours and all between,

if me you would worship

you'd have a power trip."

"Worship is for God, all else is obscene."

From high on the temple, right at the lip,

"Throw yourself down for there's a scripture tip

that in angels' arms

you'll come to no harm."

"Test not your God." He gave Satan the slip.

*Luke 4.1-1*

## Liberia News

### *Simon and Grace Stretton-Downes*



Simon is a dentist leading a team at a clinic at the Eternal Love Winning All (ELWA) Hospital in Monrovia. Grace is a nurse and will support Simon as well as seeking God's direction for her role in the mission field. The couple are sent by St Gregory's Church, Crakehall and are working for Serving In Mission (SIM)

**Rosemary Gaven** is our local contact and keeps us update with the news they send. Simon says that they are settling back into their usual routines although he says that this last week has flashed by! He has had to fix up 4 patients with broken jaws all related to motorbike accidents. They take around 3 hours each and he doesn't do more than one a day!

Grace has spent much time writing up work for her UK nursing revalidation and meeting online with her friend and assessor Last Friday. It was completed Monday (22<sup>nd</sup>).

On Tuesday they had dinner and a good chat with the SIM West Africa director and his wife who are visiting them for a few weeks. The stores shipment from the USA finally arrived via sea. He ordered it on 11<sup>th</sup> October!

Meanwhile, they are in daily contact with Jonathan who is still having ongoing treatment for an infection and who is doing well.

Your prayers are always welcome and gratefully received.

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## And Finally

### *From Sue our Reader*

As I sit here writing, I can hear the curlews calling outside, and for me, here in Lower Wensleydale, they are the true heralds of spring. They've only been here a couple of days. Away all winter higher up the dale, they come back down at the first lift in the winter weather, the very beginning of spring. And the sound of them calling never fails to lift my spirits, because they also mark the time of year when the days are lengthening rapidly.

This Lent, they are more welcome than ever, because many of us are struggling badly in this latest lockdown. Somehow, this time, the isolating and lack of everyday friendly faces has hit very hard.

Bishop Helen-Ann, writing recently in the Yorkshire Post, acknowledges that Lent is a period when 'we are meant to reflect on our personal and collective shortcomings as we journey through Lent in preparation for Easter'. She acknowledges that it's traditional to give something up for Lent, but like many of us lately, she has had conversations with people who have lost or given up a great deal in the last year. Somehow it doesn't sit easily, this traditional time of self-denial. She suggests instead, taking something up, something positive, and maybe we can all do this, alongside our reflection and penance. Something we commit to doing; something which will lift us, fill us with joy, so that we can be a blessing to others. Catching me in a bit of a dip on Ash Wednesday, I was rather uninspired. Then I suddenly remembered someone had recently sent me the instructions for an Ignatian Examen, a gentle reflective exercise to be done daily, which helps us to review each day with gratitude and hope. So my 'something to take up' had been under my nose all along – the gift from God I was praying about had already arrived - via a dear friend. You may choose or find something very different, or you may prefer to follow the traditional path. Whatever it is, this Lent, may it fill you with gratitude, joy and peace.

