

## For your prayers:

**March 20** International Day of Happiness. The “pursuit of happiness” is a basic human right and goal. Pray that, in order to promote world happiness, initiatives will be undertaken to eradicate poverty, establish equality, and protect the environment. Pray for those who pursue these goals through “sustainable development” efforts - the UN, governments, and humanitarian organisations.

God of light and God of night  
Creator of seed and mountain  
raindrop and fountain  
We bring our offering of praise.  
God of right and God of might  
Lover of child and childless  
rich and homeless  
We bring our offering of praise

**Sick:** Betty Colley, Louise Folley, Mark and Janice Earls, Fr Edmund Wheat

**World Prayers:** For all those affected by COVID 19. Pray for all the world’s leaders and for our own leaders who are responsible for making decisions about our future in these uncertain times, that they will be given the insight and integrity to govern wisely according to God’s will, being fully aware of the true needs of the people.

## Notices

This year's **Lenten devotion at St Andrews** will take the form of said Communion every Wednesday evening from 4<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April at 7.30pm with reflections on "Following Jesus" - taken directly from the renowned theologian Henri Nouwen's book - Following Jesus. All welcome to join us at St Andrews.

**Flowers:** Lynda and the flower team would like to thank whoever put a very generous donation for flowers through her door on Monday. Also to remind the congregation that we are making an Appeal for money for the Easter, St Mary Magdalene day and Harvest Flowers. Donations can be given to Lynda or Rosemary Mawson.

Do come and join us at the Pavilion on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April** from 18:00 to 21:00 to celebrate St George and to enjoy a three course meal with your first drink free. Tickets: adult £15, under 18: £5. Under fives free. Roast English rib of beef with veggie option, traditional soup and dessert. Entertainment.

## Hymns

- 319 In Christ there is no east or west
- 44 As pants the hart for cooling streams
- 67 Be still, for the presence of the Lord
- 310 I heard the voice of Jesus say

## Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership

St Mary Magdalene, Willen

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020

The Third Sunday of Lent



### Today: The Third Sunday of Lent

9.30am Morning Worship with Margaret Moakes

### This week: Willen Church

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>** 9.00am Morning Prayer

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>** 2.30pm Lent house group at 13 Oaktree Court (MK15 9LP)

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>** 2pm Communion at Lovat Fields Retirement Village

**Wednesday** 7.30pm Marriage and Relationships meeting, St James, New Bradwell

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>** 7.30 pm, the Pastoral Group leaders meet at 13 Oaktree Court.

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>** 10am-12noon Church yard maintenance morning

### Notices:

For the **first Sunday of April** (5<sup>th</sup>), 9.30 am service, we shall - among other things - be turning our Desert garden into an Easter garden. It would be good if members of the congregation could bring short-stemmed flowers in tiny jars. Thank you

**Coronavirus/Covid-19 Precautions** Following advice from our national denominations and official public health provisions we taking the following precautions:

- Minimising physical contact wherever practical and possible (eg no handshake greetings; blessing without contact)
- Withdrawal of common cup for communion wine
- Provision of hand-cleansing gel on entrance table
- Encouragement to be aware of elderly or self-isolating individual's needs (eg shopping)
- Ongoing prayer and spiritual support available

Trubys Garden Tea Room Interfaith Cafe is fundraising for the Mayor's Charity - MK Hospital Charity - Cancer Centre Appeal and will be open on Saturday, 21 March 2020, 12-5 PM at the Guildhall, Church of Christ the Cornerstone MK9 2ES.

### Next week: Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, The Fourth Sunday of Lent, Mothering Sunday

9.30am Holy Communion service with Paul Smith

*Readings: Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 34:11-20; Luke 2:33-35*

### Ministers • Websites • Notice Sheet

**Rev Dr Paul Smith, Team Vicar St James',**  
New Bradwell & St Mary Magdalene, Willen  
2 Hooper Gate, Willen MK15 9JR  
Tel: 01908 606689 smith.paul.a@icloud.com  
*Paul's day off this week is Monday*

**Margaret Moakes Licensed Lay Minister**  
Telephone: 01908 237915  
margaret.moakes@btinternet.com  
*Margaret's day off is Wednesday*

**Warden** David Preston 01908 604605; 07538 498061 davidgwpreston@gmail.com

Willen Church: [www.willenchurch.org.uk](http://www.willenchurch.org.uk) Partnership: [www.stantonbury.net](http://www.stantonbury.net) Please email short and succinct notices to willenchurchnotices@hotmail.co.uk by 5pm on the preceding Thursday

## **The Collect of The Third Sunday of Lent**

Eternal God,  
give us insight  
to discern your will for us,  
to give up what harms us,  
and to seek the perfection we are promised  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

### **Exodus 17: 1 – 7 (NRSV page 50)**

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?' <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' <sup>5</sup>The LORD said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

## **GOSPEL READING**

### **John 4: 5 - 42 (NRSV New Testament p. 88)**

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?' <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,

<sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.'

<sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.'<sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband";<sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.'<sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.'<sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.'<sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?'

<sup>28</sup>Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup>'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' <sup>30</sup>They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.'<sup>32</sup>But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.'<sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup>Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup>The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps."<sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.'<sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

*This is the gospel of the Lord*

**Praise to you, O Christ**

## **PSALM**

### **Psalm 95 (NRSV page 506)**

- <sup>1</sup> O come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- <sup>2</sup> **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**
- <sup>3</sup> For the LORD is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods.
- <sup>4</sup> **In his hand are the depths of the earth;  
the heights of the mountains are his also.**
- <sup>5</sup> The sea is his, for he made it,  
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.
- <sup>6</sup> **O come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**
- <sup>7</sup> For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.  
O that today you would listen to his voice!
- <sup>8</sup> **Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,  
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,**
- <sup>9</sup> when your ancestors tested me,  
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.
- <sup>10</sup> **For forty years I loathed that generation  
and said, 'They are a people whose hearts go astray,  
and they do not regard my ways.'**
- <sup>11</sup> Therefore in my anger I swore,  
'They shall not enter my rest.'

## **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER EVENTS: 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2020**

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April: Palm Sunday.**

**9.30am** Holy Communion with blessing and distribution of palm crosses

**6.00pm** Service of penitential music and readings for Holy Week with Quorum

**Holy Monday, 6<sup>th</sup>:** 7.30pm short devotional service at St. Lawrence, Bradwell

**Holy Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup>:** 7.30pm short devotional service at St James, New Bradwell

**Holy Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup>:** 7.30pm devotional service at St Andrews, Great Linford

**Maundy Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup>:** Evening services at St James, New Bradwell, Cross & Stable, Downs Barn and St. Andrews, Great Linford. Details to be advertised soon

**Good Friday, 10<sup>th</sup>:** 2pm Devotional Stations of the Cross St Mary Magdalene, Willen

**Easter Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup>:** 10am Decorating the church for Easter

### **Easter Day, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April:**

**9.30am** Easter Communion with Rev Wendy Carey