

From the Vicar....

It feels like we really lose the daylight in October, I often leave the house in the mornings in darkness and come back to it mid-afternoon it is the same. The clocks go back on the 27th and we gain an extra hour in bed but lose an hour of daylight in the evening. It's not always that noticeable that we have gained that extra hour in the morning! I don't know about you but I sulk a bit at the loss of the light!

Light and darkness are very powerful ideas. Darkness is often associated with fear and uncertainty whereas light dispels the darkness.

We are told in the psalms that God deals equally well with both light and darkness.

"Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to You." Psalm 139 verse 12

Sometimes the cover of darkness is used to cover bad deeds. They may succeed in not being noticed by other people but we are told God sees them as plainly as day. It's a cautionary note that we sometimes believe we can get away with things when we are plainly and clearly in God's sight but it's also hugely reassuring when we see so much injustice in our community and feel like no one can do anything about it.

The light and darkness theme is used to talk about the hope that Jesus brings into the world.

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." John 1 verse 5

We all know that throughout our lives we are likely to come across darkness and evil, but God promises that the light will always overcome it. As we are faced by dark places in our lives we should not be overwhelmed by them or feel we are without hope. We are encouraged to look for the light that has the power to dispel the darkness.

On the 31st October we will be out with the community celebrating 'All Hallows Eve' or Halloween. It's an opportunity for us to continue our theme of being light in the darkness and celebrate in a really lovely way, offering hospitality, treats and warm drinks to people who are out and about

Another area where darkness and light can be really pronounced is when we are faced with the death of someone we love. The first Bible verse above is from Psalm 139 which I often use at funeral services.

The church celebrates this hope on the 1st Nov with All Saints and the 2nd Nov with All Souls. We combine the two festivals when we gather for our Sunday morning service on the 3rd November. You are all invited to come and remember someone special to you who has died and there will be an opportunity to light a candle and hear their name read out as we honour their memory. This service reaffirms God's power over light and darkness, life and death.

Every Blessing – Gemma

Newsletter Content

If you have any items for the Newsletter (including requests for prayer) please contact Janette Tadman 01245 469124

Email janettetadman@gmail.com

Deadline Wednesday evening

Contacts

Vicar Revd Gemma Fraser 07540 152561

Churchwardens

Richard Field Lucy Bubb
07776 208546 07970 728673

Deputy Churchwardens

Mike Tadman Sue Davies
07740 625454 07708 296804

Sunday 6th October

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion at St. John's

10am Harvest Festival and Pet Blessing

Leader Revd Gemma Fraser

Readings

Genesis 1:25

Genesis 9:9-11

Job 12:7-10

ISidesmen Louise Whitehead, Sue Davies

Sound Helen Field

Coffee Jane and Dave Chambers

Counters Richard Field, Janette Tadman

Duty Churchwarden Mike Tadman

The collection today will be in aid of Support Dogs, who provide, train and support specialist assistance dog partnerships. If you are a tax payer, please gift aid your donation.

There will be refreshments for humans and pets in the hall after the service.



Collect

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of the harvest,
with joy we have offered thanksgiving for
your love in creation
and have shared in the bread and the wine of
the kingdom:
by your grace plant within us a reverence for
all that you give us
and make us generous and wise stewards
of the good things we enjoy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

TO OUR VISITORS Welcome to our service. The **hymn numbers** are displayed on the boards, and will also be announced. When we come to receive Holy Communion, please see the notes in our **Order of Service**, which are provided for your guidance. We like to mark **birthdays** by singing "Happy Birthday to you: to Jesus be true. May God's richest blessing rest today upon you." If it is your birthday this week, please tell one of the ministers.

The ministry of Prayer with Laying-on-of-Hands for Healing is available every Sunday. If you would like this for yourself or another, please speak to one of the Ministers or Churchwardens.

Readings

Genesis 1:25

25 So God made the wild animals, the tame animals and all the small crawling animals to produce more of their own kind. God saw that this was good.

Genesis 9:9-11

9 "Now I am making my agreement with you and your people who will live after you. 10 And I also make it with every living thing that is with you. It is with the birds, the tame animals and the wild animals. It is with all that came out of the boat with you. I make my agreement with every living thing on earth. 11 I make this agreement with you: I will never again destroy all living things by floodwaters. A flood will never again destroy the earth."

Job 12:7-10

7 "But ask the animals, and they will teach you. Or ask the birds of the air, and they will tell you.

8 Speak to the earth, and it will teach you. Or let the fish of the sea tell you.

9 Every one of these knows that the hand of the Lord has done this.

10 The life of every creature and the breath of all people are in God's hand.

Faith Bridge

7th-19th October, City of Westminster

Join with us as we make a stand on Climate Change

Members of our 5 churches will be gathering to take part on Sunday 13th October.

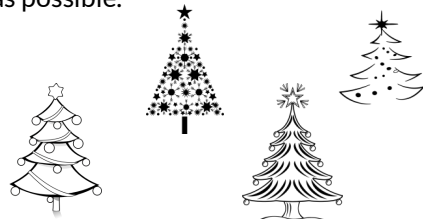
There are two ways that you can join in!

- Come with us to Westminster as we take part in the XR Faith Bridge. We'll be leaving straight after morning services, travelling by train.
- Come to pray for the protest and for transformation in how we treat God's world. 4.30pm (tea and cake from 4pm) at Church of the Holy Spirit, Widford.

Please email Gemma on:
moulshamrev@gmail.com

Christmas Tree Festival

We are going to be holding a Christmas Tree Festival on 14th - 15th December and there's lots to do. Could you join a small group to start getting things organised? Perhaps you could help by speaking to local shops and groups to encourage them to enter a decorated tree? If so, please speak to Lucy as soon as possible.



Please Pray This Week

For Brian, Joan, Bob, Margaret, June, Tammy, Kath, Emma, Basil, Greta, Carmen, Agnes, Revd John S, Janette

For Standing Committee as they meet

For those named on the prayer board

This week we remember:

Marjorie Shillaker (06.10.1999)

Richard Hunter (08.10.1998)

Alf Peacock (09.10.1998)

Kitty Shipp (12.10.1993)

Edward Bear has a wish list!

Edward Bear would like some new toys and he's created a 'wish list' on Amazon for some specific toys that he thinks the children (and helpers!) would like to play with. Could you help?

If you would like to help, have a look at the Amazon 'wish list' on-line (see link below) or speak to Revd Gemma, Suzanne or one of the churchwardens. We will also be advertising the 'wish list' on Facebook.

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2RSYXL0LABL22?](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2RSYXL0LABL22?ref=cm_sw_em_r_wl_an_y6KwSMpt96aUG)

[ref=cm_sw_em_r_wl_an_y6KwSMpt96aUG](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2RSYXL0LABL22?ref=cm_sw_em_r_wl_an_y6KwSMpt96aUG)

Living Light

The Aumbry Light for October has been sponsored by Lucy Bubb in memory of her father John Bubb



Saturday Coffee

12th October

On duty: Larry Walters

Join us for coffee and fellowship



Advent Hymns

Hymns for Advent will be chosen on 21st October. If you have a favourite hymn for that period which you would like to suggest, please contact Anna, Rita, or Hilary Selwood

This Week

The church is open daily for prayer

Monday 7 October

Pray for Local Authority Councillors, Officers and employees

Tuesday 8 October

Pray for Arbutus Close

Wednesday 9 October

Pray for Baptists

9.15am: Morning Prayer

1.15pm: Edward Bear Toddler Group

7.30pm: Standing Committee

Thursday 10 October

Pray for Peace in Syria and The Middle East

Friday 11 October

Pray for the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers

Saturday 12 October

Pray for Sylvan Close

11am: Saturday Coffee

Sunday 13th October

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion at St. John's

10am Second Sunday Service -
(Morning Worship with Hymns)

Leader & Speaker Dave Thomas

Intercessions: Richard Field

Readings

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c Elaine Law

Luke 17:11-19

Sidesman Maxine Buck, Chris Fawcett

Sound Janette Tadman

Coffee Volunteers

Counters Richard Field, Janette Tadman

Duty Churchwarden Mike Tadman

Organist John Kingham

4.30pm Prayer Service at

Church of the Holy Spirit, Widford

Tea & cake from 4pm