



This Week Sheet

Luke the Evangelist

Sunday 18th October 2020

Welcome

The collection plate for the work of the church will now be available at the door, rather than passed round during the service

Collect:

Almighty God,
You called Luke the physician,
Whose praise is in the gospel,
To be an evangelist and physician of the soul:
By the grace of the Spirit
And through the wholesome medicine of the gospel,
Give your Church the same love and power to heal;
Through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
Who is alive and reigns with you,
In the unity of the Holy Spirit,
Amen.

Readings:

Isaiah 35:3-6
2 Timothy 4:5-17
Luke 10:1-9

Post Communion Prayer:

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For your prayers:

Those who are unwell: Hilda Stormont, Alison Victor, Pat Westwood

Those who have died:

Daniel Nestina, Alan Perrins, Michael Webb

Church of England Birmingham Praying Together is available online:

<https://www.cofebirmingham.com/everyday-faith/being-a-christian/cofeb-praying-together/church-of-england-birmingham-praying-together--october-2020.php>

SERVICES

This Week:

Wednesday

10am Holy Communion (followed by private prayer drop-in until 12noon)

Next Sunday:

Bible Sunday

10.00am

Holy Communion

Readings

Nehemiah 8:1-4, 8-12
Colossians 3:12-17
Matthew 24:30-35

Please note that currently there will be no 8am service or Evensong on Sundays.

If you are new to this morning's service:

If it is your custom to receive communion in your own church, then you are welcome to do so here. If you would rather not receive, you can keep your hands down for a blessing.

You may wish to remain in your seat, which is also fine.

Unfortunately we are currently unable to serve refreshments after the service. We should all follow national and local guidelines around social distancing, so we ask you to limit any contact with those not in your household, and any conversations you do have after the service outside should comply with the regulation of no more than 6 people from different households.

If you wish to support the work of the church financially, you can be part of the Parish Giving Scheme. You can also fill out a Gift Aid Declaration to increase the value of the gift. See wardens for information. Here are our account details:

**PCC St Mary's Church Selly Oak
HSBC Account number: 41565818
Sort code: 40-11-20**

Parish ministry team

Clergy

Revd Hazel White – 0121 4713517

Revd Jayne Adams 07894 167552

Revd David Parker 0121 445 1901/07532 338961

Licensed Reader

Mary Cutler 0121 472 3343

Church Wardens

George Harrison: 07831 573169 Martin Sorby 07982 850 444

Please note: Hazel usually observes Friday as her day off.

If you have any notices to add to the TWS, please email sarahjherbert@aol.com by the end of Tuesday for inclusion in the following Sunday's edition.

If you would like to be added to our prayer list, or know someone else who would like our prayers, please email sarahjherbert@aol.com or speak to one of the clergy.

Keeping safe

- Please complete the simple form provided in your seat to assist with NHS Test and Trace.
- It is now mandatory to wear a face mask unless you have a legitimate exemption. Those leading worship (including lesson readers) are exempt from this requirement provided they can maintain social distancing.
- 2m social distancing must be maintained at all times including on entry and exit.
- **If you or anyone in your household has symptoms of Coronavirus, in line with Government advice you are asked to stay at home.**

Rainbows

Some lovely rainbows knitted by Mary Cheshire are available for a suggested donation of £1 for church funds, a reminder of God's promises to us and a sign of hope as we continue to navigate our way through these challenging times.

APCM and PCC

At the APCM George Harrison and Martin Sorby were re-elected as Church Wardens for 2020-2021. Simon Charlwood, Richard Edmonds and George Harrison were re-elected to serve as our Deanery Synod Reps on the new Deanery of Warley and Edgbaston for a term of three years. Margaret Charlwood, Stephen Constable and Laura Hart were elected to the PCC. The PCC re-elected Susan Hunstan as Secretary, John Surtees as Treasurer, George Harrison as lay vice-chair and Suzanne Johnston as Electoral Roll Officer. The Hall Management Committee, a Standing Committee (replacing F&GP), and a Fabric Committee were appointed. A few hard copies of Annual Reports and accounts are available in church for anyone who would like them. We are very grateful for the time given to our church by all who serve on PCC and other committees, as well as those who contribute to church life in many other ways.

Food Bank

Thank you for your generous Harvest gifts for the foodbank at CLC. During the coming winter months the foodbank will continue to gratefully receive our donations of non-perishable foods, which can be brought to church for delivery.

Annual Memorial Service

Sadly we are not able to hold this service this November due to Coronavirus restrictions which limit the numbers of people we can safely accommodate in church. We are, however, writing to all those who have been bereaved and whose loved one's funeral we have taken this year, to let them know we will remember their loved ones during a regular church service, and that we will invite them to a Memorial Service whenever it is safe to do so in 2021.

Further dates for Family Service

Further family services are planned for Sunday 22nd November (Feast of Christ the King) and Sunday 20th December (Socially distanced Nativity!) On this one Sunday a month there will also be a service of BCP said Communion in the Lady Chapel at 8am. Junior Church will continue to run on Zoom on other Sundays. Please ask Sarah, Adrienne or the clergy for more information.

The Readings

Today we celebrate the Festival of St Luke the Evangelist. We know very little about Luke but from what we know he emerges as one of the nicest characters in the New Testament. We know he was a doctor and a gentile; the only New Testament writer who was not a Jew. His gospel has been described as the Gospel for the Gentiles, the Gospel of Prayer and Praise and the Gospel of Women among other accolades. So what can we learn from today's readings that is pertinent to Luke? Isaiah tells us that hands can be made strong, knees can be made firm and that anxiety can be countered by strength and lack of fear; the feeble and the faint-hearted are encouraged. Is this the role of Luke as he accompanied Paul on his last journey to Rome and prison? Isaiah asserts that God will transform every inability into ability and every lack into abundance. Paul writes his second letter to Timothy from Rome as he approaches the end of his life. He writes of life as having been a well-fought context where he has fought the good fight, finished the race and kept the faith. He goes on to give a roll of honour and dishonour in which he writes that Luke is with him; Luke who helped him in times of need, who eased his pain and enabled him to continue his work. Finally, Luke's gospel describes the appointment of the seventy that Jesus sent out before him. Whilst the number seventy was of symbolic importance to the Jews the passage identifies some very important things about both preacher and the listeners; travel light and don't be cluttered up with material things, concentrate with the job in hand don't be sidetracked and don't just work for what you can get out of it.

Richard Edmonds