



Trinity 7

The Benefice of Upper Wensleydale



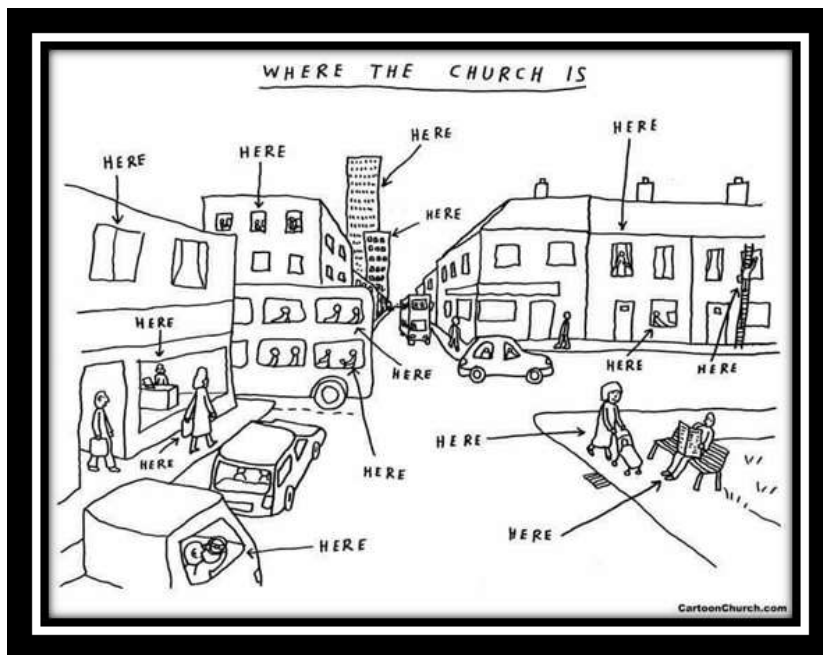
Edition 19

'Church in the Home'

Sunday July 26th– Saturday August 1st

From the Vicarage

The treasure of the Kingdom of God



Our readings today remind us of the priceless value there is to be discovered in the treasure of the Kingdom of God. When we find it for ourselves, we realise just how precious a gift it really is. Once we have it, it changes everything and once we understand that and give ourselves to it, it changes us as well. Paul in his letter to the church in Rome, tells us that once we have this treasure that is Jesus Christ within us, nothing can separate us from the love of God. The Kingdom of God is everywhere and where we walk, there is the Kingdom in physical form as the church.

2020, so far has been a year where our buildings may have been closed but where the church has been very much alive in our nation and in and around the Dale. I wonder what God has been teaching you in this time about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and a member of His church?

Per Anne



To God be the glory
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2CeBoSQsBR0>



This traditional hymn is an offering of praise to God for all his wonderful acts, a celebration of the glory that is his forever. Those who make the choice to follow his word and example, even if it causes disruption to their daily lives will joyfully find the treasures of living in the light of his word.

To God be the glory
 Great things He hath done
 So loved He the world
 that He gave us His Son
 Who yielded His life
 an atonement for sin
 And opened the life-gate
 that all may go in
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
 Let the earth hear His voice
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
 Let the people rejoice
 O Come to the Father
 Through Jesus the Son
 And give Him the glory
 Great things He hath done

O perfect redemption,
 the purchase of blood
 To every believer
 the promise of God
 The vilest offender
 who truly believes
 That moment from Jesus
 a pardon receives
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
 Let the earth hear His voice
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
 Let the people rejoice
 O Come to the Father
 Through Jesus the Son,
 And give Him the glory
 Great things He hath done

Great things He hath taught us,
 great things He hath done
 And great our rejoicing
 through Jesus the Son
 But purer, and higher,
 and greater will be
 Our wonder, our rapture,
 when Jesus we see
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
 Let the earth hear His voice
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
 Let the people rejoice
 O Come to the Father
 Through Jesus the Son
 And give Him the glory
 Great things He hath done

Our God <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01Yj7H-eSjM>

The readings this week teach us about the power of our amazing God, if he is with us then nothing and no-one can stand against us. If we endeavour to live our lives in Christ Jesus we will be the seeds of Gods truth on earth, spreading through nations and generations, nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God.

Water You turned into wine
 Opened the eyes of the blind
 There's no one like you
 None like you
 Into the darkness You shine
 Out of the ashes we rise
 There's No one like you
 None like you
 Our God is greater,
 our God is stronger
 God You are higher than any other
 Our God is Healer,
 awesome in power
 Our God, Our God
 Into the darkness you shining
 Out of the ashes we Rise
 No one like you
 None like you

Our God is greater,
 our God is stronger
 God You are higher than any other
 Our God is Healer,
 awesome in power
 Our God, Our God
 Our God is greater,
 our God is stronger
 God You are higher than any other
 Our God is Healer,
 awesome in power
 Our God, Our God
 And if Our God is for us,
 then who could ever stop us?
 And if our God is with us,
 then what can stand against?
 And if Our God is for us,
 then who could ever stop us?
 And if our God is with us,
 then what can stand against?
 Then what can stand against?

Our God is greater,
 our God is stronger
 God You are higher than any other
 Our God is Healer,
 awesome in power
 Our God, Our God
 Our God is greater,
 our God is stronger
 God You are higher than any other
 Our God is Healer,
 awesome in power
 Our God, Our God
 And if Our God is for us,
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 then who can ever stop us?
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 Then what can stand against?



Sunday July 26th Bible Readings:

1 Kings 3. 5-12, Romans 8. 26-39, Matt 13. 31-33, 44-52

Click on this site, type in the reading you want and then listen to David Suchet read it to you.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/audio/suchet/nivuk/Gen.1>

Reflection

Another week has gone by and we are still waiting and hoping for news that a vaccine has been found that will save us from the devastation of lockdown.

In our Gospel Jesus is speaking to people who are waiting and hoping for a messiah, someone who will deliver them from Roman rule and set up God as king in their land. And they hope that Jesus is that saviour. It has been exciting to see his power to heal people. When he preaches his words are powerful. They feel forgiven and loved by God. But beyond that nothing is happening. No obvious progress has been made towards the new kingdom.

Well, Jesus says, God's new kingdom is beginning right now, but it starts in a tiny way like someone planting a little mustard seed. If you are patient, you will find it growing into one of the largest garden shrubs. Or putting it another way, God's kingdom starts like a bit of yeast put into some dough but watch and see how the loaf expands. These two little parables say that God's rule does not burst on the earth in a blaze of glory. He sets things going in small and unobtrusive ways and they grow and expand.

This was true of the way the Christian church spread around the world from such small beginnings. And though the churches remain relatively small even now, we see them influencing far more people than we expect. Birds come and nest in the mustard bush. God uses his people to provide shelter and welfare for others. When we see something that is wrong in society and start a movement, against slavery for instance or a fair-trade or a recycling campaign, attitudes in the wider society begin to change.

So our first lesson here is to have patience and hope as we trust in God. But that does not mean we stand aside to wait. Our next pair of parables tell us that God's kingdom grows and expands through people who discover the value of God's reign in their hearts. One captures the energy and excitement of someone who has found buried treasure. It's far more valuable than anything else that he has. It's worth selling everything to buy the field so that he can be the legal owner of the hoard. It is easy to see why this labourer would be so joyful. He expects to make a great profit on the deal. But what about the jeweller in the next story? He gives everything he has got, to take hold of the pearl of great price. For him it is the sheer wonder and beauty of that pearl which motivates him.

So our second lesson is this. We only see a tiny bit of God's reign: what God is doing round the world and through human history. But he invites us to be part of it and to accept his call as the thing of greatest value in our lives. We all fall short of this most of the time. Our final parable about a fishing net forms a pair with the one last week about the weeds among the wheat. It reminds us that there is good and bad mixed up in all of us and there are people we would judge good or bad in all communities. It will be God's job and not ours to sort out in the end who or what is fit to last for eternity.

We don't know if the vaccine will come or what the new normal will be like. These unusual days offer us a challenge to examine our ambitions and desires. Do we value the love and leadership of God in our hearts as the most precious gift of our lives? If we were back at the beginning of our working days and God was saying to us in a dream, "Ask what I should give you as a gift for your life ahead", would we, like King Solomon, ask for wisdom 'to discern and choose what is right'?

Can we say with St Paul that neither poverty or peril nor riches or power will ever be able to separate us from the love of God whose Son died and rose for us and whose Spirit lives in our innermost being. For that is the treasure.

Rev Vera Sinton



Prayers



‘Jesus thou joy of loving hearts
Thou fount of life, thou light of men,
From the best bliss that earth imparts
We turn unfilled to Thee again.’

Let us pray for the church, and for the world, and let us thank God for his goodness.

We pray for the church at a time of great difficulty, where so many services still have to be held on-line, with no physical human contact. We pray for the clergy who are having to sort out all the complicated issues, to keep everyone safe, and especially for churches with small and elderly congregations where the necessary demands are hard to meet. We ask God to strengthen all those called to serve Him.

‘Almighty and everlasting God, who alone workest great marvels: Send down upon our Bishops and Curates and all Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful spirit of thy grace; and that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. **Amen.** (from the Book of Common Prayer)

We pray for the world, as it suffers globally in the face of the corona virus, for those countries where it is still spreading, for those countries where medical aid is scanty, or non-existent. We remember also those many countries riven by war, the bloodshed, the sufferings, the deaths of the innocent. We remember too, in the aftermath of the death of George Floyd, how soon we forget these things, and move on.

‘O Lord, forgive the broken fellowship;
Forgive the wrongs men do to men;
Forgive the wrongs done in the name of religion
Forgive the wrongs done in the past and still done
in your own Name, when men forget
you laid down your life
to make peace by the blood of your Cross
to make man one with his fellow-men
and one with God.’ **Amen.** (Gilbert Shaw)

We pray for all who suffer, in mind, body or estate, for those locked down in isolation, for those who are sick, for those who have been recently bereaved, especially at this time when funerals have to be small in number, and briefly held. And we remember those who have died recently, in the faith of Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone. In silence let us bring to God those who are closest to our hearts today.

‘In all the experiences of life
deserved and undeserved
and in the mystery of death
O, Lord Jesus,
may we have you at our side
and may your promise sustain us
through the darkest hours.’ **Amen** (Roger Pickering)

So, as we close, let us thank God for his great goodness to us and ask Him to take us, and all those we love, safely through this day .

‘O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who has safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** (Book of Common Prayer)

Ann Pilling

...This Sunday This Sunday This Sunday This Sunday This Sunday ...

Sunday July 26th
10:30am
Join us for our
Service of
Morning Prayer



To view this Sunday's service:
Visit the website
www.upperwensleydalechurch.co.uk
or our FaceBook page :
[upperwensleydalechurch-cofe](https://www.facebook.com/upperwensleydalechurch-cofe)

Sunday 2nd August

There will be a shortened Holy Communion said service in all our churches on Sunday 2nd August at the following times:

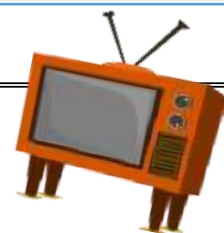
St Mary & St John's Hardraw – 9.00am
St Oswald's Askrigg – 10.30am
St Margaret's Hawes – 2.30pm
St Matthew's Stalling Busk – 4.00pm

Please see the full list of services for August and September attached. This is a transition arrangement until the beginning of October when we hope to be able to return to our regular timings and pattern of services.

TV
Radio

Worship on the BBC:

Tune into some of the services on TV and Radio.



Sunday: Radio 4 Sunday Worship 8:10 – 8:50am Keswick Convention
Radio 3 Choral Evensong 3:00 – 4pm from St Alban's Church, Holborn
Wed: Radio 3 Choral Evensong 3:30 – 4:30pm from Hereford Cathedral
Sunday BBC1 1:15-1:50 Songs of praise – The Rev Kate Bottley celebrates Anthony Gormley's sculptures on Crosby Beach





Temporary Pattern of Services August – September 2020

Date	Hardraw 9am	Askrigg 10:30am	Hawes 2:30pm	Stalling Busk 4pm
2 nd August	First celebration of Communion for each community.			
9 th August	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Prayer	
16 th August	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	
23 rd August	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Prayer
30 th August	OUTDOOR BENEFICE SERVICE If permitted- 10.30am venue tbc 8.30 HC in Hawes			
6 th Sep	'The Gathering' ONLINE ONLY Community involvement. 8:30 HC in Askrigg			
13 th Sep	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Prayer	Holy Communion
20 th Sep	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	
27 th Sep	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Prayer