



# The Benefice of Upper Wensleydale



**Trinity 3**

**'Church in the Home'**

Edition 15

**Sunday** June 28th – Saturday July 4th

## From the Vicarage

There has been much in the media this week about the future. The Prime Minister in Parliament has been speaking of his plans for the future of the nation as we begin to take steps to ease the lockdown. Leaders of industry and commerce have been speaking of their future needs and others of their future concerns. Here in Upper Wensleydale there are many different emotions regarding the future. Our local businesses need the flow of visitors to survive and so look forward to the opportunity to trade freely once more, whilst others, having seen the recent pictures of overcrowded beaches and an apparent lack of regard towards the important guidelines for personal safety, are apprehensive about what the inevitable increase of visitors will mean for our town and villages in the coming weeks.

On the **'Today'** programme on Radio 4, the Archbishop of Canterbury spoke of his 'immense hope' in the future. A hope built upon a new understanding of what it means to live lives that are inter dependent upon one another. What we choose to do, or not to do, will always affect others. Successful lives then, are based upon successful relationships and successful relationships in the future will require new hearts; hearts based on love and compassion for those around us.

As our buildings re-open (albeit initially in a limited way) for prayer across the Dale, there is much to be thankful for but there is much still to continue to hold in prayer. Let us thank the Lord for keeping us safe and seek Him for his continued blessing on all who live here and all who will come here for rest and refreshing.

Discussions are now beginning regarding the re-introduction of services, but none of these steps can be rushed or taken without appropriate planning for the safety of all who will visit us or attend worship. Because of local circumstances, each building is able to respond in different ways. For July the following will be in place for prayer

St Matthew's: Stalling Busk - now open for prayer during the day

St Oswald's: Askrigg - From June 29<sup>th</sup>; Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat: 10-12 & Tues, Thurs 2-4pm

St Margaret's: Hawes - From July 5<sup>th</sup>; Sunday 2-4pm

St Mary & St John: Hardraw - From July 5<sup>th</sup>; details for access are in the church porch.

May you know the peace, presence and protection of God in the days that lie ahead.

*Rev Dave*



## Praise My Soul The King Of Heaven

<https://youtu.be/GyRIVbdsi4c>

Music from  
Sarah

I just love this traditional hymn. Maybe because we had it at our wedding. It's triumphant, full of praise of the Almighty Sovereign God yet also speaks of the intimacy of God the Father and his tenderness towards us. Above all the hymn communicates His grace towards us when we get it wrong and brings us back to worship and praise again. Let's not give up worshiping and singing in our homes even though we still can't in church. Nothing can separate us from His love and nothing can keep us from singing His praise. NOTHING!

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
To His feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Who like me His praise should sing?  
Praise Him, praise Him,  
praise Him, praise Him,  
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor  
To our fathers in distress.  
Praise Him still the same forever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Praise Him, praise Him,  
praise Him, praise Him,  
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Fatherlike He tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame He Knows.  
In His hands He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise Him, praise Him,  
praise Him, praise Him,  
Widely as His mercy flows

Angels help us to adore Him;  
Ye behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,  
Dwellers all in time and space.  
Praise Him, praise Him,  
praise Him, praise Him,  
Praise with us the God of grace.

## The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ

<https://youtu.be/LaJINKAz2Oc>

This lovely song is also about grace. It is a beautiful song that ends a service so well as it is the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ that we so often conclude our meetings with. This setting of it is beautiful from resound worship.

May the grace of Jesus Christ  
and the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Spirit  
be with us.

The Lord bless us and keep us,  
his face shine upon us,  
his grace and his peace rest on us.



## Sunday June 21st Bible Readings:

**Jeremiah 28:5-9, Psalm 89:1-4 15-18, Romans 6:12-23, Matthew 10:40-42**

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

We are all familiar with that lovely simple prayer, "Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy." It seems to me that the words lead us directly to the meaning behind the readings we have heard this morning: Redemption. The surety that however bleak and uncertain these present times might be, and surely no home or family can have remained untouched, there is still light in God's mercy.

As Christian people we have been propelled into a place which we have found difficult to negotiate and to which we must reconcile ourselves. Looking at words from Jesus's teaching : "To love one another", and " where one are two are gathered together, I will be with you." we are bound to reflect that for many of us, that being together has been directly acknowledged by an embrace, or at least the touch of physical friendship. This has been denied us by those very necessary rules of lock down set out for us during the pandemic.

To have our churches closed was a body blow to the worshipping community, and something we would never have contemplated until a few months ago. And yet, as created beings, we have been given the wonderful gift of creativity! For so many, it has been a truly heart-warming time, of kindness and unstinting care for each other. Unselfishness has been more evident than for many a long year, and there has been a genuine desire to do what is right to help those who are in need.

With creative ingenuity and the brilliance of technology, that kindness has helped to thread our communities together in such love and care. Some of us have mastered skills which at first seemed impossible to us, and others have been helped to resolve things which, on their own, would certainly have been beyond them.

Because the air, with much less traffic pollution has been so much cleaner, health for many, especially those with such ailments as asthma, has been much improved. Nature has taken a deep breath of relief. We have more bird song and sightings of rare birds, insects and species of animals. In fact, it has moved some to say that what is most at fault with the planet is people: and there is a good case to be made for that. Until we remember that we are made in His image, and pull ourselves up short to realise we can, and indeed must, do much better than we have done!

And in that pursuit, if we address the readings set for the day we will see how our Father will redeem us. There is definitely light at the end of the tunnel, but as the readings point out, parts of which have definite parallels to The Beatitudes, our Lord's own unique teachings, redemption is not Carte Blanche. Repentance is always available to us, but saying sorry must not just be empty words, or there is no genuine sorrow in them. So we have the story of the good figs and the damaged ones, unfit to eat, as our example. And just as was pointed out in Matthew, we are bidden to be discerning about our motivations, to see Christ in others, and treat them accordingly. To remember, when we share, we are sharing with Christ.

We do not have to be political creatures to see that some world leaders, and those in powerful places, are riddled with corruption and lust for power and greed. We are bidden not to be. For true redemption to take place, we need to look honestly into our own hearts, humanity is very skilled at pretending that though we might have made the odd mistake, we are not really, deep down, at fault. As though it was some sort of oversight. Which is perhaps one of the reasons behind the historic conditioning that has sadly brought us to where we are with racial issues and poverty and deprivation. We can, and surely must do better than that, and to remember ALL God's people are precious to him. Even when we are at our worst, frail, fragile and at our most ungodly, we can still hear His voice telling us, "You are mine! I have called you by name!" How reassuring is that! He has actually called each one of us to him.

Here we might all fall on our knees and "Be Still", and know that without God's love and his confirmed promise to be with us always, even to the end, we will continue to fall from Grace. We need to look again at the readings and particularly the Psalm, to be reminded that power, wealth and superficial importance do not easily hold hands with love, mercy and justice. We need Christ's mercy more than ever. We need to be honest. We need to consider again His words: "Blessed are the pure in heart. Blessed are the poor. Blessed are they that hunger and thirst for righteousness sake" and all that great teaching of Our Lord's wonderful Sermon on the Mount. Simply, He bids us to "Love one another". May God bless us all and grant us His infinite Mercy,

Lord have Mercy - Christ have mercy - Lord have mercy.

**Amen**

**Lesley Coates Jones**



# Prayers



Let us pray, and begin with an adaptation of the words of the hymn, Walk with me, oh my God.

Lord, walk with us, through the darkest night and the brightest day.  
Be at our sides, oh Lord, hold our hands and guide our way,  
Sometimes the road seems long, our energy spent.  
Then, Lord, when we think of you and we know that you will give us strength.  
Stones may bar our path and there are times we fall, but you are always there to help us when we call.  
Just as you calmed the wind and walked upon the sea, conquer, the storms that threaten us.  
As once you healed the lame and gave sight to the blind, help us when we're downcast to hold our heads up high.

Lord, in these times of pandemic and panic, locked down lives and locked in attitudes, protest and counter protest, pride and prejudice, those words seem very relevant.  
Lord we take strength and encouragement from today's scripture readings. Guide us to be prophets of peace. Inspire us to claim and acclaim you. Lead us to walk in the light of your presence. May we strive towards righteousness and to thrive under your grace. We welcome you in to our lives.

We pray for our communities, our loved ones, family, friends and neighbours  
We pray for those lonely in lockdown especially for those with strained mental health  
For those feeling isolated with a deep sense of disconnect from loved ones, especially those who have suffered loss and have been recently bereaved perhaps unable to attend funerals  
For those who are ill and awaiting treatment, had operations postponed and now see lengthening waiting times  
For those who have lost their income, for businesses that have been unable to trade, for those trying to salvage something from what is left of a lifetimes work.

Lord, we can picture all such people in our minds eye, we bring them to mind and lift them to you.

Lord, we thank you that the people who keep our communities going, for those shops that have kept us in groceries, medication and the essentials of life; who have delivered to those isolating. For the takeaways and home deliveries.

We thank you for the Good Life Project - Upper Dales Covid-19 Support Group and all the people who have volunteered and taken a lead. For the schools and staff who have kept open for the children of keyworkers. For the health workers, doctors, nurses and carers. May they stay safe and know they are valued.

Lord we pray for better times ahead for all people. We pray for your presence in our daily life and a future with you at the heart and centre of what we do and how we live.

We offer these prayers in Jesus' name together with the prayer that he, as our Saviour, taught us:

Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be your name  
Your Kingdom come, your will be done  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
As we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
Now and forever. Amen

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

**Sunday June 28th**  
**10:30am**  
**Join us for our**  
**Service of**  
**Morning Prayer**



To view this or any other  
Sunday service:

Visit the website

[www.upperwensleydalechurch.co.uk](http://www.upperwensleydalechurch.co.uk)

or our FaceBook page :

[upperwensleydalechurch-cofe](https://www.facebook.com/upperwensleydalechurch-cofe)



## DAILY HOPE

Still available from your telephone

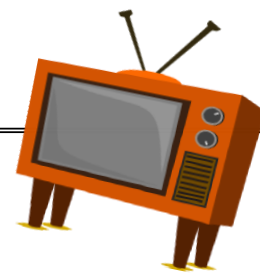
Worship, prayer, hymns and reflections on your **telephone**

24hrs a day – 7 days a week – call: 0800 804 8044

**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 **'Looking to the future hopefully'**  
With John Bell of the Iona Community

**Radio 3** Choral Evensong 3:00 – 4pm From Manchester

**Wed. Radio 3** Choral Evensong 3:30 – 4:30 From Sheffield Cathedral

**Sunday** *Songs of Praise* with Claire McCollum on the north coast of  
Northern Ireland looking back on faith stories from across the region.

