



Trinity 10

The Benefice of Upper Wensleydale

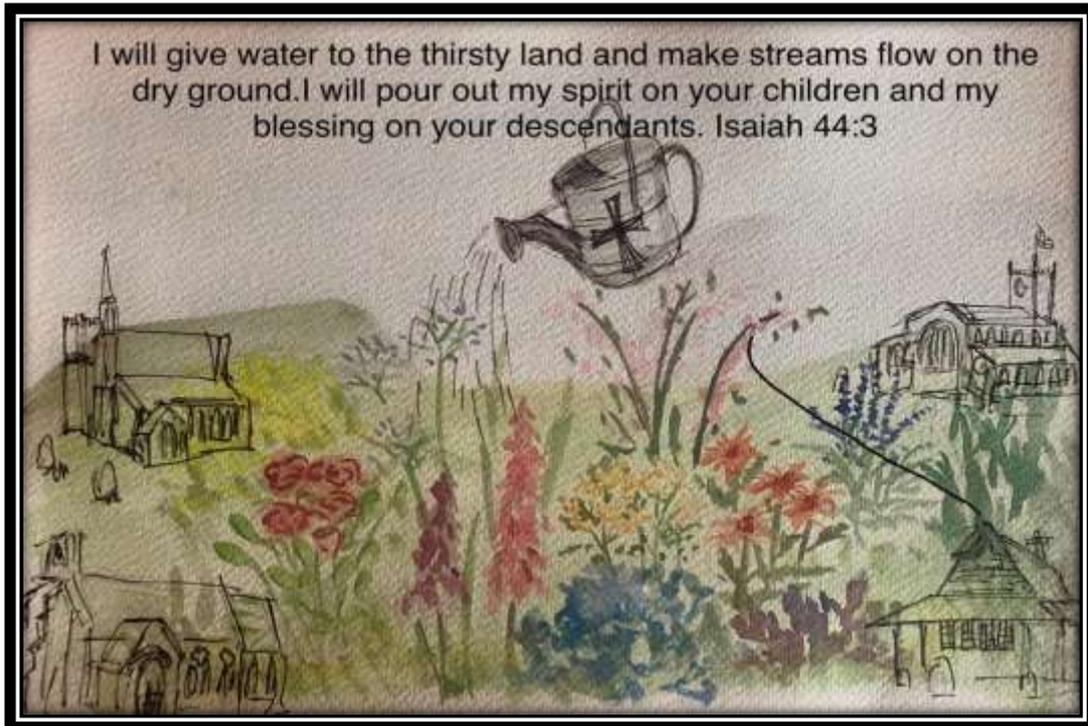


Edition 22

'Church in the Home'

Sunday August 16th– Saturday August 22nd

From the Vicarage



The picture above was painted by Helen Wood in a time of *'creative prayer'*. Helen had been watching a seminar on creative approaches to prayer as part of the on line 'New Wine' conference a few weeks ago. As she began to paint she felt in her heart that God was speaking into a promise of blessing. That during our time of being shut out of our buildings and unable to worship and fellowship together, that He had been preparing something new by watering the ground with his Spirit across the benefice of the upper dale. It's a promise of life and hope in something new for the future.

Vera reminds us in our reflection this week of the importance of prayer and relationship with God and of the power of trusting in him and in his word to free us from all things that would seek to bind us and restrict us from experiencing life in all its fullness. John 10:10 The promise of Jesus is of being able to know and experience a freedom in our lives on a daily basis; a freedom that allows something exceptional to take place. All we have to do is to trust and believe in Him.

You might, like me, have an area of your life that needs opening afresh to God's promise or perhaps you have never opened your life to Him and need to trust in him for the very first time, just as the woman in our reading did.

Rev. Vera



Oh Lord hear my prayer
<https://youtu.be/f51n-yb11dY>

Music from
Sarah

This song is from Taize a catholic pilgrimage in France which repeats melodically a persistent request to cry out for God to hear our prayer .. 'Oh Lord hear my prayer.' It reminds me of the woman who persisted in prayer in our Gospel today in Matthew .. she kept on asking Jesus to heal her daughter . She didn't give up. Let's not give up either. The music is melodically soothing and the repetition helps us to meditate on our requests to God.

Oh Lord hear my prayer
Oh Lord hear my prayer
When I call, answer me
Oh Lord hear my prayer
Oh Lord hear my prayer
Come and listen to me

The Lord's my shepherd
<https://youtu.be/pN4tPkX0MG0>

This song is again a familiar one from psalm 23 but reiterated that we trust in God alone and through that trust we have faith ... even though we might be walking in the dark valleys ... He is with us .

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,
And He anoints my head with oil,
And my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know.



Sunday Aug 16th Bible Readings:

Isaiah 56. 1, 6-8; Romans 11.1-2a,29-32; Matt 15. 10-28

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

REFLECTION

Last week Joe reminded us that we are constantly tempted to think we can make ourselves good by our own efforts, but we cannot. As fast as we improve in one area of our lives, we start failing in another. The people Jesus describes as 'blind guides' in the gospel were so focused on helping people to keep the Jewish hygiene rules that they failed to see the much greater problem. It is through our inner thoughts that contamination comes. Pride and

prejudice breed inside us and break out of our mouths as slander, putting other people down. The murderous thoughts these blind guides were having about Jesus eventually led to his death.

We cannot make ourselves acceptable to God by our own efforts. But the good news is: - that is the wrong way round. The right way is to recognise the great depth of loving kindness in God and to trust ourselves in humility to his mercy. God calls us to come with our faults and failures, to accept that we are forgiven and picked up by God in love and then sent out again encouraged by God's spirit to make yet another new start. Paul uses the metaphor of a prison to describe the way sin can get us tied up and discouraged. And last week we had that lovely summary of his remedy: 'By grace you are saved through faith'. But I think some people when they hear the word 'saved' think this is just a slogan about going to heaven when we die. No. It includes the daily, weekly process in which we discover new areas where sin has tied us up like prisoners and we turn to God to set us free and make us more like the people God means us to be. The greatest saints barely notice the progress God is making in their lives, but others notice them showing the family likeness of Jesus.

Now Matthew offers us a contrast between the blind guides in Israel taking offense at Jesus and a Canaanite woman who does not take offense when Jesus says something rather shocking to her. He compares her to a gentile dog. Jesus had come to this gentile area to get some respite from the crowds and critics down south. This mother was advertising his presence. Jesus knows the task God has given him, 'to feed the lost sheep of the house of Israel'. His healings are not the main end. They are signs to alert Israel that the kingdom of God is arriving. What would they mean to a Canaanite pagan and what would be the aftercare for her daughter?

As she kneels at his feet, we cannot hear the tone of voice or see perhaps a twinkle in his eye as he challenges her about taking the children's food. If she had no real belief in him, she could have flounced off insulted at this point. But she really believes that Jesus is the one who can set her daughter free from evil forces. She is not asking for the children's bread she says, just some leftover crumbs. 'Great is your faith,' Jesus said as he healed her daughter. She trusted him. He can safely trust her family to his Father's care.

And we know that apostles will be coming back soon to that area with the news that Jesus died and is alive again. Through him God's grace is reaching out to forgive and set us free from our prisons. Our task is to trust him.

Vera Sinton



Prayers



Gracious & loving God, we thank you for this wonderful world in which we live. We thank you for the sun & the rain which makes our dale so green & fertile. We thank you for the hard work of our farmers as they struggle to get in the hay & silage between the showers. We thank you for our clean rushing rivers & waterfalls, our growing sheep & lambs, our young birds preparing to fly to countries far away. We thank you for the rhythm of the seasons. We pray that you will forgive your people's folly in their disrespect of your perfect creation, our greed in stripping the earth of its minerals, our forests of its trees, our seas of their fish. Forgive us our industries which pollute the atmosphere & our carelessness which causes accidents like the recent blast in Beirut, whose people we pray for.

We thank you, loving Father, for the peace which we now enjoy as we celebrate 75 years from the end of war in the far east & we pray that peace will prevail in that troubled region. We rejoice in the peace which now triumphs in Ireland.

We pray for our parliament as it strives to give us the right guidance to avoid the current pandemic & for all the scientists who are working so hard to find a solution & we pray for all the people around the world who have succumbed to its dangers & are now in your tender care & all their relatives & friends who are suffering such a sudden loss. We pray for our hospitals & care homes & all who work in them caring for those in need.

We pray for our local community, our business people who are working for our benefit, our shops who remained open & those who have been able to join them, for the busy market place on Tuesday & the various cafes & pubs who are tentatively opening under difficulty & all our visitors who have come here to relax & enjoy our beautiful dale.

Loving & merciful Father, we hold all these things in our hearts & pray that you will pour your blessing on us all. Amen

Sue Foster

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

Sunday Aug 16th
Join us for our
'Family Together'
Service online



Visit the website
www.upperwensleydalechurch.co.uk

or our FaceBook page :
[upperwensleydalechurch-cofe](https://www.facebook.com/upperwensleydalechurch-cofe)

This month for our **online Family Together Service** we look at the theme of **water** as a symbol of the work of God in our lives and remember the joy of the immersion baptisms in Semerwater on that gloriously hot August Bank Holiday Sunday last year.



Please wear a
face covering

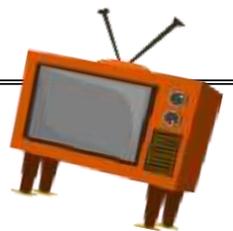
Sunday 16th August

There will be a Holy Communion service on Sunday at **St Mary & St John's Hardraw -9.00am** and **St Margaret's Hawes at 2.30pm**. There will be a Morning Prayer service at **St Oswald's Askrigg at 10.30am**. There will be no service at St Matthew's this Sunday

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 with Dr Stephen Wigley,
Chair of the Welsh Methodist Synod

Sunday: Radio 3 Choral Evensong 3:00 – 4pm Live from St Martin-in-the-Fields

Wed: Radio 3 Choral Evensong 3.30-4.30pm Live from St Martin-in-the-Fields

Sunday: BBC1 1:15-1:50 *Songs of praise* with Claire McCollum





Temporary Pattern of Services August – September 2020

| Date | Harddraw 9am | Askrigg 10:30am | Hawes 2:30pm | Stalling Busk 4pm |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 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 |