

From the Vicarage



It's been quite a challenge at times to work out who is actually behind the many different face coverings that are being worn in a church service. The different patterns and shapes and sizes can often do a good job in disguising the wearer and as they are removed for taking the bread in a communion service, the real identity can come as quite a surprise or the person looks very different because they've grown a rather splendid moustache. I confess to being amused in the early weeks of you having to wear them of seeing folks who had forgotten they were on, trying to push the bread through the mask! But becoming accustomed to having to wear them doesn't make it any easier in the doing so.

It's hard to greet one another and communicate effectively when our mouths are covered and some are finding the experience rather claustrophobic. All of this can become a distraction in our worship. You will have noticed that those who greet you as you enter for a service have been wearing a visor instead of a mask as we thought that this was more welcoming and practical. If you would prefer to do the same then please do so. It's so much nicer to look at each other's smiling faces and may help you feel more comfortable and therefore more receptive in your worship. Visors can be purchased quite readily on line, but if you need help with this please let us know.

Singing has been such a large part of mine and Sarah's worship lives that we are finding the inability to engage in it together as a church very difficult. The way we are getting around it is by having worship songs and hymns playing at home so that we can sing along to them. One thing is for sure; the Bible encourages us to sing! There are so many different references calling us to sing in our worship, so it's not surprising that we feel we have something essential missing at the moment. Put on a CD, stream some worship songs from the internet or tune into a service of worship on the radio or TV, but let's keep singing. It lifts our spirits and makes us feel so much better. When we can finally lift our voices together again in sung worship, I'm confident that we'll shake the very rafters of the buildings. So come on, give it a try this week ... Sing your praise!

'Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!' Psalm 100

With the Lord's blessing



O Worship the King

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RAyKmYD2Zg8>

Music from
Terri

The reading from Jonah really made me think, and I felt the passage was talking of a God that will move heaven and earth to show us his will, we should obey whether we understand or not. That's a message that will ring true in a time like this, but for me the ultimate message was of grace for all who will believe and repent.

O worship the King, all glorious above
O gratefully sing His wonderful love
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days
Pavilioned in splendour, and girded with praise

The earth with its store of wonders untold
Almighty thy power hath founded of old
hath 'stablished it fast by a changeless decree and
round it hath cast like a mantle the sea

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace
Whose robe is the light and canopy space
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm

Frail children of dust and feeble as frail
in Thee do we trust nor find thee to fail
Thy mercies, how tender how firm to the end
our maker, defender, redeemer and friend.

Splendour of the King

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sm7TX0Xt4>

This is a personal favourite of mine, a song of praise that speaks of his might. God is our shield and defender and we should gird him in praise. Let everyone see how great our God is.

The splendour of the King, clothed in majesty
Let all the Earth rejoice
All the Earth rejoice
He wraps himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
Trembles at His voice
How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God

Age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the end
The Godhead Three in One
Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb
How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God

Name above all names
Worthy of our praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God

You're the name above all names
You are worthy of our praise
And my heart will sing
How great is our God

How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God

How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God
The whole world sings, the whole world sings
How great is our God
How great is our God
How great, how great is our God



Sunday Sept 20th Bible Readings:

Jonah 3:10-4:11, Psalm 145:1-8, Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16

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

Jewish people read the book of Jonah in the afternoon service on Yom Kippur which is their most solemn annual day of repentance, like Ash Wednesday or Good Friday in the Christian calendar. Jonah provides some comic relief. It is written to be an extremely funny story but one with a very challenging message. Its first challenge is, 'What makes you run away from God?' Jonah knows God is telling

him to go and preach in Nineveh, the capital of the most oppressive empire of his day, but Jonah rushes down to the coast to sail away as far as he can in the opposite direction. His life goes rapidly downhill as far down as the depths of the ocean and the belly of a huge fish. (*Everything is 'huge' in this story.*) Finally Jonah prays, 'Lord save me' and things start to look up. He goes to Nineveh, delivers his message: 'Nineveh will be overthrown in forty days'. The king and all the people respond and repent. God spares them. Is Jonah glad? No. He sits in anger on a hot hillside and prays, 'Lord let me die'. Jonah was hoping to see his message vindicated and maybe to see the city and its inhabitants all burned up – good riddance to the bad guys who have made Israel's life a misery. But instead God has overthrown Nineveh in a peaceful way through humble repentance and change of heart of its leaders. All Jonah cares about is that he looks a fool and the nasty Assyrians are still there in Nineveh to be a danger to Israel in the future.

So there is second challenge as God asks twice in chapter four, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' When we get angry about the circumstances of our lives we eventually find we are angry with the God who has given us that life. We start to think we know how God ought to rule the world and God is not shaping up. Jonah's self-centred view failed to take into account God's compassion for a hundred and twenty thousand people in Nineveh who cannot tell their right hand from their left – and also many animals. That's where the book ends. When the comedy is over, that's what we are left to ponder.

There was a remarkably similar theme in Jesus' parable in Matthew 20. Workers in the vineyard thought they knew all about fair rates of pay. If X gets £y for one hours work then Z should get £8y for 8 hours. But the landowner saw labourers who had had an anxious wait in the market place and had a family at home to feed. He chose to give them what they needed not what they had earned. The ones who had worked all day were angry but had no leg to stand on. 'Are you envious because I am generous?' Jesus says, 'That's what it is like in God's kingdom. God's compassion is much greater than we can imagine and we don't earn it by things that we do.

Children often get angry with parents and cry, 'That's not fair!' because they cannot see the bigger picture that their parents are dealing with. If that is true of human families it is much greater in God's family as Jonah was discovering. We can expect to encounter plenty of situations where we feel like quarrelling with God and perhaps running away. But if we stick close to God we begin to discover a further dimension of God's great generosity. St Paul expressed it when he wrote to the Philippians: God 'has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well.' The way we live in response to God's love may involve us in hardship or make us look like fools but we can be sure it is a privilege and one day we hope to see how that suffering has borne fruit and eventually been swallowed up in joy. Jonah had a great tale to tell when he finally got home.



Prayers



Almighty God our Heavenly Father, you promised to hear us when we pray.

Thank you for this day, for beauty in all its glory. All creation moves to your heartbeat.

You meet the needs of each of us, sharing our joys and sadness.

Thank You, for listening and helping us when we are struggling, for staying close to us and for helping us realise that we are not alone. You are ever present in our lives. Lord, in Your mercy...hear our prayer.

Father, we confess our failings to You.

Forgive us when we put ourselves before you, for serving our own interests instead of serving Your kingdom and for the times we have kept the Good News of Your love to ourselves instead of sharing it with others.

Lord in Your mercy....hear our prayer.

Loving God, we pray that You will raise up men and women of honour to be leaders and bring peace to all countries of the world. Give them strength to be just and fair. Lord in Your mercy...hear our prayer.

Lord, we lift to You our bishops, & church leaders. We pray that You will give them wisdom and the grace to serve Your people. Be with Dave & Sarah as they continue their ministries in this benefice. We pray that they will be able to relax and enjoy their time together during their time away. Lord in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.

We pray for those who suffer in sickness of body, spirit or mind and we continue to pray for all affected in any way by coronavirus. May they know Your love and may they recover swiftly. We also pray for those who mourn the loss of a loved one. Be with them in their sorrow. Lord in your mercy....hear our prayer.

Merciful Father...accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Julia DiDuca

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

Sunday Sept 20th
We hope that you
can join us for
Sunday worship



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



Please wear a
face covering

Sunday Sept 20th

St Mary & St John's Hardraw -9.00am Holy Communion
St Oswald's Askrigg at 10.30am Morning Prayer
St Margaret's Hawes at 2.30pm Holy Communion

Please note –The timing of Services in October will be returning to 10:30am for Hawes and 2:30pm for Stalling Busk - see services attached

**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 Father Brian D'Arcy asks where we can put our trust

Sunday Radio 3 Choral Evensong 3:00 – 4pm from Chapel of Royal Holloway University of London

Wed Radio 3 Choral Evensong 3.30-4.30pm from Portsmouth Cathedral



Sunday: BBC1 *Songs of praise* 1:15-1:50pm Rev Kate Bottley marks Harvest in Saddleworth



**Services for
Sept 2020**

| Date | Harddraw 9am | Askrigg 10:30am | Hawes 2:30pm | Stalling Busk 4pm |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 20 th Sep | Holy Communion | Morning Prayer | Holy Communion | |
| 27 th Sep | Morning Prayer | Holy Communion | Holy Communion | Evening Prayer |



**Services for
Oct 2020**

| Date | Harddraw 9am | Askrigg 10.30am | Hawes 10:30am | Stalling Busk 2.30pm |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 4 th October | Morning Prayer | Morning Prayer | Holy Communion | |
| 11 th October | Holy Communion | Holy Communion | Morning Prayer | Holy Communion |
| 18 ^h October | Holy Communion | Morning Prayer (BCP 2.00pm) | Holy Communion | |
| 25 ^{t^h} October | Morning Prayer | FAMILY BACK TOGETHER | Holy Communion | Evening prayer |