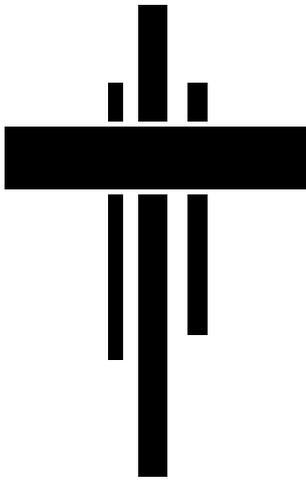


10<sup>th</sup> March 2019



# Priory Methodist Church Weekly Newsletter

We welcome you to worship God with us today.

We light the Peace Candle and pray for peace in the world

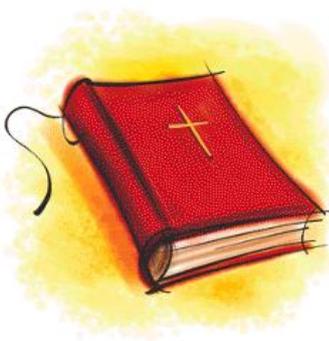
## Call To Worship

God is our refuge and fortress.

Trust in him and his faithfulness will shield you.

**Amen.**

## **Our Minister is the Reverend Andrew Hollins**



### Bible Readings

The projected page references refer to the pew bibles and not the lectern bible.

They are the same version but are different editions.

If you would like a bible during the service there are some available in chair backs or from the bookcase in the welcome area.



A special welcome to any visitors with us today We serve tea, coffee and soft drinks after the morning services in the small hall each week.

Do stay and meet together with us.

## Today's Morning Welcoming Team

Kathy Lewis and Stella Speare

**H&P** – Hymns and Psalms, **StF** – Singing the Faith

**10.30am**

TODAY'S TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

**Preacher:-** Rev. Andrew Hollins

**Worship Steward:-** Hazel Warner

**Music: -** CDs

• **Hymns:- All StF** 455, 475, 254, 240 (Tune 526) and 238

**Readers:-** Alan Davis or Bill Knights

**Readings: -** Deuteronomy 26:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13

**Intercessory prayer:-**

**On Sound Desk:-** Sue Gordon

**Junior  
Church**

With Helen  
and Paulette  
in the Large  
Hall

**10.30am**

TODAY'S INFORMAL WORSHIP

**Preacher:-** Mr Geoff Talbot

**Worship Leader: -**

• **Hymns:- All StF** 254, 156, 489, 633 and 367

• **Readings:-** Luke 4:1-13 and Isaiah 61:1-3

**On Sound Desk:-** Tsatsu

**Annual Church Meeting TODAY - 12.00 - 1.30 pm, all invited.**

**6.30pm**

TODAY'S EVENING WORSHIP

No Service at Priory this week

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**New to Priory? – Welcome**

**10<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

We'd like to get to know you – please complete your details, tear off and put in the Minister's pigeonhole in the welcome area by the front doors.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Reader 1**

Today we begin our Lenten Journey to Jerusalem. As we travel alongside Jesus over these weeks we will reflect upon our own communities today. On this first Sunday of Lent we go with Jesus into the wilderness as he reflects on his ministry. What is God calling him to do and be? What kind of Messiah is he?

## **Reader 2**

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'"

The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendour; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. If you worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'" The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. For it is written: 'He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" Jesus answered, "It is said: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time. *Luke 4: 1- 13*

## ***Large stones are put by the cross***

## **Reader 1**

These stones remind us of the stones Jesus was tempted to turn into bread. Feeding the hungry is such a worthy cause yet Jesus rejected the way of sensationalism to take the path of walking alongside the needy, challenging those who promoted the status quo. Let us reflect on the journey of our faith into our communities. What is God calling us to do? Is it enough simply to feed the hungry?

What might we do to challenge the causes of hunger and poverty today? What must change in our society for all to know fullness of life? Jesus turned his back on the easy life he was tempted with and followed the path of self-sacrificial love.

## **Reader 2:**

Gracious God, you came in Jesus to walk alongside your people in all the experiences of their lives. We pray for the communities in which we live.

## **All: May Christ be known and his love be shown**

We remember those who struggle to feed their families, who face the indignity of the food bank and we pray that they be fed. We thank you for all who so generously give of themselves to feed the hungry

## **All: May Christ be known and his love be shown**

We pray too, for the changes that are needed in our society to bring about communities where food banks can become a thing of the past. Inspire us to ask the right questions as we seek to challenge a system that depends on them.

## **All: May Christ be known and his love be shown.**

Help us to be involved in making Christ known in all we are and do as we dedicate ourselves to his kingdom. **Amen**

*[Lent 1]*

## **Where are Priory's Preachers this week?**

Liz is at Ampthill.

### **Next Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

**10.30am –All Age Worship Together – Messy and Parade Service**  
Rev. Andrew Hollins

**6.30pm – Rev. Andrew Hollins – Holy Communion**

### **Church Flowers**

<b>10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Donor</b>	Eve Briggs
	<b>Arranger</b>	Marilyn Lingings
	<b>Distributor</b>	Gordon Beeden

<b>17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Donor</b>	Marjorie Bolster
	<b>Arranger</b>	Christine Hearn
	<b>Distributor</b>	Paddy Barrett

### **Soup Run**

We are always pleased to receive any unwanted cakes, sandwiches, etc.

**10<sup>th</sup> March** Brian, Kath and Anna

**17<sup>th</sup> March** Nesta, Jenny and Jill

### **Midweek Worship**

#### **Date**

#### **Led by**

Wednesdays 12.00pm  
in the Chapel

**13<sup>th</sup> March**

Hazel Warner

**20<sup>th</sup> March**

Hazel Warner

**Reverend Andrew Hollins - Tel. No. 01234 340167**

Andrew has Friday as a rest day.

Please avoid contacting him for routine matters on that day.

**Church Office Tel. No. 01234 353523, Email: [office@priorychurch.org.uk](mailto:office@priorychurch.org.uk)**

Please note office hours are generally 9.00 – 14.00

**Church Website: <http://www.priorychurch.org.uk>**

**Priory Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PrioryMethodistChurch>**

## **Cath Appleby**

We have had a message from Cath's daughter, Heather, who has let me know that Cath is quite poorly and would really appreciate any phone calls from her friends at Priory- it would mean a lot.

## **Lent Groups**

will, as in recent years, be shared with our partners in Goldington Churches Together. The groups will be based around a book called *Rediscover Jesus* written by Matthew Kelly. A group, led by Rev. Andrew Hollins, will meet at Priory Methodist Church at 7.30pm on Wednesdays 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March and 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> April. A daytime group, led by Father Wayne Coughlin, will meet at 1.30pm at Saints Philip and James Roman Catholic Church, Severn Way, Brickhill on Thursdays 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> March, and 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> April. The session on 7<sup>th</sup> March will be a general introduction to the course/book. Copies of *Rediscover Jesus* are available (cost £5) from Sue in the Priory church office. United Service: On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April we will meet at Priory for bring-and- share meal at 5 pm and café style worship at 6 pm.

## **Lent lunches on Tuesdays**

A simple meal of soup, bread, cheese and fruit will be served in St Mary's Hall, Church Lane, on Tuesdays between 12.30 and 1.30 pm. This starts on March 12<sup>th</sup> and ends on April 9<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds will go to Christian Aid.

## **Thank you**

A big thank you to all who supported the Handbell Concert last Saturday. There have been many appreciative comments, and I think it was an enjoyable and entertaining evening for all. The total raised for the Positive Priory Fund was in excess of £300. Grateful thanks, too, to Sue & Jill for serving refreshments, and to all those who had to set the stage, and replace all the furniture again afterwards, ready for Sunday. Much appreciated.

S Butler

## **Priory's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Invitations are being prepared and a lot of work has been done to track down past members and ministers; we would like to send the invitations shortly, but we need your help. In the vestibule is a list of those for whom we have addresses and a (shorter!) list of those for whom we don't yet have contact details. Please check the lists: if you have a missing address, please put your name by theirs on the list so we can get an invitation to you to send on.

Have we forgotten anyone? If you are in touch with any past members and are willing to send them an invitation, please add their name and yours to the list. Thank you.

## **50th Anniversary Labels**

During worship on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February people were asked to complete a label and add it to represent how long they've been connected to Priory Methodist Church. If you just wrote your name on your label, please take some time to add to it the actual year you first came to Priory, and also some brief details of what that first connection was. If you haven't already completed a label, please do so - there are plenty available. We hope that labels will also be completed by visitors and those who use our premises for various activities, so please encourage people you know to complete a label. The boards (created by John Lingings - thank you!) will remain in place as our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year progresses.

## **Evening Worship**

Both Worship Consultation and Church Council have discussed the future of our evening worship at Priory in the light of the declining number attending. It was agreed that: Priory will continue to offer an evening Communion service on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month, encouraging a variety of styles in that service. This gives an opportunity for a quieter act of worship when we have generally held Worship Together that morning. St Mary's Goldington is offering a Taize service on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 5pm and we would encourage Priory members to join with our ecumenical partners for that service.

Where there is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, there will be a Circuit Healing service in the evening; in March, that service will be held at Priory.

## **The 6<sup>th</sup> Day**

So far, our social events have been well supported and greatly enjoyed. Thanks to Helen Winkworth for arranging a fascinating film evening in March. If you have not joined us yet, our next date is Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2pm - 4pm for an afternoon of live music, sing-along, tea and cake. This will be led by Tea for Two, Janet Ayers and Matthew Parsons, community musicians; Janet is Norma Ayers' daughter. All are welcome, so do come along.

## **Monthly Prayer Dates for your diary**

11:00 am -12:00pm Saturday - 30th March and 27th April

Join us as we call to the Lord. "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."  
Carmen



### **National Call to Prayer**

The Presidents of Churches Together in England, together with our partners Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, are calling the churches to prayer as we approach the date when the United Kingdom is scheduled to leave the European Union.

From Wednesday 28th March to Sunday 31st March the Presidents urge churches in our nation to find ways to pray, and to enable church buildings to be opened for any in their communities seeking a space for prayer. Churches Together in England supports every opportunity for local churches to pray together and urges Churches Together Groups and other expressions of Christian unity to take hold of this moment to pray together for our nations.

This builds on other calls to prayer from member churches over recent months and reflects the increasing urgency of the moment as Brexit approaches.

In particular, we suggest that as the Presidents of Churches Together in England and other church leaders meet to pray at 10.30 am on Saturday 30th March in central London, churches throughout the nations may wish to join in similar expressions of prayerful concern for the future of the peoples and nations in the British Isles and Ireland, and beyond, during that morning.

Rev'd Dr. Paul Goodliff

General Secretary, Churches Together in England

See the board in the welcome area for some prayer points from Passion for the Nation website.



# Course

## Course Book:

**Rediscover Jesus** by Matthew Kelly. The book has been gifted to us so copies can be bought for £5 (which will raise funds for a children's project in Jordan).

## How to Purchase the Book:

- 1) After the Sunday Masses (includes the Vigil Mass) at Holy Cross Church.
- 2) Via the Holy Cross Parish Secretary on Monday and Thursday mornings.
- 3) Via the Ss Philip and James Parish Secretary on Wednesday mornings.
- 4) From Priory Methodist Church office (Monday to Friday - 9:00am to 2:00pm).

## Course Guidelines:

There are forty chapters (each can be read in a few minutes). You may want to read the Prologue & Opening Thought on Ash Wednesday and then a chapter a day from 7<sup>th</sup> March. Sundays are rest days with no reading; well, except Easter Sunday!

## Course Leaders:

Ss Philip and James Church: Fr Wayne / Priory Methodist Chapel: Andrew.

## Attendance:

- If you need to "miss" a week that is fine. It is a very flexible course!
- Please feel free to move between the afternoon and evening sessions.

## Length of Each Group Session:

They last around an hour and each is very relaxed and friendly! There is also an opportunity afterwards to share in more conversation and fellowship.

## Previous Ecumenical Lent Courses:

Participants have grown spiritually and in friendship with other people.



*St. Lawrence's Church  
Willington  
Bedfordshire  
MK44 3PU*

# HANNAH BENNETT

*Mezzo-soprano*

## SONG RECITAL

Sunday 24 March, 2019 at 3pm

Tickets £12 adults, children free  
Includes refreshments

To book: contact 01234 831 136

Supporting The Home of Hope  
Mchinji, Malawi

## Fun and Fellowship DAY TRIPS WITH CIRCUIT FRIENDS *why don't you join us?*

The Methodist Modern Art Collection  
on tour in LEICESTER

Wells & Walsingham  
Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>  
by coach from Wilstead & Priory  
Tuesday Aug 13<sup>th</sup>  
Cost approx.\* £15

By coach from Wilstead, Priory and Sandy  
Cost approx.\* £20..

Please contact Marian Blyth asap for more information or to reserve a place so that she can hire the right sized vehicle.  
01234 781469 or [marian.blyth@btinternet.com](mailto:marian.blyth@btinternet.com)

\*depends on numbers travelling

The **Methodist** Church 

## Encircled in Care

A modular training programme for pastoral visitors and all those who offer care in the church and community  
The Church is the Body of Christ and we are all involved in caring for others.  
This session will empower and enable you to share in Christ's caring ministry.

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2019**  
9.15am to 1pm  
At  
**Putnoe Heights  
Methodist Church  
Bedford  
MK41 8EB**

To book a place on this course  
or  
to find out more information contact:

Christine Denny 01767 681402  
[singagain98@gmail.com](mailto:singagain98@gmail.com)



## COURSE CONTENT

- 9.15 am Coffee
- 9.30 am Introduction
- 10.00 am  
Loss and Bereavement  
Domestic Abuse
- 11.00 am Refreshments
- 11.15 am  
Across the Generations  
including Dementia
- 12.15 pm  
Using Prayer in Pastoral  
Visiting
- 12.45pm  
Reflection and Final prayers

"The day the Lord created hope was probably the same day he created Spring."



Our Vision Days are an ideal opportunity to get together with others from your church to explore to engage with those currently outside the church. On the day we will worship and pray together, explore the biblical and theological foundations for fresh expressions, and work out how practically you can reach new people in your context. We particularly encourage PCCs to attend Vision Days as a group, in order to explore together the potential of fresh expressions!

11th May 2019 | Rothamsted Conference Centre, Harpenden

12th October 2019 | Venue 360, Luton

### **Organiser Reaching New People (RNP)**

Organiser of Reaching New People Vision Day May 2019 (RNP)  
For all enquiries please contact the Reaching New People Office.

Email: [rnp@stalbans.anglican.org](mailto:rnp@stalbans.anglican.org)

Tel: 01727 818114



## **Church Social, Beetle Drive and Fish & Chip Supper**

In Aid of Kady Field going to The World Cheerleading Championships in Florida and Jake Field going to Tanzania to participate in a 4 week Community Project

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at Priory Methodist Church

6.30pm to 8.30pm

Adults £8

Children £5

Including Raffle and Tombola

Bring your own drinks – No Alcohol

Please invite Family and Friends

See Stephanie Field for tickets or phone her on 01234 954837

### **Email address for Priory Feedback**

The email address ([prioryfeedback@gmail.com](mailto:prioryfeedback@gmail.com)) set up to receive comments during the recent consultation about the future of Priory Methodist Church remains 'live' and is regularly checked for messages. Please continue to use it to pass comments to the Priory Leadership Team.

### **Posters On The Board In The Welcome Area** Updated weekly.

Don't forget to take a look at the posters with all the details of events happening at Priory, within the circuit churches and in Bedford see if any take your interest.

[www.northbedsmethodist.org.uk](http://www.northbedsmethodist.org.uk)