

## Collect for Today

O God,  
the strength of all those who put their trust in you,  
mercifully accept our prayers  
and, because through the weakness of our mortal  
nature  
we can do no good thing without you,  
grant us the help of your grace,  
that in the keeping of your commandments  
we may please you both in will and deed;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## Readings for This Week

Monday: Jeremiah 20.7-13  
Tuesday: Psalm 69.8-11[12-17]18-20\*  
Wednesday: Romans 6.1b-11  
Thursday: Matthew 10.24-39  
Friday: 1 Samuel 24.1-17  
Saturday: Luke 14.12-24

## Verse for the Week

“God proves his love for us in this: while we were  
still sinners Christ died for us.” **Romans 5:8**

## Sunday

Dear Lord Jesus, we thank you, that while we were  
still sinners, you died for us; when we had nothing to  
commend ourselves to you, you made the ultimate  
sacrifice to bring us home. Thank you that you, in  
hope saw in us a thing of precious beauty that could  
be redeemed and did not abandon us to our natural  
fate. May we be ever more willing to be transformed  
by your power and grace, from one degree of glory to  
another, and so come to faithfully reflect your likeness  
to the world around us that so badly needs their  
saviour.

## Prayer Diary

### Monday

Dear Father, we thank you for watering our fields this  
week, just as they most needed it. We ask for your  
continued blessing on our land, farms and livestock.  
Protect us we pray from all diseases and prosper those  
whose labour produces food for us all. We ask too for  
your sustenance for those running small businesses at  
this time, that they may weather this storm and  
survive to keep our communities flourishing.

### Tuesday

Dear Lord, in this enforced hiatus, we ask that you  
inspire we who are your body on earth. May we hear  
your voice concerning whatever changes you desire in  
your church. May we not waste this time, but be  
prepared to faithfully be your people in the new  
context which is arising but is as yet a mystery to us.  
Raise up new ministries amongst us and equip us,  
particularly to reach out to the world you love but  
which seems so uncertain to us.

### Wednesday

Father, we pray for our nation at this time. It seems as  
though the powder keg of pent up emotion has found a  
spark and so much damage is being done in our towns  
and cities as the frustrated have vented their emotions  
in destructive ways. By the power of your spirit,  
restore peace and order we pray; protect those whose  
work brings them daily into the dangers of conflict.  
And yet, help us to be rightly enraged at injustice, but  
to work constructively towards the righting of wrongs  
in your name.

## Prayer Diary

### Thursday

Dear Father we pray for our world. We see the beauty  
of your creation everywhere, and yet the marks of our  
rebellion are plain to see, corrupting everything you  
have made. Forgive us Lord, and heal our world.  
Challenge the powers and authorities we pray, both  
earthly and heavenly as Jesus did here on earth to  
bring in your reign of righteousness, peace, justice and  
healing to the nations. We pray for the peace of  
Jerusalem, and the return of the King, even so, come  
quickly Lord.

### Friday

Dear Lord and friend, king Jesus, we bring to you our  
own fears, griefs and needs this day. The need for  
human companionship, health of mind, body and  
spirit, and the physical needs we have. We bring our  
family relationships to you and ask for your presence  
in them, both those strained by over exposure and  
those dulled by distance. We thank you that your love  
for our loved ones is greater than ours, and commend  
those for whom we care into your almighty hands.

### Saturday

Dear Lord we pray for those who are struggling in  
their minds around us, often suffering and yet unseen.  
For those who have been barely managing mental ill  
health who have been tipped over the brink by the  
added pressures of isolation. Bring consolation and  
peace through the presence of your holy spirit we  
pray; touch and heal in your power. And may those  
seeking answers be led to find them in you, the author  
and prince of all peace.

## Notices:



• You may be aware that the government is allowing church buildings to be opened for private prayer from next Monday (15<sup>th</sup> June). It should be stressed that because churches CAN be opened does not mean that they HAVE to be and each church will need to consider carefully what is possible having read the extensive government and church guidelines. Churches might only be opened on certain days and parts of the building may be roped off. We will try to keep you fully informed about what is happening in the churches in the team area.

• Stephen is on holiday from the 15<sup>th</sup> June for two weeks. This means there will be no video service on 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> June. However we will publish other links you may like to follow to see what others have been doing. “Normal service” will resume on 5<sup>th</sup> July.

• People who have been enjoying taking part in church from home have been asking what will happen when we are allowed to meet in church again. The answer is we don't know yet. It takes a lot of time to put together the services in their present form but it may be possible to continue in a simpler way to enable those unable to get to church to still take part.

• Stephen and Fiona Cook would like to invite you to join a Zoom tea party on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. We will send you more details later in the week but get your best china ready. If you have never used zoom there is a really useful simple video here on how to join a meeting  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>.  
You will need a computer (probably a laptop or a tablet) which has a camera and a microphone.



## Church Services:

*Please note all Church services are currently cancelled.*

## On-line Sunday Services:

This week's service (14<sup>th</sup> June) will premiere at 9am on Sunday.

There will be no video service on 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> June. However we will publish other links you may like to follow to see what others have been doing. “Normal service” will resume on 5<sup>th</sup> July.



## Grapevine Plus:

Thank you to all those who have contributed to Grapevine Plus. Please keep your contributions coming in, no matter how mundane. Share what you have been doing, things you have found helpful, little acts of kindness you have come across. Let's stay connected!

## Contact Details

Revd Stephen Cook (Team Rector)  
01837 659297 [SCook9673@aol.com](mailto:SCook9673@aol.com)  
Revd Adrian Brook (Team Vicar)  
01837 861580 [adrian@ministry.plus.com](mailto:adrian@ministry.plus.com)  
Revd Leigh Winsbury (Team Vicar)  
01837 810680 [lwinsbury@googlemail.com](mailto:lwinsbury@googlemail.com)  
Revd Richard Bache (Curate)  
01822 820536 [rich.foley@btinternet.com](mailto:rich.foley@btinternet.com)  
Alison Duckers (Pioneer Minister)  
07790 345462 [okehamptonpioneer@hotmail.com](mailto:okehamptonpioneer@hotmail.com)  
Ruth Cartlidge (Team Administrator)  
07551 655424 [northmoorpa@gmail.com](mailto:northmoorpa@gmail.com)  
Maurie Webber  
01837 53845 [mwebberm@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mwebberm@yahoo.co.uk)

# Grapevine

Northmoor Churches Weekly News

First Sunday after Trinity

14<sup>th</sup> June 2020



[grapevine.northmoor@aol.com](mailto:grapevine.northmoor@aol.com)



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

“I am sending you out as sheep among wolves,” says Jesus in the Gospel set for this Sunday as part of the sending out of the disciples. “Therefore be as wise as serpents and innocent as doves.”

Snakes do not have a good press in the Bible and it is interesting to see Jesus advocating imitating one. The difference between wisdom and cunning is only in its purpose. “For the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.” Jesus says at the end of the parable known as the “dishonest manager”. Innocence does not have to mean naivety: we need to approach the world with our eyes wide open; we need to be aware of how things work.

But the other side of the saying is vital. It is all too easy to get drawn into playing the game by the world's rules and the history of the church has far too many examples of this, where innocence has been exchanged for power and influence. The challenge for us as Christians is to accept that we are sheep in the midst of wolves and therefore to seek to be wise to the dangers while at the same time maintaining our integrity. It's not easy, but if you read the story you will see that the disciples came back rejoicing.

*Stephen*