

Collect for Today

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour
Christ is gone before,
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: Acts 2.1-21
Tuesday: Numbers 11.24-30
Wednesday: Psalm 104.26-37b
Thursday: 1 Corinthians 12.
Friday: John 20.19-23
Saturday: John 7.37-39

Verse for the Week

“A new heart I will give you and a new spirit I will
put within you and I will remove from your body the
heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.”

Ezekiel 36:26

Prayer Diary

Monday

God of all wisdom, we pray for those who have to
make big decisions at this time: for government
ministers and leaders of local councils, for CEOs and
scientific officers; for all who hold positions of power
in this global emergency. Grant them insight,
patience and compassion: the desire to do the right
thing and the courage to put it into effect. For Jesus’
sake. Amen.

Tuesday

Risen Lord Jesus, we rejoice that you are seated at the
father’s right hand in glory. Pray for us that we may
receive your spirit. Liberate us from the bonds of
doubt and fear and set us free to be the people we are
called to be. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Wednesday

Heavenly Father, we pray for children being educated
at home. Grant to parents understanding and patience
as they take on this new and difficult task. Help
teachers to provide the kind of help and support that is
needed and guide their thinking as they consider how
children may safely return to their classrooms. We
pray especially for our local schools... Lord in your
mercy hear our prayer.

Prayer Diary

Thursday

Lord of all, we lay before you the needs of your
church. Help us to respond wisely and well to the
crisis we are facing. Help us to stay connected and
committed to each other. Guide us as we seek to be
church in new and innovative ways and yet help us
not to be so focussed on new technology that we
forget the value of the old. May we be determined
that no one be left behind as we seek to move forward.
In Jesus name, Amen.

Friday

Merciful Lord, we pray for our local care homes. We
pause for a moment to remember the ones near us and
the people we know there... Watch over residents and
staff. Set your angels at the doors to keep evil out and
love and security within. May each person, however
old and frail they may be, know that they are valued,
loved and held in your care.
For Jesus’ sake. Amen.

Saturday

Lord of healing we pray for those who are sick, for
those who are anxious and afraid, for those in need of
medical help who feel unable to access it. In your
mercy meet their needs. Grant wisdom and
compassion to doctors and medical staff and enable
the right help to be available at the right time.
Comfort those who mourn, especially those who are
grieving without the presence of family and friends:
may they know your overshadowing power and grace.
Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

Notices:



• Stephen would like one of the Sunday videos in the next few weeks to include pictures of peoples' faces! If you possibly can could you please take a "selfie" of you and any other family members who are willing to take part and email it to him (scook9673@aol.com) Please put "selfie" as the subject line. They will only be used when he has enough to make a decent collage. Go on, do it: it will only take a few moments and will help us feel connected.

• The restrictions on the use of church buildings have been eased a little and now allow a limited number of people to enter them for certain purposes, including the recording of services. They are not yet open more generally to the public but we hope that may happen reasonably soon. The resumption of church services still seems a considerable way off, so in the meantime we have to do our best to stay in touch, to support one another and to keep praying for those we love and for our nation. You can find the latest advice as it relates to churches on the Church of England website.

• The email list for Grapevine and Grapevine Plus has greatly increased during lockdown. It is no problem for us to add more! If you enjoy reading it, please recommend it to your friends. They just have to email Sandy the editor (grapevine.northmoor@aol.com) and she will gladly add their name to the list. Maybe something of small but lasting value will come from this horrible time.



Church Services:

Please note all Church services are currently cancelled.

On-line Sunday Services:

These have been well received. You can access them by just clicking on the links that will be circulated later in the week or by visiting the team website or by going to last week's service and following the link to the next one. ***The plan this week is to offer a service on Sunday from 9:00 am.***

Leigh is also putting things on line which you can see by going on Facebook and searching for the "Hatherleigh Building Community" page.



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!

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Grapevine

Northmoor Churches Weekly News

Sunday after Ascension

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www.northmoorteam.org.uk

There is a wonderful promise on the Old Testament passage set for today. "I will take you from the nations and bring you into your own land..." says the Lord through Ezekiel "Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people and I will be your God." Those words, spoken to a broken people in exile, were a glimpse of heaven. God had not forgotten his ancient promise: they had a future and a hope.

The concept of the land in the Old Testament becomes the Kingdom in the New. We inherit the promise made to Abraham and his descendants for ever not through bloodline but through faith. The Promised Land for us does not lie at the far end of the Mediterranean but here, among us, wherever God reigns.

The slight easing of the lockdown rules holds out a prospect that one day in the not too distant future we will be able to gather together again. (I am looking forward to seeing the range of new hairstyles: I think we will be looking like a hippy colony) but right now we are God's gathered people because that is the victory Jesus won on the cross, that is the gift we receive through the presence of our friend and brother at the right hand of God in majesty. We are his people and he is our God.

Stephen