

Collect for Today

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
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 forever.
Amen.

Readings for This Week

Monday: Genesis 22.1-14
Tuesday: Psalm 13
Wednesday: Romans 6.12-23
Thursday: Matthew 10.40-42
Friday: Acts 27. [13-32]33-44
Saturday: Deuteronomy 15.1-11

Verse for the Week

Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?
Romans 6: 16

Prayer Diary

Monday

As Christ's people we are no longer slaves to sin, but available for righteousness. When we choose to follow Him we are committed to following His ways. Heal us Lord, we pray, and use us to your glory.

Holy God, you are the focus of our love and worship, because you alone are the Lord who has made us and rescued us. Help us to not return to the slavery of sin but to live in your freedom, serving you with joy, in thankfulness for all you have done for us. We bring before you the work that needs doing here, in your church, and ask you to inspire us, your people, as to how to move forward in good ways out of lockdown.

Tuesday

Holy God, though the world may often reject you, you never fail to believe in us all and love us with tenderness. We pray for all areas of conflict, deceit, mismanagement, and greed; and for all who are drawn into the chaos of evil. We pray for all those who are called to serve you in positions of authority and influence; for all leaders to see service and humility are true greatness.

Wednesday

Holy God, our daily lives provide such rich ground for acts of loving kindness, self-discipline, and courage. Remind us of the opportunities we have and strengthen us to use them. We pray for marriages, and for those in single life, for our families, friends and neighbours – for all who make up our community; that we may live in ways that show them the Christian life in these unusual times.

Prayer Diary

Thursday

Holy God, we thank you for all who lovingly look after people in hospitals, nursing, and care homes and pray for all who need such care and rely on the help of others. We lift those who are suffering from any illness to you and especially those we know and love who lie heavy on our hearts whilst we are so restricted in our visiting and in our opportunities to care for them. We pray for all who are struggling with great perseverance in difficult circumstances.

Friday

Holy God, we call to mind those who have recently died and thank you for each act of goodness in their lives. Have mercy on them and forgive their failings, so that they may share the joy of heaven for ever. We thank you that those who are free from all pain and suffering can be received by you with mercy; and welcomed into your kingdom.

Saturday

Holy God, we thank you for our human potential for good, and for your gift of grace that makes such goodness a real possibility. **Amen**

Notices:



• You may be aware that the government is allowing church buildings to be opened for private prayer from Monday 15th 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 15th June for two weeks. This means there will be no video service on 21st or 28th June. However we will publish other links you may like to follow to see what others have been doing. “Normal service” will resume on 5th 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.



Church Services:

Please note all Church services are currently cancelled.

On-line Sunday Services:

There will be no video service on 21st or 28th June.

However we will publish other links you may like to follow to see what others have been doing. “Normal service” will resume on 5th 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
Revd Adrian Brook (Team Vicar)
01837 861580 adrian@ministry.plus.com
Revd Leigh Winsbury (Team Vicar)
01837 810680 lwinsbury@googlemail.com
Revd Richard Bache (Curate)
01822 820536 rich.foley@btinternet.com
Alison Duckers (Pioneer Minister)
07790 345462 okehamptonpioneer@hotmail.com
Ruth Cartlidge (Team Administrator)
07551 655424 northmoorpa@gmail.com
Maurie Webber
01837 53845 mwebberm@yahoo.co.uk

Grapevine

Northmoor Churches Weekly News

Third Sunday after Trinity

28th June 2020



grapevine.northmoor@aol.com



www.northmoorteam.org.uk

When I was at university I had a friend who was a fervent Bob Dylan fan. He had every album and helped me to see what an amazing poet and song writer this legendary character is. One day he was very excited to discover Dylan had become a Christian and his new album was an uncompromising expression of his new found faith. Whereas most fans were annoyed by this turn of events my friend was delighted. One of the songs was called “You gotta serve somebody” and in typical Dylan style he listed all the things you might be, but it made no difference: it might be the devil or it might be the Lord; you're gonna have to serve somebody.

He had picked up on an idea in one of the readings set for today from Romans 6. Once we were slaves to sin, now we are slaves to God. Once we were slaves in a way that led to death, now we are slaves in a way that leads to life, but we're still gonna have to serve somebody.

Personal freedom can be its own form of slavery. If I set out to please myself I soon find I am a subject to my own desires and weaknesses and I quickly discover that I am not a good master. My true happiness lies in offering myself to the one who truly loves me more than I love myself. It is a choice; I am free in that respect, but I am gonna have to serve somebody.

Stephen