

Collect for Today

God, who as at this time
taught the hearts of your faithful people
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit
to have a right judgement in all things
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,
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: Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-31
Tuesday: Psalm 8
Wednesday: 2 Corinthians 13.11-13
Thursday: Matthew 28.16-20
Friday: Isaiah 6.1-8
Saturday: John 16.5-15

Verse for the Week

“Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit.
And there are varieties of services but the same Lord;
and there are varieties of activities but the same God
who activates all of them in everyone.”

1 Corinthians 12: 4-6

Prayer Diary

Monday

For those who are sick
Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

Psalm 36: 5
We pray for those who are unwell due to the
coronavirus:
In your compassion, grant them strength and healing.
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Tuesday

For our Health workers
In the day of trouble you answer us, O Lord, and you
protect us:
You send us help and give us support.

Psalm 20: 1 -2
We pray for all who minister to the sick throughout
our health service, that they may renew their strength
in you and be channels of restoration and renewal for
those who suffer.
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Wednesday

For the anxious
You are near to the broken-hearted O Lord, and you
save the crushed in spirit.
Psalm 34: 18
We pray for all who are anxious about loved ones,
friends and neighbours: enable them to trust in you
and be steadfast in hope.
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Prayer Diary

Thursday

For the lonely and the isolated
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear
no evil: for you are with me.

Psalm 23: 4
We pray for all those who feel isolated or alone, that
they may experience your loving presence.
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Friday

For the strong and the vulnerable
Lord, you raise the poor and lift the needy.
Psalm 113: 7
We pray that you would inspire those who are strong
to care for the vulnerable and to serve them in love.
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Saturday

For the church
How can we sing your song, O Lord, in these strange
times?
Psalm 137: 4
We pray for your church who longs to praise you
throughout this strange and confusing time; through
your creative Spirit fire our imaginations to proclaim
your unchanging love in new ways.
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.

• If you know someone who lives in Okehampton, Inwardleigh or Belstone who has church connections but is not on the electoral role and you think they would appreciate being on our phone-around list please pass their name to Stephen or to Ruth. It would be especially helpful if you have their phone number.

• 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.

• 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.



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

Pentecost

31st May 2020



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www.northmoorteam.org.uk

Pentecost is a festival for both Christians and Jews. For Jewish people it celebrates the giving of the Torah to Moses: at Passover they were freed from slavery and at Pentecost (Shavuot) they became a nation under God. That is why Jerusalem was packed with people from across the world, as Luke describes when he tells the story of the first Christian Pentecost in Acts Chapter 2. For Christians it marks the birth of the church: the outpouring of the Spirit on all people as foretold by the prophets. The world had been set free from slavery by the death and resurrection of Jesus and now the Kingdom of God is manifested on earth.

Do you find it hard to be a Christian? Actually it isn't hard: it's impossible. The people of the Old Testament found it hard enough to keep the Law of Moses and Jesus made it clear that the law extended beyond what you do to what you think as well. Fortunately what is impossible for us is possible to God and we are set free not by our will power but by God's spirit at work within us. What we need is not more grit and determination but a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit.

The Old Testament writers celebrated the Law of Moses: it was not just a set of rules; it was a way of life. It was what made them stand out as a nation: they knew what was in God's heart. For the early Church it was the manifestation of the Spirit in a person's life that marked them out as a Christian: Jew or Gentile the law of God was written not on tablets of stone but in their hearts. That is what we celebrate today.

Stephen