



South Wye Team Ministry Newsletter

9th June 2024 - 2nd Sunday after Trinity

Hello Everyone, I hope that you are all keeping safe and well. For lots of reasons I have been thinking about service recently. Maybe it's the suggestion that 18 year olds should be 'encouraged' into community service on an involuntary volunteering basis, or the opportunities that I have to see the amount of service that is undertaken by people of all ages in our churches and community. Our youngest regular volunteer is 16, our oldest are in their 90s and across the generations we see people going the extra mile, using their valuable time and gifts for the benefit of others. Someone who has offered hours of service to our church and community is Bill Evans, who has maintained our churchyard at St Martin's for so many years. Bill is retiring this month and I know that his dedication to his task will be much missed, as will the kindness that he has shown to those who visit the graves that he cares for. Thank you Bill.

I don't say thank you nearly enough, so Thank You – thank you all. Thank you to everyone who helps and everyone who prays and everyone who does all the things that we don't notice until they aren't done. Many of the people I mention would not consider themselves to have a vocation – but just as surely as young Samuel answering "here I am – I am listening", they have responded to God's call to their chosen area of service. God calls us to make the tea, to hold a hand, to dry a tear, to help with colouring, to pull weeds, to type minutes, to offer a smile, to notice someone who needs a prayer, to pray.

We may need a little help sometimes – as Samuel did – to recognise God's call when we hear it, but we can be assured that he is calling us. How would it be if we all responded "Speak Lord – I am listening"?

With every blessing, Anne
07864938898 rector@stmartinshereford.org.uk



Family and Community News

A Request from the EcoChurch Team



If anyone has any gardening tools, big or small, watering cans, etc, that they no longer need, would you please consider donating them to the church, to help maintain the churchyard and flower beds? Do you enjoy a spot of gardening, or are keen to support and encourage our wildlife? Could you spare an hour a week, or a morning or afternoon once a month, to help our land to flourish? If so, please let Anne, Peter or Sarah know. We would like to create more seating areas outside for the community to enjoy; a place to chat, to pray, to contemplate and to watch God's creations. If anyone has, or knows, of any sturdy garden benches, chairs, tree trunk sections or logs we could have, or purchase for a small price, we would be very grateful.

Anne, Dafydd, Peter and Sarah

Toastie and Warm at St Martin's

On Tuesday afternoons the Narthex at St Martin's is a busy and welcoming space.

From 1pm there is a Bible Study group, all welcome.

From 2pm there is a coffee afternoon, full of conversations and information, with chocolate biscuits and, usually, home-made cakes.

Everyone is welcome to come along to any – or all – parts of the afternoon.

Catching up with friends – or making new ones!

Young at Heart - First Thursday of each month – Lunch at the Wye Inn (contact the office so that we can book the table)

Third Thursday of each month at 2pm – Meeting in St. Martin's Church – talks, games, refreshments and friendship – everyone welcome!

Making Room is a new initiative based at St Martin's which, whilst it will not offer any formal professional mental health treatment, will offer a safe space to express any worries you may have. *Making Room* is intended for people of working age, and is about making room to have safe discussions about our mental wellness, making room to support one another, making room for mindfulness and to start or share any hobbies and interests and making room to offer hope. If you are interested in joining us please contact us and we can discuss plans further. If you wish to volunteer equally please do get in touch. Rev'd Lauren Bell curate@stmartinshereford.org.uk 07429 862444

Services at Belmont Community Centre

If you live in or near Belmont and find the journey to St Martin's difficult, or if Sunday mornings are not easy for you, you might like to join us for Friday Communion at Belmont Community Centre.

We celebrate a said service of Holy Communion at 12:30pm on the Second and Fourth Fridays of each month, following FoodShare. Everyone is very welcome to this service. The hall has level access and good ventilation – and if the weather is good we celebrate outside.

The next services at Belmont are: 12.30pm Holy Communion – 14th & 28th June

For our Prayers

Those who are ill or in need of your prayers, including:

Bill	James	Joan	Paul	Sheila	Ann W	Brenda B
Sue	Brooke	Christina	Betty	Mandy	Bill	Michael

Those who have died and those who mourn their loss:

Paul. Veronica. Dave. Pat. Michael

Anglican Communion: Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo.

Hereford: Telford Severn Gorge Deanery.

Porvoo: Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland; The Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church.

South Wye: For all those who work in the fields, gardens and orchards of our parishes.

The Wider View:

Mainland Tanzania sees more than four million cases annually of malaria, which is endemic across much of the country. This is a major cause of mortality in newborn and young children, and a recent fall in malaria deaths seems to have halted. Pray for the expansion of malaria control work and more support for vulnerable populations.

In Carers' Week, pray for all in our communities who are caring for family members, neighbours or friends.

In Bike Week, pray for the safety of all who cycle on our roads, for cycle clubs and for safe places for families to go biking together.

Barnabas, whose day is Tuesday, the "Son of Encouragement" prompts prayer that we may live and minister in a way that brings out the best in those around us, especially in this Year of Faith.

Pray for all who live with diabetes, and for the work of Diabetes UK, and their vision of a world in which diabetes can do no harm.

Pray for summer family events and activities in our churches and communities, and those who organise and lead them.

As the exam season in our schools continues, pray for all who are finding the process gruelling or worrying.

Give thanks for blood donors, and pray for those who provide blood donor clinics and staff them.

In the week of National Beer Day, pray for craft breweries and for the pubs that serve our communities.

Saturday is World Refill Day and National Clean Air Day. Pray for all who are working to reduce pollution and waste.

Services on-site, online and on TV and Radio For the week beginning 9th June

South Wye Services Through the Week:

8pm Night Prayer from Common Worship – on St. Martin's Facebook page

Sunday

6am

9:30am Holy Communion at St. Martin's

11.15am Family Service at St. Peter's

Thursday

10am Said Communion in St. Martin's Lady Chapel

The 9.30am service will be streamed on St. Martin's Facebook page and will be available on the St. Martin's and the St. Peter's Facebook pages and the St. Martin's YouTube channel later in the day.

Diocese of Hereford

Diocese of Hereford Facebook: Sunday Service 10am.

Diocese Freephone Prayerline: Dial 0800 304 7052 to hear a prayer.

Church of England

National Weekly Service Facebook at 9am.

TV and Radio on Sunday;

BBC H&W 8am Sunday Worship.

Radio 4 8.10am Sunday Worship- Sing to the Lord

BBC 1 1.15pm Songs of Praise- Carers Week

Prayer for the day:

The Church of England website has audio and text of the Prayer for the Day.

Prayer for the Nation

The Archbishops continue to invite all to call on God in Prayer. We invite you to set aside time every evening to pray, particularly at 6pm each day. More than ever, this is a time when we need to love each other. Prayer is an expression of love. Find more details at churchengland.org/resources/prayer-nation

Collect for 9th June 2024

Faithful Creator, whose mercy never fails:

deepen our faithfulness to you

and to your living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings for 9th June 2024

1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.

Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again."

Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

I try to count them -- they are more than the sand; I come to the end -- I am still with you.

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.

For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Mark 2:23-3:6

One sabbath he was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?" And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions."

Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward."

Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

Bible study on 1 Samuel 3:1-10,(11-20)

Bible notes

The desolate state of Israel is highlighted at the beginning of this chapter: the word of the Lord was rare. By the end, the word of the Lord is abundant through the prophetic ministry of Samuel, and Israel is back on course as a people in close relationship with their God.

What caused this turn to the good? This story is set in the old temple at Shiloh, where the Lord chose to speak to the boy Samuel. In the first place, Samuel's inexperience meant that he did not realise this. Eli, the old, disgraced priest, played a key role in helping him to respond to the Lord. The previous chapter (2:27-36) recounted the words of an unnamed prophet who pronounced God's doom on Eli and his sons for corruption, and Eli's poor sight (v.2) symbolises his failure to recognise the responsibilities of his role. Despite this, he gave Samuel the insight to respond appropriately to God. The repeated visits to Eli highlight Samuel's uncritical enthusiasm to obey the old priest's call, and Eli's dismissal would have been confusing for him. The boy's life as a prophet began with equally enthusiastic acceptance of the Lord's call – other prophets showed greater reluctance (see Isaiah 6:5; Jeremiah 1:6). When Samuel realised that he was hearing the word of the Lord, he named himself as 'your servant'. Yet he quickly discovered the challenges of his new role and the ways in which it would change his relationship with Eli. The Lord's ear-tingling word focused on the disaster coming upon Eli, and Samuel was afraid to pass this on (v.15). As a young boy, dependent on Eli for his place in the temple, he was vulnerable to Eli's anger. He did not yet have the trust in God's faithfulness that would allow him to take risks in proclaiming the Lord's word. Again, it was Eli's encouragement that gave him the confidence to speak out, and Eli found the resources to accept God's hard words to him, coming from one he called 'my son'. Samuel was no longer the child Hannah had left in the temple; he was on the way to becoming the prophet and king-maker God intended him to be.

Reflection

Our name – our personal identity – is so important to us. It allows us to hear someone calling us. In the hymn 'I, the Lord of sea and sky', the response 'Here I am, Lord' is followed by a question, 'Is it I?'. That stage probably comes for most of us before we say 'yes' to God. Understanding our calling may be a long, drawn-out process, and a decision comes only after testing. We have to be open to the prayerful counsel of those in whom we trust. We have to be open to the possibility that God's call may not lead where we expect or desire. It may demand hard things of us. But sometimes hearing hard things can move us out of our comfort zone, and that may be exactly what we need.

Questions for reflection

You may wish to use these questions and the picture to help you think about or discuss issues arising from this week's Bible passage.



- In what ways might God speak to you?
- How did Jesus show openness to listening to God in his ministry?
- What might God want to say or do in your life?

Sudoku (Easier!)

	3			4				9
2				9			4	
4	5		3		6		7	
	4			5		1		
	8		6					3
	9							2
5								7
		6	2					
9	7			8	5		1	

		6			7			1
				8	5			
3	5		9					
		7	3		6	8		
9	3			7		2	1	
6				1			3	9
			7	5				
	7	9		6				
	8				4			

9	7	3	4	8	5	2	1	6
8	1	6	2	7	9	5	3	4
5	2	4	1	6	3	9	8	7
6	9	1	8	3	4	7	5	2
7	8	5	6	1	2	4	9	3
3	4	2	9	5	7	1	6	8
4	5	9	3	2	6	8	7	1
2	6	8	7	9	1	3	4	5
1	3	7	5	4	8	6	2	9

5	8	3	1	2	4	9	6	7
4	7	9	8	6	3	1	2	5
2	6	1	7	5	9	4	8	3
6	4	8	5	1	2	7	3	9
9	3	5	4	7	8	2	1	6
1	2	7	3	9	6	8	5	4
3	5	2	9	4	1	6	7	8
7	1	4	6	8	5	3	9	2
8	9	6	2	3	7	5	4	1

Trickier!

		2				6	7	
		7			8			
			5	6				3
3								1
				7		9		
9		5			3		6	
							1	9
			6			2		
	4				5			

		2				8		7
	3		8		4			
6			5	9				
		7					2	
			4			3		
2			9					
5	8	3	1					
							1	5
	9							

2	4	1	7	9	5	3	8	6
8	9	3	6	4	1	2	5	7
7	5	6	3	8	2	4	1	9
9	7	5	4	1	3	8	6	2
1	2	4	8	7	6	9	3	5
3	6	8	2	5	9	7	4	1
4	8	9	5	6	7	1	2	3
6	3	7	1	2	8	5	9	4
5	1	2	9	3	4	6	7	8

7	9	1	2	4	5	6	8	3
4	2	6	7	8	3	9	1	5
5	8	3	1	6	9	7	4	2
2	6	4	9	3	1	5	7	8
8	5	9	4	2	7	3	6	1
3	1	7	6	5	8	4	2	9
6	7	8	5	9	2	1	3	4
1	3	5	8	7	4	2	9	6
9	4	2	3	1	6	8	5	7

Wordsearch based on 2 Corinthians 5: 6-10, 14-17

H J P P C D Q L C E R J N M W
F N Q O R I M G A E P C Y T O
I T C I E E Y U R L W O A A H
J R O N A D N P P I L N W E G
U S T T T K I L V H Y F X S U
Q T H G I S I E G W S I C I O
U E Y D O B Y A Y V F D V S H
I L V R N D E S L I D E V T T
L B F P E V I E C E R N Z G A
F V A E I H A I A W G T F P K
I A Y L L I T T F W J D P A L
S B I H M O A A S X A E O E O
H U O T L I V E R O A Y B O N
A M I L H J C B U R E V O L G
E T U R G E S W H E T H E R V

CONFIDENT
WHILE
BODY
FAITH
CREATION

RATHER
WHETHER
PLEASE
SEAT

GOOD
LOVE
DIED
POINT

THOUGH
HOME
AWAY
SIGHT

VIEW
AIM
APPEAR
RECEIVE

EVIL
URGES
LIVE

Sunday 9th June 2024, Trinity 2 (Hymns A & M)

680. *In Christ there is no east or west*

**1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no pride of birth;
the chosen family God has blessed
now spans the whole wide earth.**

**2 For God in Christ has made us one
from every land and race;
he reconciled us through the Son
and met us with his grace.**

**3 It is by grace we are assured
that we belong to him:
the love we share in Christ our Lord,
the Spirit's work within.**

**4 So brothers, sisters, praise his name
who died to set us free
from sin, division, hate and shame,
from spite and enmity!**

**5 In Christ there is no east or west —
he breaks all barriers down:
by Christ redeemed, by Christ possessed,
in Christ we live as one.**

Michael Perry (1942-1996)

***CCLI Copyright and Streaming Licences and PRS for Church Music 187654,
1461410, 660669***

365. Let us build a house where love can dwell

**Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:**

all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

**Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:**

all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

**Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine, and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that free us:**

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place

**Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:**

all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

**Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:**

all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Marty Haugen (b. 1950)

468b. Thee we adore, O hidden Saviour, thee

**1 Thee we adore, O hidden Saviour, thee
who in thy sacrament art pleased to be;
both flesh and spirit in thy presence fail,
yet here thy presence we devoutly hail.**

**2 O blest memorial of our dying Lord,
who living bread to us doth here afford;
O may our souls for ever feed on thee,
and thou, O Christ, for ever precious be.**

**3 Fountain of goodness, Jesu, Lord and God,
cleanse us, unclean, with thy most cleansing blood;
increase our faith and love, that we may know
the hope and peace which from thy presence flow.**

**4 O Christ, whom now beneath a veil we see,
may what we thirst for soon our portion be:
to gaze on thee unveiled, and see thy face,
the vision of thy glory and thy grace.**

St Thomas Aquinas (c. 1225-1274)

Translator: James Russell Woodford (1820-1885)

823. Who would true valour see

**1 Who would true valour see,
let him come hither;
one here will constant be,
come wind, come weather;
there's no discouragement
shall make him once relent
his first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.**

**2 Whoso beset him round
with dismal stories,
do but themselves confound,
his strength the more is.
No lion can him fright:
he'll with a giant fight,
but he will have the right
to be a pilgrim.**

**3 Hobgoblin nor foul fiend
can daunt his spirit;
he knows he at the end
shall life inherit.
Then, fancies, fly away;
he'll not fear what men say;
he'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.**

John Bunyan (1628-1688)