

WHEATHILL PRIORY BENEFICE

“Jesus Lives: Follow Him”

Sunday 28 February 2021

How do you feel about people seeing your weaknesses? Be they physical and obvious or more to do with human frailty and fallibility? I’m guessing that I’m similar to many in that I prefer to be seen as the someone who ‘can do it’ (at times even if I can’t!).

Some of those in the early church had similar issues, particularly with regard to the death of Jesus. For the Jews it was an anathema because their scriptures told them that someone hanging on a tree was cursed and the Greeks believed that the way to succeed was through wisdom. Therefore the death of Jesus was foolish, it displayed weakness and was foolish in that it makes no logical sense.

Paul proclaims that Jesus death, whilst it may look foolish and weak is in fact the way to live. This is because ‘God’s foolishness is wise than human wisdom and stronger than human strength’. When we’re struggling to make sense of the things we encounter in our daily lives and the experiences that come across our paths which do not make sense, sometimes we need to weigh them up against God’s strength and wisdom, and to try to see his ways and priorities in the midst of all that we encounter.

Right now, sometimes that may be hard to do, but we’re still called to seek to find God’s ways in the midst of daily life, and to remember that God uses the unexpected, the unsung and the surprising in his Kingdom. Jesus death humanly speaking makes no sense & looks like total failure. In fact it is the greatest victory of all time, over sin and death. It is indeed God’s wisdom and strength in the guise of foolishness and weakness. May we trust Him more because of that this week.

Morning Prayer Readings etc (these come from #LiveLent, the theme this week is 'Communicating like Jesus'

Christians are called to be witnesses to Christ in their lives and speech. Theologian Stefan Paas says “ [Witness] is nothing more than the fostering of natural human relationships, while being unembarrassed about the Christian faith” Good communication is key to witness. We will learn this week from Jesus the master communicator.)

Sunday Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, John 2:13-22

Monday Psalm 5, Matthew 11:16-19

Tuesday Psalm 6, Mark 5:21-43

Wednesday Psalm 38, Mark 5:21-43

7:30pm Lent Course

Thursday Psalm 56, Matthew 9:35-38



9am Morning Prayer on Zoom

Friday Psalm 22, John 4:1-42

Saturday Psalm 31, Mark 10:46-52

Sunday coffee at 10:00am continues, details on Zoom sheet attached.

Phone Church

We have set up a phone line that you can use (for the cost of a local call so probably free for most) to listen to a reading, the reflection and prayers of intercession for the week. The phone number is **01458 552155**. The service will be available from Saturday evening.

There is also the Church of England Daily Hope phone line, which has hymns, prayers and reflections.

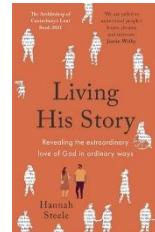


YouTube

Our weekly worship continues to be available on YouTube, it is best viewed using a playlist facility.

Lent

For our Lent course this year we're using the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent materials. There are several ways that you can join in:



1. By reading the book '[Living His Story](#)' by [Hannah Steele](#) (costs between £8-10 depending on where you buy it!), which has 6 chapters encouraging us to think about how we can better tell our and God's story.
2. By using the #LiveLent materials. These are available as both a booklet, costing about £1.99 or as an App available from Aimer Media in your app store
3. By joining in the weekly discussion on Zoom, this will happen on a Wednesday evening at 7:30pm starting on Wednesday 24 February and running until Wednesday 31 March.



The book and #LiveLent will form the basis of the Lent group but it is not essential to have read either to join the group. If you'd like to join then please let Jane know and we'll send out the details of the group.

Food Bank

As is their tradition Keinton Parish is collecting donations for the Glastonbury foodbank. Donations are collected from the porch of Keinton Church, if you'd rather give money then please put it in a labelled envelope and put it through Emma Stevens' door. Thank you to all those who have already donated, it is all gratefully received.

