

Holding on to the dream

Gillian Cooper *reflects on* Jeremiah 23:1-6

The young man looks sad and bewildered. He sits alone, his head bowed. He has lost his family. He is in a land where he does not speak the language and does not know how to behave. Everything he knows has been stripped away, and he is at the mercy of others who do not understand him.

Who is he? A refugee in Europe or Africa? Or perhaps an ancient Israelite taken from the ruins of Jerusalem and marched far away to Babylon. What does he dream of? Of the restoration of home and family, I imagine. Of a return to the land of his birth under a new regime. Of a community in which

he can be himself. Of a way of life that has purpose and integrity.

Jeremiah knows about the trauma, and about the dream. He sees the Babylonians at the gates. The people of God are being scattered from their land. They will live in strange places and learn different languages. But they still have their dream, of a new regime, a ruler in the tradition of the great King David, who will call them back and preside with justice over a peaceful land.

Unlike Jeremiah, we know his name, and we still dream of the day when he will reign over a world in which all will share in a community at peace. 🌈

Finding God on the smallholding

by Jeni Parsons

It's our turn this month for the local smallholders' work party. Folk from around the area will come to do an afternoon's work for free on our smallholding and we will feed them afterwards using as much local produce as we can. This time I'll make a pheasant

curry and a crumble from berries we picked in the summer. We'll drink elderflower cordial and home-made ginger beer.

The blessing of all this work and food is in the sharing and in the thankfulness of us all. Next month we'll all go to someone else's to work and eat.

Hidden within this community activity is the God who longs to bring grace even where there is no obvious act of worship. God is not mean with blessing our activity. Here grace abounds because generosity is shown by all. 🌈



In a world full of conflict and division, be our inspiration, Lord, that we may know ourselves members of your family and look in hope towards the time when all will live under the reign of the prince of peace. Amen.

The Kingdom Season

Part 3 – the kingdom and its citizens

by Georgina Byrne

The idea of the kingdom of God is rooted in Hebrew thought. It is a realm of the future. The establishment of God's reign on earth will be full of blessings for those who are righteous and will see the overthrow of those who are wicked and corrupt.

Jesus offers a different perspective. Rather than preaching in political terms, he appears more interested in the ethical life of those who will inhabit the kingdom. It is important to Jesus even if, as he

tells Pilate, "my kingdom is not from this world" (John 18:36). When he says, "The kingdom of God is like ...", he tells his hearers more about the nature of the kingdom than when or how it will begin. At times he suggests that the kingdom is a future state; many parables concern waiting, being prepared. At other times, the kingdom is present and active.

Above all, it is about closeness to God. Christ's followers are citizens of the kingdom. They walk the earth, their temporary home, demonstrating by word and deed that their true allegiance is to Christ the King. 🌈

“Love deems this world worth rescuing.”

Philip Yancey (born 1949), author



Sunday 20th November 2022
Christ the King / Stir Up Sunday
8.30am BCP Communion in church, not on zoom

10am *Experience and Explore*; a service with activities, a talk, refreshments and space for reflection. **In person, in church, and on zoom.**

6.30pm BCP Evening Prayer in church, not on zoom

Filming – please note that our Zoom services may capture the image of participants at the service.

Collect

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS in pew bibles:
Colossians 1: 11-20, p. 214
Luke 23: 33-43, p. 95

NEXT WEEK

8.30am BCP Holy Communion, in person in church, not on zoom

10 am Holy Communion (Advent Sunday)
Celebrant: Revd. Steve Burgess
Preacher: Revd. Sophie Young representing CCHP (Cambridge Churches Homelessness Project)

CONTACTS

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Do visit our website www.trumpington.church for links to Sunday services and resources.

PRAYERS

This week we pray for: Chris Points, Michael Singer, Jon Williamson, the recently bereaved. If you would like to form part of a small group dedicated to praying for St M&Ms, please speak to Revd Mandy.

CHURCH NOTICES

M&Ms (Youth Group for young persons aged 9+) Meets each month in either Trumpington or Newnham. For further info please email Natalie at: childrenandfamilies@stmarksnewnham.org

Do you like singing carols?

On **December 2nd** We will be singing carols with the City of Cambridge Brass Band from **7.00 -7.30pm at Trumpington Meadows** as part of their community Christmas festivities that evening. We will also be singing carols on the afternoon of **Sunday 4 December, 1.00-1.30pm, at Trumpington Pavilion**, at the Trumpington Residents Association's Christmas Fair. Please do come and sing with us – all singers welcome!

Home Groups

Monday 28th November at 1.30pm in the Bakehouse. Wednesday 30th November, 7.30pm on zoom. There is also a home group at 8pm on

Tuesday evenings. If you would like to join a home group, please speak to Mandy or John Pettigrew.

Christmas Tree Festival 17 & 18 December 2022

We hope that you will want to join in with this lovely event, which returns for the first time since Covid. There are entry forms on the Churchwarden's pew or contact Sheila: 07889706625

/ trumpet@trumpington.church

Closing date is noted as 30 November

We are also looking for:

- Volunteers to help steward the festival itself, the more the merrier!
- Old Christmas/greetings cards for an activity
- Mince pies, cakes
- Gingerbread men and shortbread biscuits (plain, not decorated)

Please contact Sheila as above.

UN 16 Days of Activism against Domestic and Gender Violence (25th November -10th December)

This is an international call for an end to violence against women and girls. Please join the Mother's Union in Ely Diocese and here in Trumpington by tying a prayer card on the prayer tree (by the South Door). Cards and pens will be left by the tree. The prayers from the tree will be presented to the 10am congregation on Sunday 11th December.