

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUNDAY, 25th OCTOBER

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR BIBLE SUNDAY:

Nehemiah 8: 1-4a, 8-12; Colossians 3: 12-17; Matthew 24: 30-35; Psalm 119: 9-16

WEEKLY REFLECTION & STORY:

The Rector has written a brief reflection and prayer for this week's readings – the document is attached.

There is a recording of the Rector reading this reflection and prayer, plus James Northen reading "A Time to Build" from the Lion Storyteller Bible. These were filmed near the building work and in the choir stalls inside Great Brickhill church. These can be found on the following links:

- **Reflection & Prayer:-** https://youtu.be/r4-rLbn_Bgk
- **"A Time to Build":-** <https://youtu.be/uFntF5llvTs>

SUNDAY SERVICE - Revd Val Plumb, Rural Dean for Mursley Deanery

The Rural Dean has not been able to record her usual 15/20-minute service this week due to health issues.

RADIO 4:

Sunday Worship at 8.10am Bible Sunday

Join Revd Dr Sam Wells and St Martin's Voices, directed by Andrew Earis, as they explore the difference between reading the Bible, thinking we know what it's saying, and letting the Bible read us, allowing our idea of ourselves and the world to be turned upside-down. They look closely at the Old Testament story of Israel in slavery in Egypt, and the way the story transforms our hearts and our lives. Live from St Martin-in-the-Fields.

BBC TELEVISION:

Sunday Morning Live BBC 1 at 10.30am Episode 18 of 20

Sean Fletcher and Sally Phillips take a look at the week's talking points and explore the ethical and religious issues of the day. Alongside lively chat, the show also shines a light on inspiring, unique and occasionally unusual stories and people.

Songs of Praise BBC 1 at 1.15pm Remembering Black History

For Black History Month, guest presenter Mark De-Lisser visits the International Slavery Museum in Liverpool to find out about Britain's involvement in the slave trade and the role the church played at the time. Mark meets the museum's historian-in-residence to hear about his ambition to create what could become the country's first memorial to the enslaved. The rector of Liverpool, Rev Canon Dr Crispin Pailing, shares why he is passionate about offering the grounds of St Nicholas' Church, which was once the city's main burial ground, as a home for the memorial.

Classical pianist Alexis Ffrench speaks about his love of music and how he felt as a child being Britain's youngest black church organist. There is a special performance of Alexis's own composition inspired by the faith poem Footprints in the Sand. The daughter of Christian peacemaker Nelson Mandela shares what she feels her father would have thought about the Liverpool garden being built in his honour, and we hear about the vision for the garden from two members of the community who help run the charity behind the project, Mandela8. Music comes from across the UK, including poignant hymns written during the period of the slave trade:

OXFORD DIOCESE LIVE STREAMING:

The Diocesan Church at Home service for Bible Sunday, 25th October at 10am

The Revd Katie Tupling, Disability Advisor to the Diocese, presides for this service from the chapel in Church House, and Bishop Steven preaches from his home.

The original Bible Sunday was initiated by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, and took place on the Second Sunday of Advent. That is why the beloved Collect for Advent 2 has its focus for the prayer that we should “hear, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest” the Scriptures. Now we celebrate Bible Sunday on the last Sunday of Trinity Season.

Before the service begins, there is a video from the Pilgrim course on the Bible, featuring our very own +Steven back when he was Bishop of Sheffield!

To download the order of service and to watch the service, live or at a later time, follow the link:- <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19-2/livestream/>

To access by telephone, dial 01865 920930 to hear the latest service (press 0= short service, 1= full service). Standard call rates apply.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ONLINE:

Worship at Home, an Online Weekly Service at 9am

A celebration of Bible Sunday

From Holy Trinity Kendal, the Rt Rev Dr Emma Ineson, the Bishop of Penrith, is joined by people from across Cumbria, including two newly ordained clergy, in this celebration of Bible Sunday. Click on the following link:-

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/join-us-church-online/weekly-online-services/celebration-bible-sunday>

To download the Order of Service, follow the link below:-

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-10/Bible%20Sunday%20OOS%20VFF%20AFN.docx.pdf>

PLUS, BISHOP STEVEN'S LATEST WEEKLY PODCAST:

WHEN YOU PASS THROUGH THE WATERS, I WILL BE WITH YOU

Bishop Steven writes:- One of the oldest books on my shelf is John Bunyan’s The Pilgrim’s Progress, the famous allegory of the Christian life published over 300 years ago. The famous hymn Who Would True Valour See is taken directly from his text. I first read Bunyan as a young Christian and have returned to Pilgrim’s Progress many times. At the very end of Christian’s journey, after many twists and turns and trials, he arrives at last at a great river, symbolising death. There is no bridge over this river and no way around it...