

Cowan Bridge Methodist Church

St. Mary's, Kirkby Lonsdale

St. Bartholomew's, Barbon

St. Patrick's, Preston Patrick

St. John's, Hutton Roof

St. Peter's, Mansergh

All Saints, Lupton

Holy Trinity, Casterton

The Holy Ghost, Middleton

Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist Church

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Kirkby Lonsdale



Notices for the Church in and around Kirkby Lonsdale

Notices for Sunday 18th October 2020

Did St Luke have bad handwriting?

October 18th is the day in the church calendar when St Luke is remembered. So, you might expect to hear a bit more about him on Sunday either online or in church.

He was the author of the third gospel and of the Acts of the Apostles, which means Luke contributed over a quarter of the text of the New Testament, more than any other author.

It is unlikely that he ever met Jesus but the picture that Luke paints of him is of someone who is deeply compassionate, who cares for the poor, the oppressed, and the marginalized. Samaritans, Gentiles, and women all have a significant place in Luke's gospel. Luke's gospel also includes many of the most memorable and most well-loved stories of Jesus, including the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son.



In the Acts of the Apostles he repeatedly uses the word ‘we’ in describing some of Paul’s escapades which suggests that he was personally there at those times

Most scholars believe the Luke was a doctor, a Greek physician who lived in the city of Antioch in Ancient Syria. The final greetings in the letter to the Colossians refers to him as ‘the beloved physician’, and, not surprisingly, he is the patron saint of physicians and surgeons (as well as artists, bachelors, students and butchers).

Did he have bad handwriting? Who knows, but what he wrote has been treasured for 2000 years.

Richard Snow

A Reading and Reflection for This Week

Exodus Chapter 33:12-23

Moses and the Glory of the Lord

Moses said to the Lord, “You have been telling me, ‘Lead these people’, but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, ‘I know you by name and you have found favour with me’. If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favour with you.

Remember that this nation is your people.”

The Lord replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”

And the Lord said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have

asked because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.”
Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory”
And the Lord said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”
Then the Lord said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”

Reflection

This Sunday’s Old Testament lesson is a real gem, because it gives us a snapshot of how a human can interact closely with God. OK, Moses represents a man living some 3,500 years ago, so he doesn’t have the same lifestyle as us, but we need to remember that God is the same person, as He was then, whom we try to have a relationship with today.

Briefly, let’s refresh our understanding of Moses’ background and the circumstances he finds himself in just before the story in our passage. Born in about 1520BC to Israelite parents, soon after his birth he was found by Pharaoh’s daughter, in a basket floating amongst reeds near a river bank. He spends the first forty years of his life in the Egyptian royal court, where he learned oratorical ability and leadership qualities. After killing an Egyptian, he fled to Midian, married, and spent the next forty years in seclusion. (NB ‘forty years’ in the Bible sometimes means just a long period of time). As a shepherd for his

father-in-law's flocks, he learned a great deal about the geography of the area surrounding the Gulf of Aqaba. Little did he know that all these skills would be used by God to lead the nation of Israel. As we remember, Moses was first commissioned by God when Moses came across a bush which was on fire but was not consumed. This was the first recorded time that Moses heard God's voice, and the relationship between them grew from then on.

Just before our story, Moses had been up a mountain, talking with God, and receiving the ten commandments on tablets of stone.

When he came back to camp a few days later, he found the Israelites had somehow forgotten God, and were reveling and worshipping a golden calf. God then decides that He would no longer accompany the Israelites on their journey to the Promised Land, because their sin was so great, that He might destroy them. We see here that God is so holy and angered by human sin, that He thinks of destroying the Israelites. This is why we must confess our wrong-doings and ask for forgiveness on a regular basis, so that we don't have a barrier between ourselves and God, when we come to Him in prayer. There is nothing worse for destroying our relationship with God, than when we pretend that the way we treat Him or our fellow human beings does not matter.

Thankfully, despite the behaviour of the Israelites, God assures Moses that he has found favour with God. Wishing to know God better, so that he can continue to please Him, Moses asks God to teach him His ways. This is another prayer that we can certainly use today. If we don't know how to respond to a situation or to a person, we can ask God how to handle the circumstance or that He will give us the right words for the person.

Trusting in God’s mercy, rather than God’s wrath, Moses pleads with God for the Israelites, reminding God that they are His people. This example allows us to pray for people or nations who are offending God. When God sent Jesus to earth, Jesus’ sacrifice was for all humans, and we all became God’s people. In the passage, Moses pleads with God not to destroy the Israelites and also to change His mind about not coming with them on their journey to the Promised Land. God relents and says that, because He knows Moses intimately, God “knows him by name”, and is pleased with him, God will indeed change His mind and accompany Moses and the people. This is a very powerful example for us. Moses pleased God so much that God changed His mind! This flies in the face of those who say that we humans can never influence the decisions of God.

Then Moses gets really cheeky, pushes his luck or merely asks for more reassurance, what do you think? He asks God “Now show me your glory”. This indicates such a close relationship between the two, that Moses dares to ask such an enormous privilege. I am not suggesting that this is something that we should do, but it does show that God can be amenable to some of our requests.

However, from His treatment of Moses, hiding Moses from the brilliance of His face, we can trust God to amend our petition, to achieve the desired effect without causing us any harm.

Do we want a closer relationship with God? Remember, if we feel distant from Him, it is us who have moved away from Him. God is waiting to share with us. All we have to do is to follow the Christian way of life and to ask Him to come closer to us, knowing this will please Him. Amen

Liz Dew

Prayer Life and Topics

For our churches:

Loving and gracious God, in this time of shifting relationships in our Church and world, when we seem to be standing on sand rather than solid rock, and when the familiar has become bewildering, hold us in your love, and hold us together in love, we pray. As we remember the wonders of your earth, remind us daily that we too are fearfully and wonderfully made in your precious image. Amen.

Please also pray for all our church families.

Prayer Requests: If anyone has a specific prayer request, please do let one of the clergy team know either by phone or by emailing the dedicated and confidential prayer request email prayer@kl.church. This will be picked up by the team and included in Morning Prayer each day.

Regular dates and times

Sunday at church

9.00am Mass at St Joseph's Church, Kirkby Lonsdale

9.30am Morning Service at St Patrick's Church, Preston
Patrick

9.30am Holy Communion at All Saints' Church, Lupton.

9.30am KLMC Service at St Mary's Church, Kirkby
Lonsdale

10.30am Holy Communion at St. Bartholomew's, Barbon.

11.00am Morning Service at St Mary's Church, Kirkby
Lonsdale

11.00am Harvest Thanksgiving at Cowan Bridge Methodist Church

6.30pm Harvest Festival service at Holy Trinity, Casterton

Further details around the arrangements for worshipping in buildings are available on the [kl.church website](#) and the [leaflet on hygiene measures](#). All are welcome at any of the services.

Thursdays at church

10.30am Holy Communion each week at St. Mary's Church, Kirkby Lonsdale

Sunday online

8:00 am onwards A recorded service from the clergy team and members of the churches which is accessible from the [kl.church website](#) or on our [YouTube channel](#). Please note the new time. As we are now meeting for worship, we need to provide some flexibility around when people can watch it.

Methodist Central Hall in Westminster Sunday morning service via [YouTube](#).

Church of England [online weekly service](#)

Catholic services can be accessed via a schedule [online here](#).

Radio and TV

Sundays

BBC1 TV: 1.15pm Songs of Praise.

BBC Radio: 8.00am BBC Radio Cumbria service.

BBC Radio 4 FM: 8.10am Sunday Worship.

Weekdays

8.15am Morning Prayer: The Clergy meet every weekday. Everyone welcome. The Zoom link is [here](#). Meeting ID: 236 218 961 Password: 945130. The words are on [kl.church](#).

Zoomed gatherings for Coffee, Cake & Chat

Sundays 11.30am: You are welcome to join a virtual get-together for a chat after the Sunday service from 11:30am.

The Zoom link is [here](#). Meeting ID: 819 0248 3575

Password: 868713.

Wednesdays 10.30am: There is also a virtual coffee morning using Zoom each Wednesday. Again, everyone is welcome.

The Zoom link is [here](#). Meeting ID: 861 5213 0840

Password: 578998.

Family Project

Muddy Church: We have decided to postpone Muddy Church until the spring of 2021. We are keen for Muddy Church to be a fun and relaxing experience so want to wait until everyone feels able to attend Muddy Church without worry or concern. See you in the spring!

Lol Wood – Family Project Leader

Keep up to date with us: on our [Facebook page](#); on our [Instagram page](#); on [my blog](#); or on [the website](#).

Community Cupboard

There is a food box in the porch of St Mary's Church for donations of supplies and people are welcome to take food if they have need. The contact number is the same as the Hub: 015242 36404 between 10:00 and 13:00. The website can be found [here](#).

Other Notices

Cowan Bridge

We held our first service last Sunday, all of the Covid secure measures were in place. The Chapel felt safe and welcoming and it was lovely to welcome people back to chapel.

We were very mindful of our members who were unable to gather with us and pray that we will all be together in the near future. This week is our **Harvest** service and the donation will go to the Methodist Homes Association and 'All we Can' Harvest appeal to buy bicycles for a community Butagaya in Uganda.

Kirkby Lonsdale Living Advent Calendar

As thoughts turn towards winter, 'The Family Project' along with 'See and Know' have come up with the idea of creating in the town a 'Living Advent Calendar' made up of homemade window displays. We would like to invite you to decorate a window in your home, visible from the street, using a Christmas carol of your choice for inspiration. The more variety the better.

At 6pm each evening between 1st and 24th December, a new decorated window would be unveiled. Once a display has been revealed, we would hope for it to stay open until Dec 31st if at all possible. We will create a map to show where and when each display will first appear. There are lots of ideas online from towns and villages that have done something similar - Pinterest is well worth checking out for inspiration.

If you are interested in taking part, please email

lol@cilfamilyproject.org ASAP so we can get an idea of the numbers interested. Thanks,

Lol and Heather

All Souls' Day

A special service is usually held around the time of All Souls at which we remember all those who have died in the past twelve months and offer those left behind the opportunity to reflect and remember and the chance to light a candle in memory of their loved one. In past years this has been at St Mary's only but this

year, so that we can accommodate as many as would wish to attend, we are planning to have a service at St Patrick's as well. These services will be at 7.30pm on Friday 30th October. Invitations will be sent to those who have been bereaved in the past twelve months. Others are welcome to attend.

St Mary's Church opening

St Mary's Church will be open for private prayer on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10.00 - 12.00.

Rainbow Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Because of the Covid position, and following advice from the Diocese, we were unable to hold our Rainbow Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) at the end of April as would be usual.

The Diocese is now advising that we should hold the meeting before the end of October – in the most appropriate way.

We are therefore holding our APCM on 22nd October at 7:00pm using Zoom. This allows people to join the meeting on line or by telephone. As is usual there will be a 'Vestry Meeting' prior to the APCM for the election of Churchwardens. This will be followed immediately by the APCM and then a short PCC meeting. The agenda and Zoom details will be circulated nearer the time.

We do want to ensure that the individual church roles are advertised and nominations sought but there is an acceptance that an annual meeting may not be necessary if it is difficult to arrange and the positions are not contested. The arrangements for the individual churches are with the DCC secretaries and please contact them for further detail (see AKL for a list).

We recognise that this guidance is unusual but does reflect the

difficult times we are in. If you have any concern about any of this please speak with Rev. Richard Snow or me.

Merlin Hibbs – Lay Chair Rainbow Parish

Sunday Club

Given the current guidelines about families mixing, it looks as though Sunday Club may not meet formally for another month or two. However, in the meantime Bethan has recommended a **virtual Sunday School** found on the web. I haven't yet had time to examine it closely myself, though it looks like a lot of fun. If you wish to discuss Sunday Club for any reason during the coming weeks, please email me at martincoombs11@gmail.com.

Website Links

[kl.church](#) - worship in and around Kirkby Lonsdale

Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist Church [Website](#)

Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist Church [Facebook](#)

The Rainbow Parish [website](#)

St Joseph's Church [website](#)

Family Project [website](#)

Family Project [Facebook page](#)

Note: All text in red is a clickable link.

If you have any comments, items for inclusion or to be sent by post, please email notices@kl.church, or contact Merlin Hibbs 015242 76410, Martin Coombs 015242 71752, or Michael Dugdale 07831 837648. Items need to be received by Wednesday for the following week's notice sheet. Martin Coombs is editing the notice sheets for October.