



WELCOME TO ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH HINCHLEY WOOD



22nd March 2020 - **MOTHERING SUNDAY** - 4th Sunday of the Month

LENT REFLECTIONS

LiveLent: The end of the world

The Archbishops' programme for Lent is based on caring for God's creation and seeing Him more closely in the natural world around us. The programme can be found as an app by searching for "Live Lent" or online at churchofengland.org.

This fourth week of Lent is based on the stars and seasons. As well as providing light, the sun, moon and stars divide time into day and night, seasons and years.

This week we explore how attending to these rhythms can help us live in greater harmony with God and nature.

Prayer for the week:

'Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
Great is thy faithfulness, Great is thy
faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed, thy hand has provided,
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!'

Read:

Acts 2.14-21

Reflection:

The Bible certainly anticipates a time when God will transform this present reality, bringing in a new heaven and a new earth. But the hope of this glorious future – of Resurrection – is one that inspires us to heal our world and love our neighbours now.

Action:

Reflect on these words, attributed to Martin Luther "If I believed the world were to end tomorrow, I would still plant a tree today"
<https://www.chewvalleytrees.co.uk>

ECO TIP

Reduce Tip 3: Join in with WWF "Earth Hour"

This is a global initiative, begun in 2007, to draw attention to climate change and show support for our planet. Once a year iconic landmarks, businesses and homes in 180 countries and territories symbolically switch off their lights. It has become one of the largest grassroots movements for the environment.

You can take part by switching off your lights for an hour on Saturday, March 28, 2020 at 8:30pm.

Further details can be found at:

<http://www.wwf.org.uk/about-us/earth-hour>

TIMELY REMINDER!

BRITISH SUMMERTIME STARTS NEXT WEEKEND!

Don't forget to put your clocks forward by one hour next Saturday, 28th March!



COLLECT

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

1ST READING

EXODUS 2:1-10

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. 2 The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. 3 When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. 4 His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. 5 The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. 6 When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. 7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' 8 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. 9 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. 10 When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

2ND READING

COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

s God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. 13 Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds

everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 2:33-35

33 And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed 35 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRAYERS

We remember in our prayers all those in need, those who are housebound, and those who are ill, at home or in hospital. We pray especially for Fr. Peter Jenner in his convalescence.

We give thanks for the lives of Margaret Carroll, Maureen Price, Rev. John Silk and John, dearly loved son-in-law to Dorothy. May they rest in peace.