**18 October**

**Luke the Evangelist**

Your word is a lantern to my feet and a light upon my path.

We bring you the good news that what God has promised

to the fathers he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus.

The one who saw what Jesus did has borne witness that you also may believe.

Almighty God, you called Luke the physician, whose praise

is in the gospel, to be an evangelist and physician of the soul:

by the grace of the Spirit and through the wholesome medicine

of the gospel, give your Church the same love and power to heal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

© The Archbishops’ Council of the

Church of England

**18 October**

**Luke, Evangelist**

Luke was a dear friend of the apostle, Paul and is mentioned three times in the New Testament Letters.

Paul describes him as ‘the beloved physician’ and in the second Letter to Timothy, he is referred to as Paul’s only companion in prison. He is believed to be the author of two books of the New Testament, firstly the gospel which stands in his name and also the Acts of the Apostles. Luke’s narrative of the life of Christ has a pictorial quality and shows the sequential pattern from the nativity through to the death and resurrection. The distinctive theology found in Paul’s writings is virtually unknown in those of Luke but, as a Gentile, Luke makes clear that the good news of salvation is for all, regardless of gender, social position or nationality.

*Sourced from ‘Exciting Holiness’*

**19 October**

**Henry Martyn**

**Translator of the Scriptures**

**Missionary in India and Persia 1812**

Almighty God, who by your Holy Spirit gave Henry Martyn a longing to tell the good news of Christ and skill to translate the Scriptures: by the same Spirit give us grace to offer you our gifts, wherever you may lead, at whatever cost; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

© The Archbishops’ Council of the

Church of England

**19 October**

**Henry Martyn**

**Translator of the Scriptures, Missionary in India and Persia**

Born in Truro in 1781, Henry Martyn went up to Cambridge at the age of sixteen. He became an avowed evangelical and his friendship with Charles Simeon led to his interest in missionary work. In 1805, he left for Calcutta as a chaplain to the East India Company. The expectation was that he would minister to the British expatriate community, not to the indigenous peoples; in fact, there was a constant fear of insurrection and even the recitation of the Magnificat at Evensong was forbidden, lest ‘putting down the mighty from their seat’ should incite the natives. Henry set about learning the local languages and then supervised the translation of the New Testament first into Hindustani and then into Persian and Arabic, as well as preaching and teaching in mission schools. He went to Persia to continue the work but, suffering from tuberculosis, he died in Armenia on this day in 1812.

*Sourced from ‘Exciting Holiness’*