



NEWSLETTER

Sunday 15 November - 2nd before Advent

1 Thessalonians 5.1-11; Matthew 25.14-30



Online Sunday Service

A service of worship, including a homily from Revd Mark Poole, will be shared on our YouTube channel www.youtube.com/channel/UC_10sXmB7N5CKsD60_eRXjg.

Post-service coffee & chat

Make yourself a cuppa and join us at 11.30am over Zoom for a catch up.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87423794155?pwd=YUZ0RDE4a2pOT28rUXA2UFNBQUtUQT09>

Dial-a-service 899433

You can dial in and to listen to the service at any time during the week. It's the cost of a local call and very simple to do. Dial 899433. There might be a bit of a pause as the service recording uploads (15-20 seconds). Enjoy!



Children of Light - a reflection by Revd Nick Bird

'You are not in darkness... for you are all children of light'

1 Thessalonians 5.4-5

I don't know how much light you feel you are walking in at the moment. Having just got back from a 5pm evening walk with Diane, it all feels pretty dark to me. It's getting to the point where we get up in the dark, and we finish work in the dark, and the available light is sparse.

At Morning Prayer each day the church is currently reading its way through the book of Revelation. With all that is happening in the world in terms politics, pandemic and persecutions, reading Revelation can almost feel like reading the headlines. The four horsemen of the apocalypse could be on the evening news – conquest, war, famine and plague. It's almost as though 'darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples' (Isaiah 60). The darkness of our time of year can seem like an outward sign of an internal experience – with added pony riders.

I take comfort, however, in the fact that for two millennia the Book of Revelation has felt like current affairs to someone. Darkness and fear and suffering is the experience of someone, somewhere at this current time, and always for someone somewhere at all times. Darkness will come, but darkness will pass. Don't panic.

In one of our Sunday readings today, Paul writes to the church in Thessalonica to remind them, to encourage them, perhaps even to berate them into remembering, that the darkness is not theirs – 'You are not in darkness' (though if you look out of the window it might be looking pretty gloomy, if not positively inky). However it feels, you are not in darkness. Why? 'For you are all children of light'. Light is your reality, light is your true inward experience.

Darkness covered the earth at another time too (Luke 23) when Jesus was on the cross. But we don't stay on Golgotha, that is not our home, for we are children of the light.

It might be Good Friday for many – but we are Easter people, and Sunday is coming. Alleluia!!

Nick Bird



Church buildings open for private prayer but not for services

Our church buildings have had to close for services of worship during the current lockdown period. However, they remain open for private prayer on the days and times listed here.

If you come in, please wear a face covering, sit in designated seats only, and observe social distancing both in the building and also when travelling to and from it. Thank you.

Parish church buildings open for private prayer

Dunnington	Thursdays 10am - 12pm, Sundays 2pm - 4pm
Warthill	Thursdays 1 - 4pm, Sundays 1pm - 4pm
Holtby	Thursdays 10am - 1pm, Sundays un 1pm - 4pm
Stockton	Wednesdays 1pm - 4pm, Sundays 1pm - 4pm



Midweek Compline (online)

Join Nick Bird and others for a quiet service of Compline every Wednesday at 7.00pm. Download the free Zoom app or join us through your web browser at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86707839332>. The Meeting ID is 867 0783 9332.

St Nicholas Church Dunnington needs YOU!

We have several vacancies to be filled at the Annual Meeting on 22 November:

Churchwarden (from early 2021)

It is time now to identify a successor to Peter Helm, who is stepping down, to fill this immensely important, fulfilling and rewarding role. Please do consider if you can take this on and speak with Peter, Carole, or Nick for more information.

PCC Members

Four to serve until the APCM in 2023 and four to serve until the APCM in 2022. Anyone interested speak to Rev Nick Bird, a churchwarden (Peter Helm and Carole White) or any current member of PCC.

Representatives on Deanery Synod

Anyone interested please speak to Judith Hewitt, Joan Verrier, Alison Gilmour or Rev Nick Bird.

Nomination forms for all the above are available from Eve Scoreby or the churchwardens.

Parish Churches News & Events

Stockton's ACPM is on **Tuesday 17 November 2020, 7pm**, over Zoom. Join us at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88586583443>

Dunnington's ACPM is on **Sunday 22 November 2020, 2pm**, over Zoom. Join us at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86468756729>

The ACPM Agenda and papers, and formal notices of both the meeting and the election of churchwardens, are now available at <https://stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/acpm2020.php>. If you would like a paper copy of the Annual Report and/or the full financial report, please contact Judith on 488331.

Carecent Donation. Dunnington donated £955 for Carecent's Harvest Collection and Warthill donated £170. Thank you to everyone who gave.



Advent book. Advent will soon be upon us and we would like to recommend a book that you may find helpful as we journey week by week through Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. It is called **'Freedom is Coming'** by **Bishop Nick Baines**, and invites us to reflect on what it meant for people in Isaiah's day to be living in exile and how the prophet encouraged them to keep their faith alive despite the apparent hopelessness of their situation. It encourages us to see the connections between Isaiah's time and ours, and how his vision of God's truth and justice can comfort, challenge and inspire God's people today. The book helps us to discover how we can be a 'light to the nations' once again as we approach the celebration of Christ's birth and the new world that God has promised to bring.



The book is available from a range of online retailers, for under £8 for a new copy, with second hand copies and an e-reader version also available. You can either purchase it yourself or contact Nick who will order it on your behalf. If you choose the latter, please let Nick know by Sunday 22nd November.

We pray that this book will bring you many blessings during Advent and Christmas. Revd Nick Bird and Revd Mark Poole.

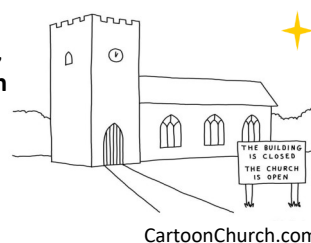
Lectionary Corner

- 16 Nov: Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Philanthropist, Reformer of the Church 1093
- 17 Nov: Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln 1200
- 18 Nov: Elizabeth, Princess of Thuringia, Philanthropist 1231
- 19 Nov: Hilda, Abbess of Whitby 680
- 20 Nov: Edmund, King of the East Angles, Martyr 870

Access the full lectionary information and prayers at: stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/newsletter-151120.php.

Dunnington Methodist Church

I received the Circuit Newsletter today which begins with the words, **"The Building is Closed. The Church is open"**. Something we all need to remember! However, if you need anything at this time, please contact Anne 01904 481656 or Diane 01904 489495.



CartoonChurch.com

News from the Methodist Circuit

Worship resources

This week's Circuit-led Traditional service will be available from Sunday at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMZl3vyksFEonZ-EQbbhuQ>. Our webpage <https://www.yorkmethodist.org.uk/coronavirus-information.html> lists resources and services arranged locally.

Circuit Evening prayer

Each evening Monday- Saturday during lockdown at 7pm there will be an opportunity to meet with others on zoom for a short time of prayer and fellowship. This will be led by different people from around the Circuit each day. We invite anyone to join us, to see a friendly face and join together in focusing on God for a few minutes. Please contact Revd Keith Albans 01904 701593 for the log in details.

Advent Courses

A morning Advent Course will take place on Zoom at 9.30am Wednesdays 25/11, 2/12, 9/12, 16/12. Contact Ruth Duck for details on ruth.duck@methodist.org.uk.

An evening Advent Course will take place on Zoom 7-8pm on Mondays, beginning 30th November. This is being hosted by Huntington Methodist Church but anyone is welcome. Please contact Revd Keith Albans 01904 491761 for the zoom link.

Social media

Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/yorkmethodistcircuit/>. Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/267605153386046/>

Praying for our Circuit

The church on the Circuit Prayer Rota for 15th November is **Haxby & Wigginton**. Let us thank God for the work of God in that place, and pray for the church as they consider how best to respond to God's call in this time.



Access a prayer from the Circuit on the **newsletter webpage**: stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/newsletter-151120.php.

To receive the **Methodist Circuit News**, please email yorkcircuitoffice@gmail.com or phone 07984 019995.

Would you like to receive this newsletter by email? Contact Victoria on grapevine.rey@gmail.com. It is also available to download from the St Nicholas Church website at www.stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/

Next newsletter on **Sunday 22 November**. Items to grapevine.rey@gmail.com by **9.00 am on Thursday 19 November**