

Collect for the Transfiguration of our Lord

Father in heaven, whose Son Jesus Christ was wonderfully transfigured before chosen witnesses upon the holy mountain and spoke of the exodus he would accomplish at Jerusalem: give us strength so to hear his voice and bear our cross, that in the world to come we may see him as he is; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Message from Julie

Our Bible readings are Exodus 24 vv 12-18 & Matthew 17 vv 1- 9

Our Gospel reading tells the story of the Transfiguration, a key event which appears in all three synoptic gospels and is referred to in 2 Peter 1: 16-19.

- **The Event:** Jesus's face shone like the sun and his clothing became dazzlingly white.
- **Location:** a 'high mountain' i.e. close to God (think about Moses and Elijah's experiences of encountering God on mountain tops).
- **Appearance of Prophets:** Moses and Elijah appeared with Jesus, representing the Law and the Prophets, respectively.
- **Divine Voice:** A voice from a bright cloud, God the Father, affirmed, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him".

This is a rich tapestry of meaning that helps us to see the nature of Jesus Christ and his mission. He is indeed the Son of God. This revelation of his divinity, before he sets his face to Jerusalem and the fate that awaits him there, is a reassurance about God's plan of salvation. His death does not thwart his earthly ministry; it is its culmination.

The Father's voice says to the disciples "Listen to him!" And that is a message to us too. We should listen to the words of Jesus. Yes, listen even when he says things that are hard to understand or which we don't like the sound of. Listen because his word is reliable. He told the disciples everything that would happen and it came to pass just as he said.

So as Lent begins this week let us make time to listen to Jesus and meditate on his words "as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in our hearts" (2 Peter 1: 19b).

Prayer Ministry

Julie will be at the front after the service for those wishing private prayer
Prayers offered will include all those named in this News Sheet.

**We are here as God's family to draw closer to God,
to live out our faith and welcome all into the love of God.**

February

Sunday 15th	10:30	Sunday before Lent: Holy Communion
Tuesday 17th	12-2	Soup 'n' Sandwich at the Rising Sun
Wednesday 18th	7:30	Ash Wednesday evening service
Thursday 19th	9:30	Bible Study on Zoom
Sunday 22nd	10:30	First Sunday in Lent: Family Service
Monday 23rd	2:00	Ecumenical Lent Bible Study at Aley Green Methodist Church

*Saturday
28th
10 - Noon*



*St. Andrew's Community Coffee Morning
Drop in for Tea, Coffee & Good Company!*

March

Sunday 1st	10:30	Second Sunday in Lent: Informal Communion
Monay 2nd	2:00	Ecumenical Lent Bible Study at Aley Green Methodist Church
Wednesday 4th	10:30 7:30	Little Stars, Doors open at 10 Evening prayer
Friday 6th	2:00	We are hosting the World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Event "I will give you rest, come."

Access St Andrew's Sunday Services on Zoom!

Enter the number 878 5926 2657 passcode 664663 or by linking to
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87859262657?pwd=dTdad291VDk2anA5aGtmdnFCN3kzQT09>
The link will remain open after Sunday services so those on Zoom can chat!

Thursday Bible Studies may be accessed on Zoom tooo!

Enter the number 589 233 412 passcode 090636 or link to
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/589233412?pwd=d1lL0E2Y0w4dDdpUXITR0pHcGdSQT09>

Practical help for the Community



Azalea thanks us for food, toiletries, cash, gift aided donations, etc.
 They regularly collect our items, all gratefully received, particularly the warm gloves and mittens we have given them at this chilly time!

We drop off food to the Foodbank monthly.



They express gratitude for our deliveries and our financial & Gift Aided donations: needs are greater than ever. Next drop off 24th February.

So, before you leave home for church, 'Grab a Tin & bring i'tin!'

NB: If you wish to contribute, pick up a copy of the Food Bank 'Advent Calendar' from the back of church, which lists seasonal items to donate throughout the year.

Recycle it!

**Please drop your Medication Blister Packs
at the back of church for Sue Lyons to take for recycling.**

Contacts @ St Andrew's	Lay Readers	Julie Taylor 07841 482119 Richard Palmer 07904 152674	Church Warden	Tony Smith 07976 830906
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