

Hello everyone,

Two weeks of readings and notices for you this week as the Woodfield Team office will be closed from 22nd February to 2nd March for leave. Please direct any urgent enquiries to Rev'd Rick Tett: woodfieldteamvicar@gmail.com or 01530 610235.

Please continue to pray for reconciliation where there is division, calm where there is unrest, and peace where there is conflict, both in the wider world and in the hearts and minds of so many people heavy laden with worries and troubles at this time.



Upcoming services:

On Sunday 23rd February we have Holy Communion at Measham, Packington, and Donisthorpe, and Morning Prayer at Appleby, all at 10.00am.

On Sunday 2nd March there will be 10.00am services of Morning Prayer at Donisthorpe, Normanton, and Swepstone, Holy Communion at Measham and Snarestone, and Breakfast Church at Packington.

Looking ahead:

Midweek Communion will be at Donisthorpe on Wednesday 26th at 10.00am.

There are also Coffee Mornings on Wednesday 26th from 10.00am to 12.00noon in both Packington Church and Appleby Church Hall.

Activeage meet again at 11.00am in Measham Church Hall each Wednesday.

Kids' Kingdom Baby & Toddlers meet on Thursdays from 9.00am to 11.00am in Appleby Church Hall.

On Friday 28th February from 12.30 to 2.00pm in church, Donisthorpe have Lunch Light, a monthly get together to support those bereaved, whether recently or not. Come for a chat, company, support and lunch.

On Ash Wednesday (5th March) there will be services at Appleby at 10.00am, Measham at 7.00pm and Donisthorpe at 7.30pm.

Further ahead, Measham have a Coffee Morning in the Church Hall on Saturday 8th March from 10.00am to 12.00noon.

On Sunday 9th March we have services of Morning Prayer at Measham, Morning Worship at Packington, Holy Communion with Kids Kingdom at Appleby, and a Baptism at Donisthorpe, all at 10.00am.

Woodfield Team prayer

God our Father, you long to draw all people into your love.

Increase in number your church throughout the Woodfield Team; deepen us as followers and learners of Christ; and give us courage to share the good news of your kingdom.

We pray this in the power of your Spirit, to the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Collect for Sunday 23rd February - the Second Sunday before Lent

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Reading for 23rd February - Luke 8.22-25 New International Version (UK)



Jesus calms the storm

²² One day Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Let us go over to the other side of the lake.’ So they got into a boat and set out. ²³ As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger.

²⁴ The disciples went and woke him, saying, ‘Master, Master, we’re going to drown!’

He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. ²⁵ ‘Where is your faith?’ he asked his disciples.

In fear and amazement they asked one another, ‘Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.’

Collect for Sunday 2nd March - the Sunday next before Lent

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness
and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Reading for 2nd March - Luke 9.28-36 New International Version (UK)



The transfiguration

²⁸ About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. ²⁹ As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰ Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendour, talking with Jesus. ³¹ They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfilment at Jerusalem. ³² Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. ³³ As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, ‘Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters - one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ (He did not know what he was saying.)

³⁴ While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ A voice came from the cloud, saying, ‘This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.’ ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

Prayers for today:

We pray:

Eternal Lord, you are our creator and sustainer. We bring before you the needs of our church, our world, our communities, and ourselves:

- Holy God, sometimes our lives are so full of worries that we forget how you look after us through every aspect of our lives. When our worries begin to spiral out of control, help us turn them into a conversation with you, confident that you will calm our anxiety and give us hope for the future.
- Gracious God, we pray for your church, and the churches in our local community asking that there will be a growing desire to get together. We give you thanks for those who come up with fresh ways of making your name known to the wider community.
- Mighty God, we pray for peace in our world. May all lands that suffer violence and injustice find peace and reconciliation. We pray for the peoples of the world and all who offer their services in the leadership of the affairs of the world that they may uphold what is right and good. We pray particularly at this time for peace in all places where there is violence, war and terrorism.
- Father God, we thank you for the joy of human love, and for all those among whom we live and work. We pray particularly for loved ones for whom we are worried whether about their health, or circumstances, or life direction. We pray for those among our friends and families who do not know you, or whose faith has been shaken.

- Loving God, we pray for all who bear the burdens of pain, bereavement, worry and depression. We pray for those whose illness stems from anxiety. We pray that they may have an awareness of your presence and an understanding that you are bearing those burdens with them and always working towards their healing and wholeness.
- Merciful God, through your love and mercy you turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life. Comfort those who grieve in their sorrow and those who are worried about how they will cope on their own; reassure them that you will never leave them to carry the burdens of life unaided.
- Everlasting God, we ask you to lead us into the coming week. Help us to believe that you are close by us, protecting us from the storms we face and transforming our lives in love.

Amen.