

The Marden Vale Team Ministry
Christ Church, Derry Hill – St. John the Baptist, Foxham – St. Martin, Bremhill
Sunday 11th October – Trinity 18

Today's service:

10am Parish Eucharist - Christ Church, Derry Hill

Also this week:

Private prayer at Christ Church, Derry Hill;

Thu 15th - Sat 17th Oct 10am - 4pm

Church - 4 people at any one time

The church porch will be open Tue 13th and Wed 14th 10am-4pm (1 person or household)

See our COVID-19 [Worship FAQs](#) here

Also available:

8.10am Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4 with the Bishop of Llandaff from Ewenny Priory and Ewenny Pottery

9am [Church of England online](#)

1.15pm Songs of Praise on BBC1 from Styal women's prison

Bells

Tune in to 'Bells on Sunday' from St Peter's South Petherton, Somerset on Radio 4 at 5.43am. Or listen later online

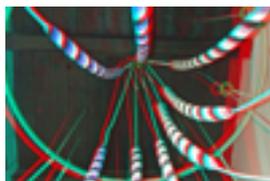


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Forthcoming Services

18th Oct 10am Morning Prayer at St John the Baptist, Foxham

25th Oct 10am Morning Prayer with Baptism at Christ Church, Derry Hill

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

We were unable to hold the scheduled APCMs at Bremhill and Foxham due to the lockdown restrictions. It is now planned to hold the APCM for

Foxham in church on Sunday 18th October after the 10am service

Bremhill via Zoom on Tuesday 20th October at 7.30pm.

If you would like to serve as a member of the PCC, Deanery Synod or as Church Warden please contact the PCC Secretary for the relevant forms:

Foxham PCC Jenny Wilton 01249 740279
Bremhill PCC Thelma Cox
thelmacox46@outlook.com

Keeping in touch

Website www.mardenvale.org.uk

Derry Hill's [Facebook page](#)

Contact Linda on 01249 817926

email lindac@mardenvale.org.uk

Prayer Join the Church of England Daily Prayer by visiting our website: www.mardenvale.org.uk and clicking on 'Pray' on the top line.

In the coming week please also pray for:

- all those affected by storm, flood and fire
- the people of Lebanon in the wake of another explosion, and Belarus as unrest continues
- the ceasefire between Armenia and Azerbaijan
- all who are affected by coronavirus, for all who work on the frontline to keep us safe, to help the sick, to keep us fed...
- those who are anxious, exhausted, isolated. May those whose mental health is fragile be able to access the counselling, medication and support they need
- our local schools: for staff, children and parents
- local shops and businesses
- Kingston House residents and all who work there
- Lucy Ayles (YWAM) as she leads & teaches at Discipleship Training School
- the work of Christian Aid
- our brothers and sisters in Sudan & South Sudan; in Yemen
- all who are sick, awaiting diagnosis, those in hospital. Especially we pray for: **Mark Steele, Christine Gundry, Mark Jennings, Lynne Cottrell, Rob Simons, Len Jones, Jacob Maloy, Paul Crayford, Jennifer Pope, Helen Lewis, Jackson Goodship, Jane Jordan, Angela Barker, Liz Kinch, Doreen Williams, Bill Norman, Brenda Beint, Sonia Strange, Barbara Starr, Liesl York,**
- All who have died in recent weeks, the bereaved, and all whose anniversary of death falls at this time.
- **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the Church of the Province of Uganda, and The Most Revd Stephen Samuel Kaziimba - Archbishop of Uganda & and Bishop of Kampala.

Light a Candle May I encourage you to continue this practice of praying, and lighting a candle and placing it in a window as a sign of hope each

Calne Food Bank is currently based at Church House, 30 Church St., Calne: 12-4pm Tue & Fri, 10am-1pm Wed
Visit [Calne Food Bank](#) for more information on how to donate

You can find out how to support your local church through the [Parish Giving Scheme](#)

**Readings for Trinity 18: Psalm 23 Isaiah 25:1-9
Philippians 4:1-9 Matthew 22:1-4**

Collect

God our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth
and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with confidence in the salvation which is given
through Jesus Christ our Lord

Isaiah 25:1-9

O Lord, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.
Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade
from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a
winter rainstorm,
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.
On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make
for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines
strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death for ever.
Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from
all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from
all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.
It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that
he might save us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Philippians 4:1-9

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and
long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this
way, my beloved.
I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same
mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal
companion, help these women, for they have struggled
beside me in the work of the gospel, together with
Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names
are in the book of life.
Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let
your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is
near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by
prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your
requests be made known to God. And the peace of
God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard
your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is
honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure,

whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there
is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of
praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the
things that you have learned and received and heard
and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying:
‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who
gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves
to call those who had been invited to the wedding
banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other
slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I
have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves
have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to
the wedding banquet.” But they made light of it and went
away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the
rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them.
The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed
those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to
his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were
not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite
everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” Those
slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom
they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was
filled with guests.
‘But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed
a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and
he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a
wedding robe?” And he was speechless. Then the king
said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and
throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be
weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are called,
but few are chosen.’

Reflection

In today’s Gospel reading we find the third parable which
Jesus addresses to the religious leaders; those who
continue to challenge and try to discredit his teaching.
We see in this parable God’s invitation to his Son’s
wedding feast extended to everyone in the wake of
rejection by those whom God has called to be his own.
Contained within this parable is an additional story of the
guest who attends but is not wearing a wedding robe.
This is not an issue of style or etiquette; this is a
question of heart and mind. As St. Augustine put it:
“the garment that is required is in the heart not on the
body.” Why do *you* think the guest was speechless?
Jesus clearly holds out a vision of the Kingdom of God
where all are welcome, where each person is seen as a
beloved child of God and not in terms of the distinctions
so often applied by humanity. If we take our place at
God’s table, we too must treat others with the respect,
love and compassion that God lavishes on us. St. Paul
speaks of putting on Christ (Romans 13:14) and clothing
ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility...love
(Colossians 3:12-14). These themes of extravagant
grace living in Christ are echoed in the readings from
Isaiah and Philippians.
The parables do not always make for a comforting read;
they are meant to disturb, to prompt serious reflection
and to lead to action. Will you put on the garment of
Christ and accept God’s invitation to the wedding feast?

A couple of tracks to accompany the readings:
[‘In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful’](#) (Philippians)
and a version of the [23rd Psalm](#)

