

The Marden Vale Team Ministry
Christ Church, Derry Hill – St. John the Baptist, Foxham – St. Martin, Bremhill
Sunday 13th June – Trinity 2 (Proper 6)

Today's Services in the Marden Vale Team
Christ Church, Derry Hill - 10am Eucharist
Zoom Evening Prayer at 6pm

To book a place (**by 6pm Saturday please**) or to obtain the Zoom link please email:

lindac@mardenvale.org.uk

Next Sunday:

St. Martin's, Bremhill- 10am Eucharist
St. John the Baptist, Foxham- 6pm Patronal Service

Private Prayer in church this week:
Derry Hill The to Sat 9am-4pm Sun 12-4pm
Bremhill Daily 9am-4pm
(1 person or household at a time)

Calne Food Bank

Open 12-4pm Tue & Fri, 10am-1pm Wed at:

4A Mill Street (previously Marden Cafe)
Calne, SN11 8DP

Website: <https://www.calnefoodbank.co.uk/>
Tel: 07752 213029 Email: calnefoodbank@gmail.com

Giving

You can find out how to support your local church on our [Giving](#) page.

QR Codes are available for Christ Church, Derry Hill for one-off donations or regular giving. This facility will soon be available for Bremhill and Foxham.

#Givethanks Coronavirus Appeal

Salisbury Diocese is partnering with Christian Aid to help people give thanks for their Covid-19 vaccine and help others in crisis across the world. The idea is to give people in our Diocese an opportunity to pass on the sense of relief and blessing at being vaccinated by making a donation to Christian Aid's #Givethanks Coronavirus Appeal. More details [here](#)

Or you may wish to participate in the [vaccinaid.org](https://www.vaccinaid.org) campaign with Unicef and Crowdfunder, which is seeking to help provide more than 2.5 billion vaccines worldwide. Donations can be made directly, or communities can set up local fundraisers to contribute together.

Keeping in touch Contact Linda 01249 817926 or email lindac@mardenvale.org.uk
Website www.mardenvale.org.uk
Derry Hill's [Facebook page](#)

Also available:

8.10am Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4

9am [Church of England online](#)

1.15pm BBC2 Songs of Praise - Durham Pilgrimage

'**Bells on Sunday**' on Radio 4 at 5.43am

Or listen later [online](#) from Durham Cathedral

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 who are affected by coronavirus, all who work on the frontline to keep us safe, to help the sick, to keep us fed... Pray for the people of India and other regions where infections are rising, the people of Peru, for those struggling to find food in Cambodia's Covid red zone
- the vaccination programme in every nation
- all those affected by storm, flood, fire and earthquake...
- shelter for the homeless and rough sleepers
- fighting to cease and peace to prevail in all the places in the world marked by conflict and violence
- those who are anxious, exhausted, isolated. May those whose mental health is fragile be able to access counselling, medication and support
- our schools, for all the children and staff
- local shops and businesses
- Kingston House residents and all who work there
- Lucy Ayles in her work with YWAM, offering assistance with the vaccination programme in Papua New Guinea
- the work of Christian Aid
- our brothers and sisters in Sudan & South Sudan.
- 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, Helen Lewis, Jackson Goodship, Jane Jordan, Angela Barker, Liz Kinch, Doreen Williams, Bill Norman, Brenda Beint, Sonia Strange, Barbara Starr, Sarah Green, Rosemary George and Margaret Bell
- all who have died in recent weeks, remembering especially Richard Summers, the bereaved, and all whose anniversary of death falls at this time.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion).

pray4G7

Pray for the G7 Summit, for wisdom and guidance as the leaders discuss the prevalent global issues in our society today. We pray for the softening of hearts; that these discussions bring protection to all living things, the environment, to those most vulnerable in our society.

Visit the Churches Together in Cornwall infoHub [here](#)

Readings for Trinity 2

Collect

Faithful Creator,
whose mercy never fails:
deepen our faithfulness to you
and to your living Word,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-end

It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord
and to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
To tell of your love early in the morning
and of your faithfulness in the night-time,
Upon the ten-stringed instrument, upon the harp,
and to the melody of the lyre.
For you, Lord, have made me glad by your acts,
and I sing aloud at the works of your hands.
The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.
Such as are planted in the house of the Lord
shall flourish in the courts of our God.
They shall still bear fruit in old age;
they shall be vigorous and in full leaf;
That they may show that the Lord is true;
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Thus says the Lord God:
I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.
I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.
On the mountain height of Israel
I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.
Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.
All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the Lord.
I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.
I the Lord have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.
For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.
From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Mark 4:26-34

Jesus said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.



To ponder...

Sometimes we are tempted to think that Jesus used parables to make it easier to understand the things he was talking about. If we see them simply as illustrations, we remain on the surface; the parables become comfortable, domesticated; a means to affirm our view and understanding of God.

What if Jesus used parables not to explain things, but to encourage us to explore more deeply? After all, the disciples had the benefit of deeper conversations with Jesus, away from the crowds.

What if parables are not about providing answers, but rather about giving us glimpses of the kingdom of God and helping us to discover the gift of mystery? What if parables work to engage our imagination so we begin to see the upside down, radical kingdom of God? What if we look deeper and see faith as gift, or as something that takes hold of us rather than as a result of our actions? What if we understand the mustard plant as an invasive weed that no one would plant in their field or garden?

If we don't give the parables a second glance because they are so familiar, perhaps we should try telling a parable.

The kingdom of God is like...?

