

March... in like a lion and out like a lamb – so they say!

I am not sure how much truth is in that saying but I have always been fascinated about the connections between this and the way we talk about God.

'Lion' and 'Lamb' are both images we use for Jesus. The Bible speaks of 'the Lion of Judah' which we see reflected in hymns and modern worship songs. CS Lewis gives us the story of Narnia where Aslan, the Lion, is killed on the stone table and then seen again. Death and Resurrection.

The 'Lamb of God' is used by John the Baptist about Jesus directly, the idea of sacrifice, the lamb given on behalf of others.

There is a gentleness about this image, hence with March it stands as the opposite to the roaring lion. This Lamb of God, this Jesus, is however not a helpless creature taken against his will, this is God who willingly gives himself as an offering for all.



The final Sunday this month takes us to Mothering Sunday, a good time to celebrate all who 'mother' others. A time also to celebrate the church family who 'mother' others and both of those a reflection of God's Love. God who is Lion and Lamb. God who willingly made the sacrifice necessary to 'mother' us, as Jesus shows us, God who longs to gather us to safety as a mother hen gathers her chicks, if only we are willing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Booker'.

The Venerable Alison Booker
Archdeacon of Oakham

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