

Bible Reading from the Old Testament

Genesis 28: verses 10 to 19a

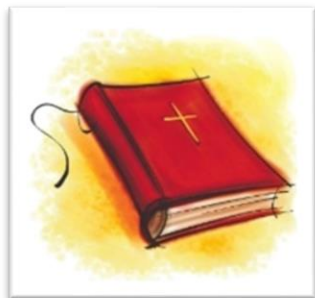
Jacob's Dream at Bethel

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



Bible Reading from the New Testament

Romans 8: verses 12 to 25

Life in the Spirit

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Future Glory

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13: verses 24 to 30 and 36 to 43

The Parable of Weeds among the Wheat

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." '

Jesus Explains the Parable of the Weeds

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Notices

Refreshments – everyone is welcome to join us for a cuppa and a biscuit at the back of the Church. A new rota until the end of September has been put on the notice board at the back of the Church. If you can help, please do sign up and thank you to all who continue to help!

Come and Join Us! From 21st June our beautiful church will be open every Wednesday from 1pm – 4pm to welcome you with refreshments, a chat or simply as a space for quiet reflection. Please pop in – we will be delighted to see you!

200 Club, Kirk Langley

Members' subscriptions are now due for 2023/24 and renewal letters will soon be distributed to existing members. The cost of membership is £15 per ticket and there are three draws each year – Harvest, Christmas and Easter - with prize money of £30, 1st place and £15, 2nd place. If you are not already a member and would like to join, please contact Michael Heap or Margaret Matthews for further information. Funds from the 200 Club help with the daily running costs of the Church.

Thank you!

A big thank you to all my used stamp collectors. Another 1KG of stamps have just been despatched in support of the Bone Cancer Research Trust. So far this year over £4,000 has been raised from selling used stamps!



Good luck and ENJOY!

St Michael's wishes all Y6 pupils every success as they leave our Primary School and move on to education elsewhere. We would like to thank all the Staff for their hard work and wish them, and their pupils, an enjoyable and well-deserved holiday.



Dates for your Diary

Next Sunday.....

30th July – Trinity 8 Holy Communion at 10:30am at All Saints' Mugginton

Contacts

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If you would like to include a notice in the pew sheet please contact Emma Jones at emvicjones@gmail.com

WELCOME TO ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH KIRK LANGLEY

Sunday 23rdth July 2023

Seventh Sunday after Trinity



The service today is Holy Communion

If you have a prayer request, please pass to the Church Warden.

Please take this leaflet home with you for reference.