

Sunday 2nd June 2024: Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

It has not been 'Ordinary Time' since 4th February when it was the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time.



StF 27 'Jesu, tawa panu' (Jesus, we are here) by Patrick Matsikenyiri (b 1937)

Opening Prayer

Think of the past week and say both 'thank you' and 'sorry' to our loving God.

Psalm set for today: Psalm 139 v 1 – 6, 13 – 18

StF 728 'O God, you search me and you know me' by Bernadette Farrell (b 1957)

To think about

Is there a phrase in the Psalm (or the hymn based on it) that particular strikes you? Carry it with you into the day, and into the week.

Old Testament reading set for today: 1 Samuel 3 v 1 – 10

Gospel Reading set for today: Mark 2 v 23 – 3 v 6

StF 90 H&P 514 'Sweet is the work, my God, my King' by Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748)

Message from a Circuit Friend

In this week's readings we are reminded time and time again that God is with us, he made us and we are his people. From Samuel, the Psalms, and the Gospel through to Paul's letter to the Corinthians. God calls us in various ways to do, and be, many different things at different times in our lives, age is no barrier, even though we sometimes think it is!!

Here is Samuel, a child, given into a life of serving God in the Temple, in thanksgiving by his mother Hannah as she was released from her barrenness. Samuel knew the workings of the Temple, and he was close to the Priest Eli, who was growing old, and so he was alert to Eli's needs. So, when God's call came in the night, Samuel naturally thought it was Eli calling. After a second time Eli realised that it was a call from God, so God opened Eli's eyes too calling and enabling him to give Samuel the help he needed to answer God's call. Of course this was just the beginning of Samuel's journey, God had so many plans for him, but it all started with Samuel responding to God's call.

The disciples were on their journey, having been called by Jesus to follow him. Paul, after his life changing moment on the Damascus Road, is fulfilling his commitment to serve, teaching others about the love of Jesus Christ who is all in all.

God's call comes sometimes when we are least expecting it – coming in many ways, like a fire whirling within us – or a still small voice, but just as persistent! We must be alert to God's call and listen to what he is calling us to do, then we can answer "Here I am Lord send me."

Dee Moden (Local Preacher and Member of Holt Methodist Church)

Prayers of Intercession

We pray for our world... for the church... for our communities... for our families & friends...

Offer to God your offertory for the week, and say the Lord's Prayer...

StF 449 H&P 699 'Lord of creation, to you be all praise' by Jack Winslow (1882 – 1974)

(Tune of 'Lord of all hopefulness')

May the blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us, and all those we love, this day and always, Amen.

Circuit News: Please pray for the **District Service at Little Walsingham** on this coming Saturday 8th June (2.30 pm) and the **Testimony Service for Rev Jonny at Holt** on the following Saturday 15th June (3 pm). All are welcome to either or both.