

**Sunday 8th September 2024:** Twenty fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
*For use by the Central Norfolk Circuit at 10.30 am or some other suitable time.*

**Theme for today is safety and security**

**Our call to worship:** We come to worship the Lord who surrounds us, does good to us, invites us to trust and reminds us to follow scripture to lead the life destined for us.

**Hymn: StF 105 'God is love: let heaven adore him'**

**Prayers of adoration and confession**

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

**Hymn: StF 256 'When I needed a neighbour?'**

**Readings: Psalm 125**

**James 2:1-10, 11-13, 14-17**

**To think about**

You may want to reflect on God's love and security for us and how we provide this for others including the poor. For we know those who provide for others have their own needs met in turn

**Message from a Circuit Friend**

We live in uncertain times; Do you ever worry about the future? A lot of people do. They are afraid of what might happen to them, their friends and families, their fortunes. They are afraid of what might happen to our world, our country and our communities. Whenever you feel unsettled or insecure, the readings for today are a great place to go.

Psalm 125 states 3 simple but profound truths: Those who trust in the Lord are safe and secure, those who trust in the Lord have a secure inheritance, and finally, those who trust in the Lord have a secure future.

We know the Lord surrounds us on every side like the mountains that surround Jerusalem, and you cannot get much safer than that!

So, we see what God provides for us but what about what we provide for ourselves and others? In our reading from James 2, we see how we need to behave in the Lord's name, we must not judge the poor for they are rich in faith and heirs, we should follow scripture as failure to keep one piece is failure to keep it all, I know from personal experience that I don't always behave the way I should, we all falter sometimes, people often assume God's people are good people but the Lord knows from the moment he created us that we were likely to fail, he gave Adam and Eve rules but they broke them and we continue to break rules even now. Yet God never deserts us, he provides for our safety and security and we must do the same for others. For we are all God's people and should live by example, even though it is damn hard to do so, as they say 'God loves a trier!' so we must try and try again, as Winston Churchill famously said 'never give in, never surrender', trust in the unfailing love, goodness and security God has provided for us now and evermore.

**Anna Hall (Local Preacher on trial and member of Gressenhall Methodist Church)**

**Hymn: StF 710 - 'Peace, perfect peace, is the gift from Christ our Lord'**

**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...**

**Hymn: StF 762 'Our father who art in heaven'**

**Closing blessing - We say together the Grace.**