

L-L WEEKLY

The Weekly Pewsheets of the Leith-Lyvennet Parishes

Christianity Explored

Christianity Explored is a course exploring the faith in a fresh, relevant way for new explorers and long-term Christians. It begins on Wednesday 5th October at 7.30 at Katharine Butterfield's house, Strickland Well, Great Strickland. Contact Katharine for more details: 01931 712052 or kmbutterfield@btinternet.com

Harvest Festivals

Bolton: Sunday 25th September @ 4.30pm, church

Thrimby: Sunday 25th September @ 6.30pm, church

Crosby Ravensworth: Thursday 6th October @ 2.00pm, village hall

Cliburn: Sunday 2nd October at 11.00am, church

Great Strickland: Sunday 2nd October @ 6.30am, church

Morland: Sunday 2nd October at 11.00am, church

Harvest Home

Harvest Celebration featuring the Crown Inn Singers, Newby End Farm, Saturday 1 October, 7.00pm. Tickets from Patti Dawson (714614) or Jean Scott (714640).



About Today...

We are continuing our year-long journey through the Gospel of Luke. Luke's Gospel was written to explain the Christian faith to non-Jewish readers, people who would not be familiar with the Jewish customs and backstory which are assumed in the gospels of Mark and Matthew. The author is believed to be Luke, a Greek doctor who had converted to Christianity, who is named as a companion of Paul in three of the New Testament letters attributed to Paul. His work shows that he was a careful historian and a cultured man. Luke follows a similar structure to the Gospels of Mark and Matthew in that Jesus' ministry is presented in two parts: the first part being the ministry in Galilee, the second part being his journey to Jerusalem where he is crucified and resurrected.

Today's episode comes in the second part, on the journey to Jerusalem set against a backdrop of his impending crucifixion. In the preceding chapters, Jesus has been drawing attention, through his teaching and his actions, to a dawning new reality in our midst - the kingdom of heaven is becoming a reality right now in the muck and mess of everyday life. In dining with tax-collectors and outcasts, in telling the story of the Lost Sheep, the Prodigal Son and the Unjust Steward, Jesus is already overturning the things of this world and substituting them with the greater reality of his kingdom, where the last shall be first and the first shall be last.

That theme is taken up very overtly in the parable Jesus tells the crowd today. The worldly fortunes of Lazarus and the rich man are reversed in his kingdom and Jesus' listeners, are challenged to choose which path we wish to follow. No further warnings are to be given, because in God's word, in Jesus' own life and death, and in the obvious plight of our fellow creatures, God's will is clear and our decisions or prevarication, our actions or omissions will determine our fortunes in Jesus' kingdom.



For your prayers

- Our local Health Hub being launched on Monday.
- Those preparing for confirmation, especially those from our Eden Live youth group.
- Those preparing for baptism, especially the family and godparents of George Wilson.
- Crosby Ravensworth school governors, meeting on Wednesday evening.
- Our plenary PCC meeting on Tuesday 4 October.
- The C of E Rural Affairs Group meeting on Wednesday 5 October.
- Those mourning, especially the family and friends of Paul Evans.

From our calendar of prayer:

- The Anglican Communion: The Church in Wales The Most Revd Dr Barry Morgan Archbishop of Wales & Bishop of Llandaff, clergy and people.
- This month we pray for Derwent Deanery: Lorton & Loweswater with Buttermere; St. Cuthbert, Lorton; St. Bartholomew, Loweswater with St. James Buttermere
- Bishop James, Celebrating 950 years St Michael & All Angels, Beetham. Bishop Robert, CCL Deacons' weekend; East Whitehaven Mission Community Launch Service, St Andrews Mirehouse, Whitehaven.

Today's readings

Amos 6.1a,4-7

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
the notables of the first of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel resorts!
⁴ Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory,
and lounge on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock,
and calves from the stall;
⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,
and like David improvise on instruments of music;
⁶ who drink wine from bowls,
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

Luke 16.19-31 (Jesus on the road to Jerusalem)

Jesus said, ¹⁹There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." ²⁵But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." ²⁷He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house— ²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." ²⁹Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." ³⁰He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." ³¹He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." '

