

Matthew 18.20 "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

Sunday 10th October 2021

Today's Bible Reading: *Hebrews 11.8-22 & Gen 11.27-12.9*

Reflection

Noah to Abraham...

People of Faith, as we are discovering, do not always have stories that are easy or nice. In our exploration of the story of Noah last Sunday we realised that the Sunday school version of animals going in two by two and ends in a rainbow, also has a darker side, one that we're rarely encouraged to examine. There are all those people who were overtaken by the flood and didn't survive. However we let this story speak to us of faith, salvation, God's nature, and us, there is one thing for sure, it wasn't simply a nice story of rescue. It is a story of deliverance - Noah saved enough people and animals to re-start the created animal and human world again. But it is far more – it is a story of deadly consequences, and that side of it has lived with me this week.

The consequences of our actions brings disaster upon us even now. Using our cars, running our household machines, eating meat, burning gas, oil, coal or wood, running the electricity, throwing things away, using plastics, buying imported foods and goods, all these things and more are damaging our planet. Maybe we just say to ourselves, 'well I can't live without', and in how our society is constructed it is difficult and at times impossible to not do these things but, where we can, let's be people of faith like Noah, treasuring God's word and caring for his world. Although, we're going to have to go one better than Noah and save plants as well.

As we approach COP26 let's personally commit to cut down, recycle and do without. Let's also pray our socks off for our leaders, the nations, the structure of our society, the regeneration of the world, for innovators and funding, for courage to meet the targets, for our beautiful world to be cherished. Use the Jamboard set up for prayer, come to 'Listen to God' on 27th Oct in church at 7.30pm, pray in your own time and with friends. However you can, pray for the world and for the COP26 decisions and commitments and the courage to implement those targets.

Amanda Bruce

Please pray for the families and friends of: Steph Jones and Jimmy Gillies who have recently died.

Please pray for: Joyce Angami, Margaret Quayle, Christine Burrige, Donald Gallagher, Maureen Mitchell, Viv Pierce, Sophie, Stan (Jean Robert's husband), Marg Houghton, John Metcalfe, Malcolm Molyneux, Finley, Eloise (parents Anna & Pete), Simon Hulme Headteacher of St Michael's school) and all those who are suffering with COVID-19, feeling vulnerable or self-isolating

Prayers for this week:

Sun 10th – World Mental Health Day - for all who are dealing with mental health challenges, and all who support them; for children and young people for their parents, teachers and therapists who can help, comfort and provide reassurance, pray also for older people dealing with mental health issues, that they would receive the help and support they need.

Mon... that God would protect our towns and cities from knife and gun crimes, and fill our streets with peace. For those who are mourning the loss of loved ones pray that God would draw close to them and bring them comfort. Pray that those who feel fearful or vulnerable instead be filled with hope

Tues... all victims of abuse, that God would surround them with His care and protect them, may they feel God's presence, peace and love. Pray for all who work to help victims of domestic violence, rape and assault, that God would give them the strength and courage as they seek to offer help and support.

Weds... Holy Communion service at St Luke's this morning.

Thurs...for all foodbanks, locally and nationally distributing supplies to those in need.

Fri... paramedics, emergency medical technicians, emergency care assistants and support staff in ambulance control rooms as they respond to each emergency.

Sat...World Food Day – promoting nutritious and safe food for all people. "Sovereign God, please unite the world to build better food systems for the future: providing affordable healthy diets for all and decent livelihoods for food workers; preserving natural resources and tackling challenges of climate change, conflicts and pandemics. Grant this in Jesus' name. Amen." Prayer from CARE (Christian Action Research & Education)

Our Sunday Service meet in the building (*Booking no longer required*) & online at 10am every week; www.stlukecrosby.org.uk , church [YouTube channel](#) by searching for stlukeschurchcrosby & church [Facebook](#) There are children's resources on www.stlukecrosby.org.uk/resources/

Freephone Dial-in Service - you can listen to the weekly Sunday service on the phone by ringing 0808 501 5040.

Mission focus for October is Samaritans Purse



Samaritan's Purse collects shoebox gifts filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items for children around the world. Since 1990, more than 178 million children in more than 150 countries have received an Operation Christmas Child (OCC) shoebox. The project delivers not only the joy of what, for many kids, is their first gift ever, but also gives them a tangible expression of God's love.

Shoeboxes are now available in church & in the office – leaflets inside each box explaining all you need to know, please remember no sweets, books with words or toothpaste please & please return by Sun 7 November – thanks.

Alternatively, boxes can be packed on-line – see <https://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/>

Prayer points for this week: “Now we're in October everything is ramping up with O.C.C so pray for the team as we facilitate this and pray for all those giving/donating and for those that will receive these gifts.”



St Luke's Day/Hall Celebration:

As we come to St Luke's Day on the 18th October this year, we will also recognise that our church hall is 50 years old! To mark both these dates, we will share **Evening Prayer and Afternoon Tea together in the Hall on Sunday 17th October starting at 4pm**. For catering reasons, I'd

ask you to book either online through the church [events page](#) or by calling the office on 0151 931 3119 and Gaynor will book you in. I look forward to seeing you then -
Amanda

Listen to God - COP26: At the beginning of November the COP 26 conference is running in Glasgow. We need to pray for this conference specifically, as well as for how we as a church are aiming for Carbon Zero operation. We are holding another Listen to God evening with regard to this important discussion and action, so please do come and pray for God's leading and wisdom for our world leaders, as well as our own church and individual responses: **27th October, 7.30pm in Crosby Room**.



RADIO 4 APPEAL FOR TANZANIA Sunday 31st October, 7.54am and 9.25pm



justice and hope for the forgotten

With former Blue Peter and current Songs Of Praise presenter Diane-Louise Jordan. Please tune in and tell your friends, neighbours, colleagues and family and help raise money for young women living on the streets of Tanzania. More information about the work of the Amos Trust and the Radio 4 appeal can be found [here](#)

Notices

St Luke's honey now available £4 a jar contact **Agnes Law on 0151 924 3448**

Sefton Afghan Appeal The sheer generosity of communities across Sefton has in fact been so overwhelming that all eight donation points are now at maximum capacity and can no longer receive clothing donations. Monetary donations are still being gratefully received and the Sefton Afghan Appeal online hub remains live for anyone who wishes to selflessly contribute to helping displaced families. Sefton Council, who together with the CVS had arranged the Afghan Appeal, were unable to take the very generously donated second-hand clothing and bath-towels from Sefton residents due to storage issues, however these items have been donated to SWACA. As you know, many young women escaping domestic abuse often leave their homes with just their young children in their arms to escape further harm. Their need for extra clothing and freshly-laundered bath towels is high. I'm sure you will agree that St. Luke's very generously donated items will meet the needs of SWACA service-users very well. In addition, any items not required are sold in their clothing charity shop on Knowsley Road. The shop turnover provides vital funds to maintain this vital service for the abused and vulnerable.

Many thanks **Jan Wilson**

The planet needs our prayers!



Visit the virtual prayer room and post a prayer for our planet! Spend some time wherever you are praying for the various aspects of the COP26 conference at the beginning of November. Join in with finding out




more about the conference, reading a short Bible verse, prayer activity, and then post your own prayer on the prayer pages. Please see the **Going Green** webpage [here](#) for more information. We are called to care for creation (Gen 2:15), to be good stewards of the land and to protect all of God's creatures, and to love our neighbour as ourselves – that means our global neighbours too. It is imperative that these global leaders make decisions which protect people not bank balances, to decide that no country will go into debt tackling climate change. It's a decade-defining opportunity to make a stand!

Chaplaincy calling: There are a couple of part-time paid roles and always volunteer roles available in the diocese for those who wish to get involved in hospital or prison chaplaincy. Whilst these roles are not currently available for volunteers due to Covid (clergy aren't even allowed into hospitals yet) they will be in a few months' time. If you would be interested then please let Amanda know and have a look at the Mission in the Economy site to learn more and maybe consider attending the Chaplaincy Today course - <https://mite.org.uk>


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