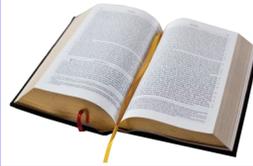


Sunday 10th April 2022

This week's service

Today's service for Palm Sunday is led by Debbie Patrick with Nigel Worth preaching

This week's reading



Matthew 21: 1-11

A thought from Nigel

Palm Sunday is a time when we look at the "Triumphal Entry" into Jerusalem. I find it amazing that on one day Jesus is celebrated, exalted, lifted up and treated as the King to be crowned, but, only a few days later that celebration comes crashing down.

I can see how I could get sucked into the swelling noise and growing emotion of the day and week. It's hard to fathom how these same people can completely turn around.

This week take time to explore and examine - How would you react in that situation? The excitement of Palm Sunday, all the way down to the foot of the cross a few days later.

In the busyness of the week ahead I would encourage you to read through Matthew 21: 1-11 and use this as preparation for what's about to happen, the Low and importantly the High!

A prayer for Ukraine

God of all, with alarm and concern we bring before you the military intervention in Ukraine.

In a world you made for peace and flourishing, we lament the use of armed force.

We mourn every casualty of this conflict, every precious life extinguished by war.

We pray comfort for those who grieve and those who are fearful.

Hear our longing that leaders and nations will honour the worth of all people by having the courage to resolve conflict through dialogue.

May all our human failings be transformed by your wonderful grace and goodness.

We ask this in the name of Christ, the author of peace and sustainer of Creation. Amen.

<https://urc.org.uk/your-faith/prayer-and-worship/praying-for-peace-in-ukraine/>

Who do we support?

Every month 10% of the money given to St Peter's church is shared between the following charities: Swadlincote & District Youth for Christ, Open Doors, Tear Fund, Swadlincote Food Bank, Care Fund & Family Fund.

The church can offer support to those experiencing financial hardship with emergency help from either the Care Fund or Family Fund.

For more information please have a word with Nigel or Deb Worth.

If you would like to make a donation to the Care Fund or Family Fund please place it in a marked envelope in the collection bag at the back of church.

Church diary for the next month

Sunday 17th April
Joint Easter service with Gresley at St Peter's Hartshorne

led by Nigel Worth with Rev Mike Firbank preaching

Sunday 24th April
10:45 Morning Worship

led by Sandra O'Toole with Debbie Patrick preaching

Sunday 1st May
10:45 Holy Communion

with Rev Mike Firbank

Sunday 8th May
10:45 Morning Worship

led by Debbie Patrick with Sandra O'Toole preaching

Sunday 15th May
10:45 Holy Communion

with Rev Mike Firbank

Sunday 22nd May
10:45 Morning Worship

led by Nigel Worth with Rev Bex Allpress preaching

Sunday 29th May
10am Joint Minster Service at Gresley Old Hall
Wholeness & Healing

Cleaning Rota

Please clean the church before the date marked. Please swap with someone else on the rota if you cannot clean during your week.

17th April	Val & Andy
24th April	Nige & Deb
1st May	Christine
8th May	Deb P & Alicia
15th May	Jane
22nd May	Bill
29th May	Val & Andy
5th June	Nige & Deb



Palm crosses

On Palm Sunday it is traditional to receive a handmade cross but have you ever wondered who makes them?

Masasi African palm crosses are hand-woven without chemical treatment of the trees or palm leaves. The

absence of chemical treatment protects the Masasi village environment and makes the palm crosses safe this Palm Sunday and their burnt ashes safe to use on next year's Ash Wednesday.

Poor in everything except spirit and African dwarf palm plants, the entire population of Masasi village find a role in hand-weaving Easter palm crosses from single strands of natural palm leaf.

Sourced entirely from a village in one exceptionally poor area of Southern Tanzania, African palm crosses are woven in one piece by the men, women and children of the Masasi village. Harvested from locally grown and nurtured dwarf African palms, hand-woven crosses give the villagers a life-line income.

Farming on a subsistence level, only the sale of their few surplus cashew nuts offers the villagers any hope of even the most basic levels of health care and education. When in 1965, Anglican missionary Alan Talbot founded the charity African Palm Crosses, the farming families of Masasi found the opportunity to lift themselves above the poverty line.

Weaving the strips of locally grown palm fronds into perfectly formed palm crosses, the villagers turned an ancient handicraft into a self-help opportunity to invest in the future health and education of their village. Through their distribution network 'African Palms', the proceeds from Masasi palm crosses are re-invested to meet basic needs and services that the developed world takes for granted.

Proceeds from African Palm Crosses are invested in children's eye clinics, improved seed stocks, HIV Awareness, water resources and environmental conservation.

Through these programmes, funded in part by African palm crosses, the health and wellbeing of children & adults is a substantially improved. With the income and education from African palm crosses, villagers have the resources and knowledge to invest in their children's future and in protecting their environment.

Information from www.eden.co.uk