

SHARING JESUS – SERVING COMMUNITY

20TH SEPTEMBER 2026



A warm welcome to everyone here today - both visitors and regulars.

Our Harvest Communion Service this morning is led by our pastor, David Jewell and is followed by our Harvest Soup & Sweet lunch.

The readings today are: Psalm 65 v9-13 and Luke 12 v16-21

Our Pastor, David Jewell,
can be contacted on
07443 907454 if you would
like to speak to him or ask for
prayer - or you can speak to
any of the Deacons.

The **Duty Deacon** today will
be the person who read the
notices at the beginning of
the service.

If you wish to give money
before the Sunday service,
for work in and through this
church, the offertory plate is
on the entrance table. The
money will be blessed during
the service.

Thank you for your gifts.

Our **Charity of the Month**
for September - where we
donate the collection from
our *Communion Service* and
Come for a Cuppa - is
Christian Aid – Nepal Appeal

Please let **TRICIA** know of
items for the next **BULLETIN**
by Thursday 24th September
**Would you like your Bulletin
via email?**

Tell **Elizabeth** if you would
like yours sent to you.

Alison receives email
newsletters from the **URC**
and **BU**.

If you would like these
forwarded on to you, please
speak to her.

**NEED A LIFT TO CHURCH
OR ANY OF OUR ACTIVITIES?**

Contact: Alison on 844401,
Elizabeth on 733886,
or Tricia on 843481.



EVENTS THIS WEEK...

Monday: 7.30pm, Bible Study with David.

Tuesday: 7.30pm, Zoom Bible Study. Contact Alison.

Wednesday: 2pm-4pm, Knit & Natter.

Thursday: 2pm, Prayer Walk - or pray in chapel while we walk

Saturday: 2.30pm-4pm, Come for a Cuppa.

PASTOR'S VIEW: A few Christian believers love the Bible and enjoy studying it, but many struggle with it, which is perfectly understandable. One reason the Bible can sometimes feel confusing or contradictory is quite simple: the Hebrew people did not experience Scripture in the way we do. They didn't have a neatly bound Bible with chapter headings, verse numbers, footnotes and study guides. They heard Scripture read aloud, often repeatedly, until its stories, images and patterns became deeply familiar. Hebrew thinking was shaped by story. People listened for patterns, echoes and connections. Meaning came not simply from an individual sentence, but from how it fitted into the much bigger story of God and his people.

Take water. When Hebrew listeners heard about water, they might remember the waters of creation, the flood, the Red Sea or water flowing from the rock in the wilderness. Water could speak of chaos, judgement, rescue and new beginnings. The same was true of the wilderness. It was not simply an unpleasant, empty place. It spoke of testing, dependence on God and discovering who God is when our usual securities have disappeared. So when Jesus entered the wilderness for forty days, his hearers could recognise echoes of Israel's story. They also understood God's law as more than a cold legal code. It was instruction given within a covenant relationship. Its purpose was to shape a people who would live faithfully with God and one another.

Repetition mattered too. When something appeared again and again, it was not unnecessary padding. It was a signal: pay attention; this matters. Perhaps that gives us a helpful way of approaching Scripture ourselves. The Bible was not primarily written as a modern instruction manual or a collection of isolated verses. It tells the unfolding story of God seeking relationship with human beings who repeatedly get things wrong. So perhaps, alongside asking, 'What does this verse mean?', we should ask: 'Where does this fit into the bigger story? What does it remind me of? And what does it show me about the character of God?' The Bible is not simply a puzzle to solve. It is a story to enter – and ultimately a story that invites us to trust the God at its heart.

God bless you, David

...DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday, 27th September: Our *Service* at 11am will be led by Yvonne Stone.

Tuesday, 29th September: 7.30pm, *Zoom Bible Study*. Contact Alison.

Monday, 5th October: 10.30am, *Prayer & Coffee* in The Woodborough. Let Tricia know if you are coming so she can book the table.

Monday, 5th October: 7.30pm, *Bible Study* with David.

Wednesday, 7th October: 10.30am, *Mid-Week Service*.

Saturday, 31st October: 2.30pm-4pm, *Come for A Cuppa*.

Saturday, 21st November: 2pm, *Funeral Preparation Workshop*.