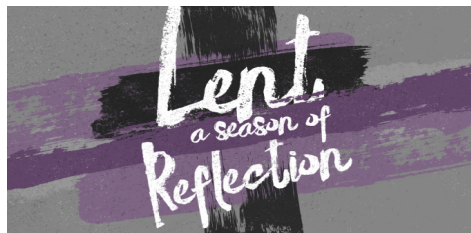




**THE WELLBEING JOURNEY** continues today. We are approaching wellbeing in a holistic way, covering the themes of mindset, our physical, emotional, spiritual, relational, financial and vocational wellbeing. This journey is part of our online services on Sundays (10.30am-11.15am) and our telephone service, with further options to apply the lessons on your own or in a group. You can catch up on all the service on Youtube - find the link below. Sign up to get updates and helpful materials for your journey by going onto our website: [www.denhamparish.church/events](http://www.denhamparish.church/events)



### LENT APPEAL

Samuel Kpagheri is one of our mission partners - he works with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Togo and West Africa. The bible in Ncam, the local language, to which Samuel contributed was completed in 2015. Alongside it runs a literacy programme. Many people do not have the resources to buy their own Bible in Ncam. This Lent, can you make a contribution towards free and subsidised Bibles? You can give online by using the QR code below or by putting an envelope (marked BIBLES) through the church office letter box. Thank you!



## PAROUSIA

Weekly News and Service Sheet  
7<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
The Third Sunday of Lent

**Welcome!** To protect one another and help fight the COVID pandemic we are not restarting services at St Mary's Church for the time being. But the life of our church is not being put on hold and God remains active in his world! This news and service sheet provides you with a simple service so you can worship at home. Please contact our church office if we can help in any way. *Christoph Lindner*

### ALL things come from YOU!

'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.' (Psalm 24.1) God appointed us as stewards (not owners) who must render our account to Him on how we managed all He entrusted to our care. According to John Stott, the dominion that God gave us is a co-operative and delegated responsibility, intended to express the same sustaining care of the created environment as its creator. Far from exploiting it (which the word *dominion* may sound like) we are to use it in such a way as to be accountable to God and to serve others.

God promised to supply our needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4.19). Do you have faith and confidence that God can supply all our needs? Our financial wellbeing is hinged on our faith in God which leads to contentment – for Godliness with contentment is great gain (1 Timothy 6:6). Contentment is finding joy in what God has given to you, a Christian grace that grows over time. Paul said, 'I have learnt to be content (Philippians 4:12). How did he learn it? Paul understood that Godliness is a God-centred life. It grows through the presence of our source – Jesus Christ. Celebrating the fact that God is the owner of everything and that we are his Stewards is crucial if we are to start enjoying internal freedom from fear and worry. Robert Morris says, 'When you truly deep down, acknowledge that it's all God's anyway, you'll finally experience release from the crushing burden of thinking you have to hoard everything that comes your way.' Remember how people went into panic buying at the beginning of this pandemic? How long did their stuff last? Our financial wellbeing suffers when we turn away from our source and activate our self-help-mode, thinking we can help ourselves.

Sometimes we willingly apply God's message to some areas of our lives but resist applying it to others. For example, we may be open to God about our future but closed concerning how we spend our money. We may respond like good soil to God's demand for worship but respond like rocky soil to give to people in need. To some people, God has no business with their finances, nor what they do on social media etc. God wants us to surrender our lives totally so that we can experience life in its fullness. It is only then that we can say 'all I have needed thy hands has provided, great is your faithfulness, Lord unto me.'

*Nnamdi Maduka*

### SUNDAY WORSHIP: ON SITE

#### St Mary's Church:

*During the renewed lockdown there will be no services at St Mary's Church.*

**Online: Sundays 10.30am**  
Stream any time afterwards:  
[tinyurl.com/youtube-denham](http://tinyurl.com/youtube-denham)



### ONLINE AND ON THE PHONE

#### Church Coffee Online:

Sundays, 11.15 on our Youtube channel.  
[tinyurl.com/youtube-denham](http://tinyurl.com/youtube-denham)

**Telephone:** Available any time for a week, Sun to Sat: **01895 714013**



### Let's pray together ...

- pray God would deepen our trust in him during this time of Lent.
- For medical experts, politicians and public leaders – for wisdom, compassion and integrity.
- those who are sick and those suffering from bereavement, especially the family of Celia York, Paul Stapleton and Peter Kirwan.

### ONLINE DONATIONS



If you wish to make a donation to Denham Parish Church, please scan this code with the camera or QR app on your smartphone and follow instructions.

email: [office@denhamparish.church](mailto:office@denhamparish.church)

phone: 01895 832771

**STAY SAFE • STAY CONNECTED • STAY HOPEFUL**

## WELCOME

### PSALM 13

**How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?**

**How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?**

**Look on me and answer, LORD my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death, and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him," and my foes will rejoice when I fall.**

**But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation.**

**I will sing the LORD'S praise, for he has been good to me.**

### OPENING PRAYER

God, you rejoice with those who rejoice; you mourn with those who mourn, and you call us to do the same. Help us to come to you today with honesty and openness, sharing our sorrows and knowing your comfort. **Amen.**

### HYMN

**Christ, whose glory fills the skies,**  
Christ, the true, the only light,  
Sun of Righteousness arise,  
Triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn  
Unaccompanied by thee;  
Joyless is the day's return,  
Til thy mercy's beams I see,  
Til they inward light impart,  
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,  
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, radiance divine,  
Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day

### CONFESSION

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

### COLLECT

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN**

### BIBLE READING: Mark 4: 35-41

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead

calm. He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### REFLECTION (or read page 1)

### PRAYERS

O God our creator, whose good earth is entrusted to our care and delight and tenderness, we pray:

May those who sow in tears  
**reap with shouts of joy.**

For all who are in captivity to debt, whose lives are cramped by fear from which there is no turning except through abundant harvest.

May those who sow in tears  
**reap with shouts of joy.**

For all who depend on the earth for their daily food and fuel, whose forests are destroyed for the profits of a few.

May those who sow in tears  
**reap with shouts of joy.**

For all who labour in poverty, who are oppressed by unjust laws, who are banned for speaking the truth, who long for a harvest of justice.

May those who sow in tears  
**reap with shouts of joy.**

For all who are in captivity to greed and waste and boredom, whose harvest joy is choked with things they do not need.

May those who sow in tears  
**reap with shouts of joy.**

Turn us again from our captivity and restore our vision, that our mouth may

be filled with laughter and our tongue with singing. **Amen.**

*We pray the Lord's Prayer:*

**Our Father...**

### HYMN

**Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,**  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty,  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee.

### SENDING PRAYER

Thank you, gracious Father, for the space to be honest with you today. To you all hearts are open, from you no secrets are hidden, so may we continue to talk openly with you as we go from this place. Make us a people who listen to others, sharing their sorrows, and spreading your comfort. In the power of your Spirit, **Amen.**

### THE BLESSING

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

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