



NEWSWIRE: 25th July 2025



- Services on Sunday
 - Volunteer Week at Adventure Plus
 - St Leonard's church lighting
-

A message from Margaret

What happened to Jonah?

Those of you in St Leonard's might be wondering what happened to Jonah, as we left him on a cliffhanger two weeks ago, but we are moving on to the Apostle Paul's journeys on Sunday (Ok maybe it's just me!) At the end of Chapter 3 Jonah has told the people of Nineveh to repent of their evil ways, they have repented and God has forgiven them.

You might think it should be party time - that Jonah should be happy. But he's not. He's very angry that God has forgiven them. Jonah thought the people of Nineveh were not worth saving and deserved their fate. However, by way of a vine tree, a worm and a scorching east wind (go read chapter 4 for the full details) God shows Jonah that if he can care for the fate of a single vine tree how much more God cares for the lives of 120,000 people and their animals.

God is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in mercy. That message flows through the scriptures. (eg: Exodus 34:6, 2 Chronicles 30:9, Psalms 86, and 145, Joel 2). And if he cared about 120,000 Ninevites, how much more he cares about everyone else as well. So much that Jesus came and died to provide a way to forgiveness for all and a restored relationship with Him.

But what about us? What do we think about people who have done evil things? People who have hurt us badly or abused others. Do they deserve to rot in hell? Should they be excluded because of their past? Do we refuse to welcome some people in our church because of what they have done, even those who repent and turn to God?

As Jonah found, it's not easy being as compassionate with others as God is with us. All of us are sinners but the Good News is that all who ask are forgiven by God. And God is pro-active. He seeks us out like the shepherd after his lost sheep, like the father of the prodigal son. His love for us is beyond understanding.

The message of Jonah is that God loves everyone, even wicked people and that no-one is beyond the compassion and saving grace of God.

Do you need to hear this message for yourself, are there things you think cannot be forgiven?

Or is there anyone in your life that you could be more compassionate to this week?

Margaret Thornton

Collect for the sixth Sunday after Trinity

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

Readings: Acts 18:1-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's and live
streamed on [this link](#)

Reading: Acts 18:1-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11



If you have difficulties accessing the service on the livestream link above, please try accessing [our youtube channel](#) directly.

4pm - Evening Prayer at St Peter's

Readings: Acts 18:1-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Please note the change of time for this service

NEXT WEEK

Monday 28th July

Bump to One meet on Mondays from 10.30am to midday in St Leonard's

Wednesday 30th July

Warm Welcome Wednesday from 10.30am to midday in St Leonard's church.

Please note - Warm Welcome Wednesday will be taking a break in August.

NEXT SUNDAY - 3rd August

9.30am - Holy Communion at St Peter's

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's

7pm - Revive at St Leonard's

Pat Vereker - We are saddened to inform you that Pat Vereker has recently died. Pat and John have been members of the St Peter's church family for many years. Pat's funeral will be held at St Peter's, with details to follow once arrangements have been finalised. Please pray for John and all of Pat's family and friends at this difficult time.

Church Lighting – Notice of Church Access Restrictions

The PCC has approved work to replace the existing church lighting with new LED lighting. Details of the new lighting are on display at the back of church and the following are links to those documents to read in your own time.

- [Church Lighting Overview \(Plan Statement\)](#)
- [Lighting Diagram \(Layout Drawing\)](#)
- [Explanatory Notes for the Diagram \(Diagram Key\)](#)

This work is planned to start on 8th Sept and the contractor has asked us to limit access to the church for 6 weeks.

This means that between 8th Sept and 17th Oct there will be no access to the inside of the church from 8am on Monday morning to 5pm on Friday evening.

Access on Saturday and Sunday is not affected and all our Sunday service will continue in church as normal.

Access to the bell tower through the porch has been agreed so bell ringing practice can continue on a Monday evening and a visiting team are ringing on the morning of 18th Sept.

Alternative arrangements are being made for Bump to One and Warm Welcome Wednesday to use the Church Hall during those weeks. Cleaning teams will not be able to get into the church mid-week during those weeks and we might need to arrange a one-off clean once the work is finished.

If you have any queries please contact Ken or Louise.

Want to make an impact with a local Christian Charity? Here's a new opportunity to make a practical difference at **AdventurePlus** over in Clanfield, by taking part in our volunteer week!

Ahead of the winter, we need to complete some essential site maintenance. This will include weather proofing the yurts, and painting the exterior of the conference building.

We'd be delighted if you were able to join our team of volunteers between the **15th - 19th September 2025**. It would be fantastic if you can join us for the full week, but if that's too much, why not join us for a couple days?

And whether you're local to A+ or live further afield, why not stay over in one of our A+ Yurts and experience the peace and quiet of the A+ Adventure Base; for free! You can have access to and use of the self catering kitchen and shower block, or why not use one of the BBQs for some outdoor cooking.

If you are interested and would like to find out more, please email volunteering@adventureplus.org.uk

Thank you from everyone at AdventurePlus.

Steve & Marian

A vibrant poster for Adventure Plus Volunteer Week. The background is orange with abstract geometric shapes in purple, red, and green. At the top, a black banner reads 'ADVENTURE PLUS'. Below it, 'Volunteer' is in large green letters, and 'Week' is in a white script font. The dates 'SEP 12TH - 19TH' are in black. Three speech bubbles contain text: a white one about supporting local charity, a purple one about free accommodation, and a blue one with contact information. Icons include a lightning bolt, a 'LOVE' tag, and a smiley face. At the bottom, several hands are shown in a fist-bump gesture. The Adventure Plus logo and registration details are at the bottom left and right respectively. A vertical URL is on the right side.

ADVENTURE PLUS

Volunteer Week

SEP 12TH - 19TH

Support your local charity with essential painting work on site!

Free overnight accommodation and self catering kitchen

Email Marian at Volunteering@adventureplus.uk to register interest or to get more info.

LOVE

WWW.ADVENTUREPLUS.UK

Registered Charity Number 1081059
Registered Company in England and Wales No. 397697

Adventure Plus
Inspiring the next generation

Please pray for:

- Dave following his move to a care home.
- Ben and healing for his mental health.
- Scarlett's recovery from long Covid.
- Katie suffering with epilepsy. Please pray that the right medication be found to control her seizures.

To add names to the prayer list, please contact the Church Office (stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com) Names will be added to the list by express permission, and only first names will be published.

www.stleonardseynsham.org.uk | www.stpeterschurchcassington.org | [Youtube channel](#) | [facebook page](#)

Church Office - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am – 2pm

Tel: 01865 883325 E-mail: stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com

Revd Duncan Fraser: 07810 324088 (Day off – Friday)

Please note - Duncan is on sabbatical until mid August 2025

GUEST PREACHERS

Whilst Duncan is away on sabbatical most preachers will be from our own preaching team, but you might want to add to your diary some special services and guest preachers coming up in the next three months:

St Leonard's

4 th May	Az Hobbs	Manager of CAP Debt Centre in Witney - focus on our Mission Partner Christians Against Poverty (CAP).
18 th May	Charlie Cleverly	Former Rector of St Aldate's, Oxford.
25 th May	Jon Cox	Founder and Director of Adventure Plus - Family friendly service with focus on our Mission Partner Adventure Plus.
15 th June	Graham Tomlin	President of St Mellitus College and Director of The Centre for Cultural Witness, former Bishop of Kensington.
6 th July	Bob Key	Former Vicar of St Leonards, Eynsham. (Carnival Sunday)
20 th July	David Tyler	Archdeacon of Dorchester area, former vicar of Hanborough.

St Peter's

1 st June	Stephen Pix	Associate Priest, St Mary's Woodstock
29 th June	Katie Jones	Associate Priest, St Mary's Woodstock
3 rd August	Andrew Bunch	Associate Priest, St Mary's Woodstock and Area Dean for Woodstock Deanery