

Words Of Light and Hope from Rev'd Judith Sweetman

Visiting Burgh next Aylsham church and churchyard recently, I came across an interesting, fairly modern, gravestone commemorating someone who had been an artist. On the front, above the name, was small drawing of an artist's palette and brushes. On the reverse, taking up much of the stone, were these words:



“The wonder of the world
The beauty and the power
The shape of things
Their colour, lights and shades
These I saw
Look ye also while life lasts “

Reflecting on these words later, I thought how each line, in its own right, could be used as a meditation, a prayer, a way to focus on, appreciate, and give thanks to God for the creation about us.

- ◆ The wonder, magnificence, awe and mystery of our world and universe...
- ◆ The beauty and power of nature's forces unleashed: wind, waves, fire...
- ◆ Shapes: the intricate patterns of snowflakes, the uniqueness of each face...
- ◆ The colour, lights and shades: leaves in sunlight, sunrise, sunset, clouds...

You would have your own thoughts or memories, payers or praise, prompted by each of these lines.

Most important of all, though, is the last line, with its passionate, urgent, persuasive plea to us: “Look ye also while life lasts”

This is a plea we should not ignore – a plea that we take not for granted all we have been given, all we can see, touch, feel, smell, taste, hear, through our God-given senses.

Whether our lives are short or long, whether we are young or old, whether we are able to get out and about or only enjoy nature through a window or by means of a television or radio programme, all these things are given to us, are there for our enjoyment, refreshment, renewal and delight. They open our eyes in contemplation to the beauty of our God and the beauty of God's creation.

Jesus came to bring us life, life in all its abundance.

When our time comes, will you, will I, be able to rejoice, as this artist did, and say, with the same overflowing heart of thankfulness and astonishment, “These I saw.”?



Pew Notes

Sunday 24th April (Second Sunday of Easter)

9am	Bylaugh	Matins
10.30am	Elsing	Word and Praise
10.00am	Reepham	Café Church (<i>Service starts at 10.30am</i>)
10.30am	Swannington	Holy Communion
10.30am	Sparham	Informal Communion

Whole Benefice APCM We will be holding our APCM at **Reepham Sixth Form College** this **Wednesday 27th April at 7pm**. Everyone is welcome as we reflect on 2021 and look forward to the year ahead.

Rachel Richmond is looking for sponsors as she walks the Walsingham Way in a few weeks time, to raise money for St Mary's Reepham. She hopes to complete the 30 mile walk in three days. The days will not be consecutive due to her caring responsibilities for her father, but hopefully one day a week for three weeks.

Sunday 1st May (Third Sunday of Easter)

9am	Salle	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	Reepham	Morning Worship
10.30am	Elsing	Holy Communion
10.30am	Weston Longville	Holy Communion
10.30am	Sparham	OASIS

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The Rev'd. Keith Rengert, 01603 879275 revdkeith@gmail.com

The Rev'd. Judith Sweetman, 07484862962 (*Friday to Sunday*)

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Email Annie parishofficerwv@gmail.com to submit articles or join the mailing list. **FACEBOOK:** Reepham & Wensum Valley Events

WEBSITE: www.reepham-and-wensum-valley-team-churches.org.uk

Pew Notes are available to download from the RWV website and the E-newsletter