

## Words of Light and Hope from Tony Hawes.

### Three Trees – Part 1.

Once upon a mountain top, three little trees stood and dreamed of what they wanted to become when they grew up. The first little tree looked up to the stars and said, "I want to hold treasure. I want to be covered with gold and precious stones. I'll be the most beautiful treasure chest in the world!" The second little tree looked out at the small stream trickling by on its way to the ocean. "I want to be travelling mighty waters and carrying powerful kings. I'll be the strongest ship in the world!" The third little tree looked down into the valley below where busy men and women worked in a busy town. "I don't want to leave the mountain top at all. I want to grow so tall that when people stop to look at me, they'll raise their eyes to heaven and think of God. I will be the tallest tree in the world!" Years passed. The rain came, the sun shone, and the little trees grew tall. One day three woodcutters climbed the mountain. The first woodcutter looked at the first tree and said, "This tree is beautiful. It is perfect for me." With a swoop of his shining axe, the first tree fell. "Now I shall be made into a beautiful chest, I shall hold wonderful treasure!" the first tree said. The second woodcutter looked at the next tree and said, "This tree is strong. It is perfect for me. With a swoop of his shining axe, the second tree fell. "Now I shall sail mighty waters. I shall be a strong ship for mighty kings!" thought the second tree. The third tree felt her heart sink when the last woodcutter looked her way. She stood straight and tall and pointed bravely to heaven. "Any tree will do for me," he muttered. With a swoop of his shining axe, the third tree fell.....  
(To be continued.)

Jesus the Master Carpenter, who, through wood and nails purchased our whole salvation – use well your tools in this workshop of yours, that we, who come rough-hewn, may here be fashioned to a truer beauty, by your hand. Amen.



REEPHAM & WENSUM VALLEY  
TEAM CHURCHES

# Pew Notes

**3rd May:** 2:30pm Jim Causley's, Afternoon Tea Concert,  
St Margaret', Swannington

**For more information on any events please see our website or Facebook page or contact Joy to be on our weekly newsletter.**

### Services for next week: Sunday 13th April 2025

9am Matins, St Andrew's, Thurning

10:30am Informal Palm Sunday service

at Gt Witchingham Village Hall

10:30am Holy Communion, St Mary's, Reepham

Email [parishofficerwv@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.reepham-and-wensum-valley-team-churches.org.uk)

**To contact the administrator Joy, please either email or call 07770672329.**

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

**If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact your Parish Safeguarding Officer. Details in the church porch or on the RWV website.**

**Isaiah 43:16-21**

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

**Psalms 126 *In convertendo***

1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.  
 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.  
 3 Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."  
 4 The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.  
 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negev.  
 6 Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.  
 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

**Philippians 3:4b-14**

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

**John 12:1-8**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

**The Collect** Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*