

Words of Light and Hope from Tony Foottit.

Heather - St. Andrew - 30th November.

On St. Andrew's Day our thoughts turn to Scotland, and so to heather. There are three heathers that occur in Britain – ling, the most common, bell heather and crossed-leaved heather. It is ling that clothes the mountains and moors in purple and makes Scotland so memorable a place. Purple or blue is the colour for Advent, reminding us of mountains and sky and so to look up from our enclosed little worlds. Heather is comfortable to lie on and was once used for mattresses and and thatch as well as fuel for the fire. We all look for companionship and peace of mind. There is a tradition that through Andrew's influence the gospel came to Scotland which is why he is Scotland's patron saint. We know from St. John's gospel that Andrew approached Jesus, and spent the day with him. It was Andrew who then introduced his brother Peter to Jesus. Invitation is still an excellent way to get others 'on board'. Jesus called Andrew from his fishing to become a fisher of men and to draw others into the network of God's love. Ling is occasionally white and is then a sign of luck. Christians believe in blessings rather than luck, but sometimes we receive unexpected blessings. The church is sometimes compared to a boat, a lifeboat and even to a train. Many people, including clergy, are fascinated by trains and railway journeys. During a journey some people may have, like Andrew, a brief encounter that changes the rest of their lives.....

From A Calendar of Wild Flowers (part),

Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Saint Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ and brought his brother with him: call us by your holy word, and give us grace to follow you without delay and to tell the good news of your kingdom; 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. Amen.



REEPHAM & WENSUM VALLEY
TEAM CHURCHES

Pew Notes

3rd– 7th December: Christmas Tree Festival, St Mary's, Reepham

9th December: 7pm Christmas Brass, All Saints, Weston Longville

19th December: 5pm & 7pm Lumos A Classical Christmas

Candlelight Experience, St Mary's, Reepham

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 7th December 2025

9am Holy Communion BCP, St Peter & St Paul's, Salle

10am Café Church (service at 10:30), St Michael's, Reepham

10:30am Holy Communion, All Saints, Weston Longville

Email 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

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:
<https://www.reepham-and-wensum-valley-team-churches.org.uk/>

Collect

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

Psalm 122

1 I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."
2 Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.
3 Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;
4 To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the LORD.
5 For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.
6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.
7 Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.
8 For my brethren and companions' sake, I pray for your prosperity.
9 Because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to do you good."

Romans 13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Post Communion

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.