

Words of Light and Hope from Muriel Rogers.

I slowly trudged across the rough grass on my way to the toilet block. It had been another long day but we had decided to try a new campsite for a change. Maybe that was not a good idea as it was much further to the toilets. Still, I was looking forward to having breakfast near Seljalandsfoss and then going for a walk behind the waterfall before heading off to the Markarfljót valley and Tindfjallajökull for another day's work. You will probably not have heard of any of these places but you may have heard of Eyjafjallajökull, the volcano in Iceland that in 2010 halted flights for over a week due to ash clouds. Eyjafjallajökull is just across the valley from where we were working. We were studying the rocks exposed on the flanks of Tindfjallajökull to learn about the ancient ice-sheets and glaciers at the time when the volcano erupted. Very little work has been done on this volcano so the only information available was anything we could read from the rocks as we slowly explored the valley. But I digress. On my way back from the toilet block, longing for my bed, I looked up. I don't know why I looked up but above me, the whole sky was a mass of green and white swirling lights, the aurora borealis, the northern lights. I hurried back to our campervan and settled myself comfortably on the side of the bed looking out of the window. I spent over an hour, watching the most unbelievable display until eventually my eyes refused to stay open any longer. It was gone midnight and we were heading back to the Markarfljót valley in the morning. We spend so much of our time trudging through our daily life. Maybe we should stop and look around us more, who knows what we might find? If I had not looked up I would have missed one of the most amazing sights of my life.



REEPHAM & WENSUM VALLEY
TEAM CHURCHES

Pew Notes

Services for next week:

Monday 21st September:

12 noon: Porch Prayers, St Michael's, Reepham

Sunday 27th September:

9am: Holy Communion, St Andrew's, Thurning

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

10:30am: Holy Communion, St Margaret's, Swannington

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

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Email: Revd Nigel: revd.nigelkinsella@gmail.com

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

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

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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.

Jonah 3:10

¹⁰ When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. ⁴ But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD and said, 'O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³ And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' ⁴ And the LORD said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶ The LORD God appointed a bush,^[a] and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.' ⁹ But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' ¹⁰ Then the LORD said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

Post Communion

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Philippians 1:21-30

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. ²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Matthew 20:1-16

²⁰ For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage,^[a] he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; ⁴ and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" ⁷ They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage.^[b] ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage.^[c] ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." ¹³ But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?"^[d] ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?"^[e] ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.^[f]