

Read John 12.20-33

Some Greeks have asked to speak to Jesus, aware of the buzz surrounding him. Their request is passed through several people before it gets to Jesus; but it does – no one is too much trouble for Jesus. Jesus then speaks about his death, using the image of a seed which must die in order to produce the fruit for which it is designed. He finishes by saying that all will be drawn to him – Greeks included!

A note on the passage:- The message – that Jesus (God) is not just for Jews or any other particular nation or religious group: all are welcome! – is radical enough. What makes it more so is that to make this possible, Jesus must die and rise again. Only after he is ‘lifted up’ on the cross are all people drawn to him. What might we need to give up so that others may feel welcome



LETgo

The disciples had to let go of a lot of their ideas about how things should be, in order to fully embrace Jesus’ ideas about God’s kingdom and those whom it fully embraces. All of us hold onto things that reinforce how we think things should be. Is there anything you can let go of as a symbol of being open to embrace all that God has for you? For example, maybe you could give away some money or sell a possession to support people in incredibly difficult situations – probably the people whom Jesus would choose to hang out with, if he were physically among us today.



Wesley Methodist Church

Minister: Revd. Josephine Soon 01384 821854

Link for on line worship

<https://www.valeofstour.org.uk/virtual-church/live/vosworship>

Newsletter: Sunday 21st March 2021

Weekly Hymn

Let us build a house where love can dwell
And all can safely live
A place where saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive
Built of hopes and dreams and visions
Rock of faith and vault of grace
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions

*All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place*

Let us build a house where love is found
In water, wine and wheat
A banquet hall on holy ground
Where peace and justice meet
Here the love of God, through Jesus
Is revealed in time and space
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us

*All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place*

Church Contact: Margaret Kite 01384 392310

As always, Stay safe God Bless

Wesley Church Council will meet on Zoom on Saturday 27th March at 3pm.

Annual General Meeting and Church Council will meet at Wesley (Covid requirements adhered to) On Friday 16th April 10.30am – all are welcome to attend this meeting.

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From Revd Alan Combs

Dear Sisters and Brothers

With a touch of Spring hope in the air we look forward to emerging once again into the light, although patience is perhaps the watchword of the moment... May you know that *'the Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. God is close to those who trust in him.'* Nahum 1:7

Let us together - trust in God.

Following last week's circuit meeting I bring various bits of news:

District Grants - God is With Us

We rejoiced in the meeting at hearing about the creativity and witness of the SIX God is with Us projects initiated across the circuit. News and pictures to follow soon!

Worship Plans

Whilst we clearly continue to be cautious, Churches will be making local decisions about opening, or not, for Holy Week and Easter. The longer term plan it to aim for churches to consider reopening more fully with an associated preaching plan from Pentecost - 23 May.

Staff News

I am delighted to report that Claire Biggs our Children and Families Worker and Martyn Filsak our Local Lay Pastor will be continuing their work and ministry amongst us as we seek to invest in the future of our churches and circuits. Meanwhile, not long after Easter, Rev Michael will be going on a well-earned sabbatical. We pray for him and Anita, that Covid will not stop their plans for a precious time of refreshing.

***Haiti Support**

We are also raising money to support vulnerable communities in Haiti through the Methodist relief and development agency - **All We Can**. They have an Emergency Coronavirus Appeal Eglise Methodiste d'Haiti.

Rev Josephine says an amazing thank you for the £445 that has already been raised... Donation can be made through the link below or by cheque payable to ALL WE CAN, via David Little. Thank you!

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/josephineam-soon>

God bless you all and stay safe.

Rev Alan Combes and the team

*This is Revd Josephine's Birthday charity - details differ from those available last week. Margaret Kite can still accept donations and will forward to David Little.