

St Mary, Whitegate and St Peter, Little Budworth

Readings for Sunday 25th October – Bible Sunday

Holy Communion or Morning Prayer

COLLECT:

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

PSALM: 119: 9-16

How shall young people cleanse their way ♦
to keep themselves according to your word?

With my whole heart have I sought you; ♦
O let me not go astray from your commandments.

Your words have I hidden within my heart, ♦
that I should not sin against you.

Blessed are you, O Lord; ♦
O teach me your statutes.

With my lips have I been telling ♦
of all the judgements of your mouth.

I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies ♦
than in all manner of riches.

I will meditate on your commandments ♦
and contemplate your ways.

My delight shall be in your statutes ♦
and I will not forget your word.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

As it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. AMEN

FIRST READING:

Nehemiah 8: 1-4,8-12

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel.

Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month.

He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiyah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hash-baddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand.

So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.

Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'

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So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, 'Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.' And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

SECOND READING:

Matthew 24: 30-35

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven" with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

POST COMMUNION:

God of all grace, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

1st November

St Mary's	9.30 am	Family service
St Peter's	11.00 am 6.30 pm	Family Service All Souls

WHO TO CONTACT UNTIL A NEW VICAR IS APPOINTED

General Enquiries – please contact the Church Wardens:

St Mary's - WHITEGATE

Anne Blayney 07815 713012

Sandra Paskin 07590 125791

St Peter's - LITTLE BUDWORTH

Steve Simpson 07810 893456

Anne Hall 07973 139304

For Weddings and Baptisms

Rev Jane Millinchip 07891 981293
revjanemillinchip@outlook.com

For Funerals

Rev Dr John Stopford 01606 558802
jstopford801@btinternet.com

AFTER THE SERVICE:

Please join us for refreshments. At St Mary's these are served in the Mews which is at the bottom of the steps leading to the village green. Toilets are available in the Mews.

At St Peter's refreshments are served in Church. There is a toilet at the back of the church.