

## St Mary, Whitegate and St Peter, Little Budworth

Readings for Sunday 26 July – James

### Holy Communion or Morning Prayer

#### COLLECT:

Merciful God, whose holy apostle Saint James, leaving his father and all that he had, was obedient to the calling of your Son Jesus Christ and followed him even to death:

help us, forsaking the false attractions of the world, to be ready at all times to answer your call without delay;

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.

#### PSALM: 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, ♦

**then were we like those who dream.**

Then was our mouth filled with laughter ♦

**and our tongue with songs of joy.**

Then said they among the nations, ♦

**'The Lord has done great things for them.'**

The Lord has indeed done great things for us, ♦

**and therefore we rejoiced.**

Restore again our fortunes, O Lord, ♦

**as the river beds of the desert.**

Those who sow in tears ♦

**shall reap with songs of joy.**

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed, ♦

**will come back with shouts of joy,**

**bearing their sheaves with them.**

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:

#### 2 Corinthians 4:7-15

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.

For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—'I believed, and so I spoke'—we also believe, and so we speak, <sup>14</sup>because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. <sup>15</sup>Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

## SECOND READING:

### Matthew 20: 20-28

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favour of him. And he said to her, 'What do you want?' She said to him, 'Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.'

But Jesus answered, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?' They said to him, 'We are able.' He said to them, 'You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.'

When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

## POST COMMUNION:

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> August**  
**This will be the Vicar's last Sunday**  
**before retirement**

St Peter's	10.30 am	Lammastide
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### 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 and there is a toilet at the back of church.

James HCMP 26.07.26