



THE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
IN TENTERDEN



Tenterden, St Michael's and Small Hythe
www.tenterdencofe.co.uk

CONNECT UP!
Number 17
Saturday 17th October 2020

WELCOME!

Our aim is to make God irresistible! We welcome the faithful, the seeker, the doubter, the hopeful, the troubled and the joyful. Come as you are, for God's embrace is wide! God is as he is in Jesus, and therefore we have hope!

The video edition of *Connect Up!*, together with some of our worship, is available on the following platforms. Please scroll down to find the times of worship in church and worship on the web.

Website

www.tenterdencofe.co.uk

Facebook

[\(The Church of England in Tenterden – Tenterden, St Michael's and Smallhythe\)](#)

You Tube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBAbfTcsSiiq4HALM0GRdWg>

WORSHIP

THE POINT OF THE PARABLE

Through today's reflective service, The Point of the Parable, we will spend the first part of Saturday in the company of the Wise and Foolish Virgins! Because the Ivy Court team will be administering flu jabs in St Mildred's, once again we will hold the service in Zion Baptist Church, by kind permission of Freddy, the minister there. The usual Lemon Tree breakfast will follow at 9.30am for those who wish to come.



SERVICES OF LIGHT

We would like to invite you to a Service of Light at St Mildred's Church in Tenterden, during which we will remember those who have died during the past year, together with others whose remembrance has been requested. Because we can accommodate only a limited number of people, we are holding four services this year:



**on Saturday 31st October at 2pm and 4pm
and on Sunday 1st November at 2pm and 4pm**

If you wish to come, please choose a service and then contact Karen (contact details below) to reserve a place or places, giving the number of people who will be attending, together with the name or names of the people you would like us to remember during the service.

TENTERDEN REMEMBERS 2020



Remembrance Sunday this year will be rather different. The Service of Remembrance in the High Street has attracted hundreds of people in each of the past few years. Clearly it will be impossible to hold a similar service safely this year.

Therefore, a Service of Remembrance, with a minimum number of invited people present, will be streamed from St Mildred's Church, on Remembrance Sunday at 10.45am. You will be able to view the service via the church website (www.tenterdencofe.co.uk). We hope to stream a similar service on Remembrance Day itself (11th November) at 10.55am.

An invitation-only Service of Remembrance will be held at St Michael's on Remembrance Sunday at 3pm. And the congregation of St John's will mark Remembrance Sunday at their morning service on that day.

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL!

The season of Advent begins on Sunday 29th November. We are anticipating Advent by two weeks so that we can squeeze in a series of six weekly Advent reflective services.



Based on the traditional hymn 'O come, O come Emmanuel', these services will provide the opportunity for a reality check: the reality of who we are and what our world is, the reality of our hopes and fears. They will encourage us to look afresh at the reality of Jesus, the One who comes and ask how much he is really a part of our lives.

We look forward at Advent, but the services will encourage us to look in other directions as well: to look around at those who are lost and alienated, at outcasts and refugees; to look within us and within the world; to look up to find hope and aspiration; to look with gratitude; and to look with the eyes of loving response as we meet with Christ, the One we long for, the One who we believe comes to meet our needs and those of our world. We are going to follow O Come, O Come, Emmanuel on six Saturday mornings, beginning on Saturday 14th November at 9am at St Mildred's. Each service will end by 9.30am and be followed by optional breakfast at the Lemon Tree.

ADVENT AT ST MILDRED'S



To enable as many people as possible to come to St Mildred's throughout Advent, we will be holding two services each Sunday. These will begin at 9.30am and 11am. We will still maintain our two alphabetical groups and alternate these between the two times on successive Sundays. In other words, keep your eyes on the publicity!

DAILY HOPE PHONE LINE

Today we draw your attention to the Daily Hope phone line. The Daily Hope phone line offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. And it's free!



SEVEN DAYS OF SERVICES

Here are details of our church services between now and the end of next week. First, we list the services in church, and then worship on the web.

Worship in Church

The St Mildred's Wi-Fi code is: 7cb8e63cde

Saturday 17th October

The Point of the Parable at St Mildred's (9am)
This week we reflect upon the Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins.



Sunday 18th October

Holy Communion at St Mildred's (8am)
The Eucharist at St Mildred's (M-Z) (9.30am)
The Eucharist at St Michael's (11am)
Holy Communion at St John's (11.15am)
Evensong at St Mildred's (6pm)

Monday 19th October – Friday 23rd October

Prayer During the Day at St Mildred's (9am)

Wednesday 21st October

Holy Communion at St Michael's (11am)

Thursday 22nd October

Holy Communion at St Mildred's (11am)

Saturday 24th October

The Point of the Parable at St Andrew's Parish Centre (9am)

Sunday 25th October

Holy Communion at St Mildred's (8am)
The Eucharist at St Mildred's (A-L) (9.30am)
Service of the Word at St Michael's (11am)
Holy Communion at St John's (11.15am)



Worship on the Web, Facebook and You Tube

Saturday 17th October

The Point of the Parable (from noon)
This week we reflect upon the Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins.
Ending with a Hymn (from 7pm)

Sunday 18th October

Night Prayer (from 7pm)

Monday 19th October – Friday 23rd October

Prayer During the Day (from noon)
Night Prayer (from 7pm)

Saturday 24th October

The Point of the Parable (from noon)

Sunday 25th October

Zoom Service (6pm)
Night Prayer (from 7pm)

EVENTS

10 x 10

10x10 is an online exploration of the Christian faith. Over time, we will cover a number of Christian themes. Each theme will consist of ten sessions, each of ten minutes in length - hence 10x10! The first ten sessions will focus on aspects of Christian belief. The next instalment of 10x10 will be on the website, You Tube and Facebook this coming Wednesday, when we think about the Creeds.

Here are the subsequent dates and titles:

28th October: The Bible
4th November: Prayer and Worship
11th November: The Sacraments
18th November: The Eucharist

10x10



THE FLU CREW!

Today, and next Saturday, from 8am until noon, a team from Ivy Court Surgery will occupy St Mildred's to administer flu jabs. The first two Saturdays went very well indeed. We are so pleased to have been able to help and enable the people of Tenterden to receive their vaccine.

ST MICHAEL'S ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS

St Michael's Annual Church Meetings will be held this coming Monday at 7pm in St Michael's Church.

FRIENDS OF ST MILDRED'S AGM

The 2020 Annual General Meeting of The Friends of St Mildred's (FOSM) will be held virtually via Zoom on Wednesday 28th October at 11.00 am. The Trustees took this decision because of virus concerns. They look forward to welcoming FOSM members to the event.



The Notice and Agenda for the Meeting together with the various supporting reports were sent to all FOSM Members either by email or hand delivery in mid-September. Members also can access their AGM papers by visiting the [FOSM website](#) and clicking on the link on the Home page.

In readiness for the AGM, the Home page now includes the required Zoom link to the Meeting. This will become live from 10.30am on Wednesday 28th October.

If you are unable to use Zoom and would like to exercise your vote, please contact the FOSM secretary Stephanie Marshall

smarshall1302@btinternet.com / 01580 763685

OTHER BITS AND PIECES

PEDAL POWER!



Somebody sent us this all-action photo of Geoffrey Davison in his Spider Man outfit, taking part in the Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Ride and Stride, narrowly ahead of Mrs Smith on her electric zimmer! Geoffrey raised the magnificent sum of £1026, which he has divided between the Friends of Kent Churches and Benenden, Rolvenden and Tenterden churches. Geoffrey thanks his sponsors very much indeed, and we say a huge 'well done' to Geoffrey. He truly is a Superhero!

OPEN THE BOOK



Here is a plea from St Michael's School. 'After six months of missing school, some children have fallen behind with their reading. We desperately need volunteers to sit and listen with a child. All safety and Covid security measures are in place and training and advice will be given. If you can spare the time, this will be much appreciated. Please ring 01580 763210 or email office@stmcep.school. Thank you!'

STREAMING FROM ST MILDRED'S

The St Mildred's streaming equipment is almost ready to fire up! All things being equal, we hope to launch the system by streaming the Service of Remembrance on Sunday 8th November at 10.45am.

If you have any concerns at all about the implications of streaming our worship, then please contact Lindsay as soon as possible.

DON'T FEEL BAD!

If you have had to withdraw from a particular church role or responsibility because of your concerns for your personal safety or because you are worried about passing the virus to family and friends, then please don't feel bad about this. We can usually find ways round these things and technology means that we can operate a mixed economy of face to face meetings and Zoom gatherings. We are blessed with some very conscientious people and we know they feel they are letting the side down – to which we respond, 'No, you are not!'

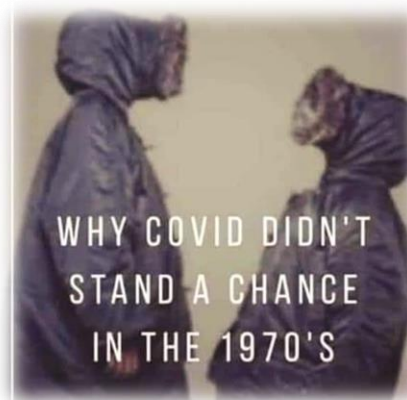
GET THE PICTURE!

Robert Abel sent us this lovely photo, and writes:

'Whilst mowing the grass yesterday, I noticed three butterflies on our buddleia. I rushed indoors, grabbed the I-pad and went back outside. No sign of them! Then a beautiful Red Admiral landed just in front of me (obviously a poser!). It cheered me no end.' And it cheers us too, Robert! Thank you for sending it.



And Jeanette has relayed two – slightly less cultured - images that she received. We also share some information about Kent Savers.



A composite advertisement for Kent Savers. On the left, a woman's face is shown against a blue background with the Kent Savers logo and text: "Kent Savers Fair loans. Safe saving. CREDIT UNIONS Non-Profit Community Lending Fair Credit For All!". On the right, a red lifebuoy is shown against a window with a view of the sea, with text: "Kent Savers Fair loans. Safe saving. EMERGENCY LOANS £300 to £500 www.kentsavers.co.uk info@kentsavers.co.uk Tel: 0333 321 9050 Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. reference number 503258".

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

St Luke

Tomorrow we celebrate the Feast of St Luke. Luke was a dear friend of the apostle Paul, and is mentioned by him three times in his Letters. Paul describes him as 'the beloved physician' and, in his second Letter to Timothy, as his only companion in prison. He is believed to be the author of two books of the New Testament, firstly the gospel which stands in his name and also the *Acts of the Apostles*. Luke's narrative of the life of Christ has a pictorial quality and shows the sequential pattern from the nativity through to the death and resurrection. The developed sense of theology that comes over in Paul's writings is virtually unknown in those of Luke but, as a Gentile, Luke makes clear that the good news of salvation is for all, regardless of sex, social position or nationality. Traditionally, Luke wrote his gospel in Greece and died in Boeotia at the age of eighty-four.

Reading: Luke 10.1-9

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."'

Reflection

Luke has a very particular take on mission as we see from his account of the mission of the 70, who are sent out in pairs to herald the kingdom. They are to provoke a sense of urgency and to show that God's kingdom comes with healing and peace to all who are willing to receive it. Jesus links the reception of the 70 with the reception of himself. To reject the messenger is to reject the Lord.

The placing of the mission of the 70 after the transfiguration shows that Luke links the emergence of the Church to the coming passion. Christian discipleship will always involve a measure of sacrifice. This is hard for us to wrestle with in a society where security is prized and easy access to material plenty is so often taken for granted.

But we should also take heart from this passage. Jesus trusts us with his message. We represent him in our ordinary lives and our day-to-day encounters.

There is also a call here to speak truth to all, including the complacent and indifferent. The kingdom is not only for Christians, and not all who call themselves Christians really get it. When nothing good seems to come out of our efforts and we are met with negativity, we are still called to demonstrate that the kingdom of God has come near.

Collect

Almighty God, you called Luke the physician, whose praise is in the gospel, to be an evangelist and physician of the soul: by the grace of the Spirit and through the wholesome medicine of the gospel, give your Church the same love and power to heal; 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.

FINALLY

YOU AND YOURS!

We are always keen to hear from you, so if you have anything you wish to share, please get in touch. We welcome your news, stories, photos, quizzes, and so on. We'd love to feature more of you in *Connect Up!*, so please send stuff in!

WAIT, WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS?

So glad you asked. Our mailing list is designed to keep you updated on worship, news, events, mission and ministry opportunities and ideas. If you do not want to receive this from us in the future, you can unsubscribe very easily. If that fails, do let us know.



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