

## The Stodden Churches Sunday Services in September/October

### **THIS SUNDAY: 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> September 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

9.15am Café Sunday @ Yelden Village Hall

10.30am Holy Communion (CW) @ Melchbourne

### **4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> September 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

9.00am Holy Communion (BCP) @ Swineshead

10.30am Harvest Festival Morning Prayer (CW) @ Dean

### **1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> October 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

9.00am Holy Communion (BCP) @ Melchbourne

10.30am All Age Communion with Baptism (CW) @ Yelden

### **2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> October 18<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

9.00am Holy Communion (BCP) @ Shelton

10.30am Holy Communion (CW) @ Pertenhall

6.00pm Harvest Festival Service @ Shelton

### **Deanery Quiet Day:** on the theme "The Kingdom of God" Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>

October 9.30am-3.30pm St. Owen's Church Bromham led by Rev. Nick

Munday and Jane Templeman. Cost £5, book 07966377108 or email

[n.j.munday@btinternet.com](mailto:n.j.munday@btinternet.com)

### **Deanery Rural Mission consultation:** An event specifically for all who

serve their local church in a rural setting, ordained or lay. Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup>

October 2023 10.30 to 3.30 (Coffee/Tea available from 10.00) Fellowship

Centre, Green Lane, Clapham MK41 6EP

### **VIRTUAL COLLECTION PLATE:** If you wish to be able to give.

electronically *here* are the Stodden Churches bank detail:

Stodden account number 10842168 sort code 20-74-81

### **DO MAKE USE OF OUR WEBSITE :** Our website is **THE STODDEN**

**CHURCHES.** There you will find service information.

### **The First Reading: Romans 14:1-12**

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only

## The Stodden Churches

### **Prayers and Readings for**

### **The 15<sup>h</sup> Sunday after Trinity 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

***Our Vision Statement:*** *As the Stodden Churches we seek to move forward together in love and service, sharing the good news of Christ with our neighbours.*

### **From the Stodden Villages please remember in your prayers:**

Annie Wallis, Sheila Holroyd, John Braga, Andy Langley, Steve and Nina Lemming, Rosemary Morgan, Tony McManus, Vi Beaman, Graham Osler.

*If someone would like a visit or a prayer tell Stephen, If someone would like a visit or a prayer tell Stephen (709740)*

### **The Collect for 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity:**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.**

### **The Psalm for the Week Psalm: 103:8-13**

**The Lord is merciful and gracious,**

**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

He will not always accuse,

nor will he keep his anger for ever.

**He does not deal with us according to our sins,**

**nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,

so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him;

**as far as the east is from the west,**

**so far he removes our transgressions from us.**

As a father has compassion for his children,

so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

*after the Psalm shall be said*

**Glory be 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.**

vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. <sup>5</sup> Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. <sup>7</sup> We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. <sup>10</sup> Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.'  
<sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

### **The Gospel Reading Matthew 18:21-35:**

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. <sup>23</sup> 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their

lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

**The Intercessions:** In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father through Christ the saviour of the world.

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus and his Cross, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For grace and peace to seek to forgive those who have hurt us in body, mind or spirit, and through prayer and the comfort of your Holy Spirit to love them.

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church Family throughout the World, that through the suffering of disunity and the willingness to forgive past hurts and misunderstandings there may grow a rich union in Christ,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in authority who make laws, interpret them and administer them, that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who resort to violence and oppression to dominate those weaker than themselves

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have the courage and honesty to work openly for justice and peace, remembering especially the people of the Ukraine and Russia

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in the darkness and agony of loneliness, that they may find support and encouragement from the Christian family that is the Church,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who, weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow, who need forgiveness and feel that God is far from them,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

That we, with those who have died knowing the forgiving love of Christ, may find mercy with him when we cross from this life into his paradise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

God of mercy, **you know us and love us and hear our prayer:**

**keep us in the eternal fellowship of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**