

Hello everyone,

This week, please pray for those parts of the world where it is dangerous, even forbidden to be a Christian and for those who are persecuted for their faith. We think especially of our Christian brothers and sisters in Syria following the recent devastating attack on a church in Damascus, who now fear they have no future in their home country and will be forced to flee.



### Services this week:

This Sunday there will be 10.00am services of Holy Communion at Measham and Normanton, Morning Prayer at Donisthorpe and Swebstone, Breakfast Church at Packington, and Baptism with Holy Communion at Snarestone.

### Looking ahead:

A quieter week this week:

Activeage is at 11.00am in Measham Church Hall on Wednesday.

Packington & Normanton Ladies Group meet in Packington church at 2.30pm on Wednesday to hear about 'Local Magistrates in the Community' with guest speaker.

Woodfield Singers meet every Thursday at 7.30pm in Swebstone Church Hall, all welcome.

Next Sunday (13<sup>th</sup> July) we have services of Holy Communion at Donisthorpe, Morning Worship at Packington, Celtic Morning Prayer at Measham, and Baptism with Holy Communion at Appleby, all at 10.00am.

### Woodfield Team prayer

*God our Father, you long to draw all people into your love.  
Increase in number your church throughout the Woodfield Team;  
deepen us as followers and learners of Christ;  
and give us courage to share the good news of your kingdom.  
We pray this in the power of your Spirit,  
to the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

## Collect for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July - The Third Sunday after Trinity

God our saviour,  
look on this wounded world  
in pity and in power;  
hold us fast to your promises of peace  
won for us by your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## Reading for 6<sup>th</sup> July - Luke 10.1-11, 16-20 New International Version (UK)



### Jesus sends out the seventy-two

<sup>10</sup> After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. <sup>2</sup> He told them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. <sup>3</sup> Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. <sup>4</sup> Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

<sup>5</sup> ‘When you enter a house, first say, “Peace to this house.” <sup>6</sup> If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

<sup>8</sup> ‘When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. <sup>9</sup> Heal those there who are ill and tell them, “The kingdom of God has come near to you.” <sup>10</sup> But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup> “Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: the kingdom of God has come near.”

<sup>16</sup> ‘Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me.’

<sup>17</sup> The seventy-two returned with joy and said, ‘Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.’

<sup>18</sup> He replied, ‘I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. <sup>19</sup> I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. <sup>20</sup> However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.’

## Prayers for today:

We pray:

Everlasting God, we make our prayers now for all people, everywhere, both close to us and far away:

- Holy God, thank you for your gift of faith: the faith that has enlightened and inspired people in all generations, and for making us part of your mission to love and redeem the world. We thank you especially for those whose faith and conviction have encouraged and equipped us in our journey. Embolden our hearts further to step out and put our faith into action, knowing that as we work and wait for your kingdom to come again, you are working with us and within us.
- Loving God, we pray for our church and for all those who live and work around us. We pray for the ongoing Minster Communities process, and for all those who are anxious and cannot see the way forward in this time of uncertainty and change.
- Gracious God, we pray for your church, and the churches in our local community asking that there will be a growing desire to get together. We give you thanks for those who come up with fresh ways of making your name known to the wider community.
- Creator God, we pray for the world, its peoples and leaders. Be with all those who live in places troubled by disaster and conflict. As we watch and read the news, we see the brokenness of our world and that, for many, life is more dangerous than ever before. We pray for the restoration and repairing of the world.
- We especially pray for our brothers and sisters around the globe, who face oppression and discrimination because of their faith, or who simply do not share the wealth and privileges we take for granted. Give them refuge under the shadow of your wings that they might have sustenance, shelter, and freedom from persecution.
- Merciful God we raise before you those we know and love who are ill or in need at this time, and we pray for all who care for them at home or in hospital.
- Gracious God, we pray for those who have died, especially those who have died recently, and for all who mourn their passing. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.
- Almighty God, we pray for ourselves; as we step out into the week ahead, we ask that in all we do we may walk more closely with you at our side.

**Amen.**