



**UNITED BENEFICE OF CORLEY
PARISH CHURCH & ST MARY & ALL
SAINTS CHURCH, FILLONGLEY WITH
FILLONGLEY METHODIST CHURCH**
Anglicans and Methodists in Unity.



Dear Friends,

I write these words with a great feeling of sadness as our beloved Vicar, Revd Ali continues to be unable to serve our Church communities for the foreseeable future. First and foremost, I am sure that you will join me and all the Benefice team in praying that Ali will soon regain her health and strength. If you are not necessarily in the habit of regular prayer, perhaps you will consider asking for God's blessing on Ali and her family and for her restoration to good health.

None of us knows what God has in store for us and how we will be asked to serve him and our neighbour, but at this time, we can all sit quietly and give thanks to God for having sent Revd Ali to serve amongst us during the last 18 months and to ask for healing and recovery from her current health issues.

Meanwhile, life in our two village communities continues and we are so grateful to everyone who is contributing in any way – be it large and small – to serving God in this place.

This weekend the Arts Festival – Stories of Change: Hope, Faith and Love - continues at Fillongley Church and a Flower Festival has also been mounted for the next two weekends. Do come along between 11 & 4pm on Friday or Saturday and 12noon & 4pm on Sunday to enjoy the festival and a catch-up with friends and visitors to the Church. The kettle will be on ready for your cuppa...☺
How good does that sound?

In difficult times, it is always good to turn to the Book of Psalms in the Bible. I hope that you will find the words of Psalm 42 helpful at this time:

¹ As the deer longs for streams of water, so I long for you, O God. ² I thirst for God, the living God. When can I go and stand before him? ³ Day and night I have only tears for food, while my enemies continually taunt me, saying, "Where is this God of yours?" ⁴ My heart is breaking as I remember how it used to be: I walked among the crowds of worshipers, leading a great procession to the house of God, singing for joy and giving thanks amid the sound of a great celebration! ⁵ Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again— my Saviour and ⁶ my God! Now I am deeply discouraged, but I will remember you—even from distant Mount Hermon, the source of the Jordan, from the land of Mount Mizar. I hear the tumult of the raging seas as your waves and surging tides sweep over me. ⁸ But each day the LORD pours his unfailing love upon me, and through each night I sing his songs, praying to God who gives me life. ⁹ "O God my rock," I cry, "Why have you forgotten me? Why must I wander around in grief, oppressed by my enemies?" ¹⁰ Their taunts break my bones. They scoff, "Where is this God of

Stop press
Services for
Sunday 12th September 2021
9:00am Fillongley
10:30am Corley
We still encourage you to
bring and wear a face
covering



yours?" ¹¹ *Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again— my Saviour and my God!*

If anyone is in need of extra help and support at this time, please continue to contact either Revd Jane or any of the Benefice team, whose contact details are at the end of this bulletin.

With every blessing to you all

Suzanne

Readings and Prayers for Sunday 12th September ~ Trinity 15

Collects

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**

Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings

Proverbs 1: vs 20-23

Psalm 19

James 3: vs 1-12

Mark 8: vs 27-end



Reflections

Attached to this bulletin you will find Reflections from Revd Ali and Revd Jane

HYMNS & WORSHIP SONGS

Here are the Hymns that we **WILL BE** singing in Church this Sunday:-

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness (StF34)

Spirit of the living God (StF395)

Here is bread, here is wine (StF 586)

Ye servants of God (StF 340)

And here is the link for you to sing along with the final hymn -

[Ye Servants of God hymn with lyrics - Bing video](#)

PRAYERS

We continue to pray for all those affected by the global pandemic in any way.

A Prayer after Communion

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



George Herbert's poem, LOVE, has been shared in this eBulletin previously but it is always worth a few moments to remind ourselves of these beautiful words

LOVE

Love bade me welcome; yet my soul drew back, guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack from my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning if I lack'd anything.
'A guest,' I answer'd, 'worthy to be here.'
Love said, 'You shall be he.'
'I, the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear, I cannot look on Thee.'
Love took my hand and smiling did reply, 'Who made the eyes but I?'
'Truth, Lord; but I have marr'd them: let my shame go where it doth deserve.'
'And know you not,' says Love, 'Who bore the blame?'
'My dear, then I will serve.'
'You must sit down,' says Love, 'and taste my meat.'
So I did sit and eat.

George Herbert, 1593-1632 Poet & Priest

A Prayer for Refugees

Almighty and merciful God, whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own; look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger, homeless and hungry.
Bless those who work to bring them relief; inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts; and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Poet's Corner

CHURCH TIMES 28 AUGUST 2020

The twilight before thunder falls puts *Malcolm Guite* in mind of *The Waste Land*

I WAS walking, once more, in the August heat, along that path
between the stubble field of harvested wheat and the stream of the



Granta. The farmer, I thought, must be glad to have got his crop safely in before the thunderstorms and rains that are surely coming.

All week, the tension had been building and, now, as I walked, foolishly, without a raincoat, I could see the dark clouds gathering and from almost all quarters the first low mutterings of thunder coming gradually closer. I was wary, for I was unprotected; but also relieved; for I longed for a break in the tension, the heat, and humidity, longed for the blessing of rain at last.

This strange tense twilight, before the lightning falls and the clouds open, always puts me in mind of the mysterious final section of *The Waste Land*, which Eliot titled, "What the Thunder said", and which resolves and transforms so much of the tension that builds throughout the poem.

I love the way in which the scenes shift in that section from the road to Emmaus, with its open question "Who is the third who walks always beside you?", to the Ganges and the Himalayas, when the muttering of the thunder becomes a Sanskrit sacred text, and the thunder stroke that we have been dreading turns out to be beneficent; for the thunder says "DA". And we hear it as "Datta. Dayadhvam. Damyata." — "Give, sympathise, control", as Eliot tells us in his notes. And, hearing that counsel, we can come at last to the peace and blessing with which that poem ends: "Shantih shantih shantih".

In a master stroke, Eliot, in his notes, takes us back from the Upanishads to the Book of Common Prayer, as he translates those final words as: "The peace which passeth understanding".

The little stream of the Granta is not the holy Ganges, but any path can be the road to Emmaus, and, listening to the thunder, I was taken out beyond the waste land and the Prayer Book to George Herbert's bold reversal of thunder itself, to his insight that sometimes, in prayer, it is not God, but we ourselves, who do the thundering, who must let our growing tensions finally leap out and resolve. So Herbert calls some kinds of prayer "reversed thunder".

When I came to write my own poem on that phrase of Herbert's, I sensed that the outer tension and release of a thunderstorm speaks directly into our own inner weather, and that there is a place for all that weather, thunder included, in our prayer life:

Reversed Thunder

*This light is muffled, muted, murky, dense,
Thick with a threat of thunder unreleased.
The clouds are darkening, the air grows tense,
The coming storm is lowering in the east.
Something within me trembles too, and pales,
Though no one sees the brooding darkness there,
Or feels the tension building between poles
Of faith and doubt, of vision and despair.*

*Everything deepens, gathers to a head:
Anguish and anger at my absent God
Until the charge of all that's left unsaid
Leaps out at last to find its lightning rod.
But even as the skies are rent and riven
I find that lightning rod is earthed in heaven.*

Malcolm Guite is a poet, priest and singer-songwriter. He was a Chaplain of Girton College and Associate Chaplain of St Edward King and Martyr in Cambridge until his recent retirement to Norfolk. He is the author of many anthologies of poetry. He is a weekly columnist in the Church Times where he writes the very popular 'Poet's Corner' which is included here each week for you to enjoy.



St Gargoyle's became a net exporter to the National Grid

RESOURCES

Attached to this Bulletin are these items ~

- ✚ Order of Service at Corley Church
- ✚ Order of Service for Holy Communion at Fillongley Church
- ✚ A Reflection from Revd Ali for Trinity 15
- ✚ A Reflection from Revd Jane for Trinity 15

AND FINALLY DON'T FORGET

If there is anything that you need or know of someone who would appreciate being contacted or added to the mailing list for this weekly e-bulletin, please do not hesitate to contact Revd Jane or any of the Churchwardens and Church Stewards listed below. ⁱ

ⁱ *Contact Details:*

Revd Jane Braund ~ Methodist Minister 01676 533737

jane.braund@methodist.org.uk

Jim Green 01676 540579

jim@greensphere.co.uk

Gwen Harris 07799 685890

gwenharris1996@hotmail.co.uk

Graham Hargreaves 01676 54 0766

graham.obiter@btinternet.com

Sue Taylor 01676 540880

sue.millcotts@btinternet.com

Suzanne Whiting 01676 542410

suzannewhiting@tiscali.co.uk

Martin Woodley 02476 268055

woodley2@live.co.uk