

Sunday 3rd November



Prophets of the Bible

Moses – the prophet who learned that God is enough. Exodus 3:1-4:17. “I’m just not enough.” It’s a sadly relatable thought, isn’t it? It’s easy to look at ourselves in the mirror and think, “How can I live for God with all my flaws, limitations and setbacks? How could God ever use somebody like me? Moses struggled with this too. Although raised as an Egyptian prince, Moses knew he was one of God’s chosen people – a people cruelly enslaved in Egypt. His first attempt to free them was a complete disaster. But many years later, God invited Moses to lead his rescue mission. “Who am I?” Moses asked, looking at himself. “No one’s going to listen to me. I can’t even speak properly.” With every excuse Moses came up with, he was saying, “I’m not enough.” God didn’t try to boost Moses’ ego or teach him to see the good in himself. “I AM,” God replied, drawing Moses’ attention back to the Lord. “I will be with you. I made you just as I intended; I will help you speak.” With every reply, God was saying, “You don’t need to be enough: I AM!” With his eyes on the Lord, Moses led the people out of slavery and spoke God’s words to them. No, we’re not enough. But when we’re tempted to put ourselves down and say, I can’t,” we can learn from Moses to listen for God’s, “I AM.” That’s when we can look in the mirror and say, “God is enough for me today.” Miriam – The prophetess whose grumbling was as deadly as a disease. Exodus 15:20-21, Numbers 12. Words are powerful. With them, we can lift others’ spirits or wound them deeply. We can even spread poisonous ideas with terrible consequences. Miriam learned this the hard way.

As a prophetess, Miriam led the people in songs of praise after God parted the Red Sea and rescued them from slavery in Egypt. And she played an important role in supporting her brother Moses’ leadership. Yet as a leader of the people, she grumbled about Moses behind his back. It doesn’t sound like a big deal; after all, we all do it. We mutter about a leader’s decisions or abilities. We talk about how we would have done things differently. Then we move on, with no hard done – right? God called Miriam out and showed her the real harm her grumbling caused. She was suddenly struck with leprosy, a horrifying and contagious disease.

Gossip and grumbling are like that. They spread so easily, like cancer, defiling every cell – every person – they touch. Miriam’s grumbling was in danger of destroying the leadership of God’s nation. When Miriam muttered her complaints, “the Lord heard.” He is the one she should have come to in the first place. He is where our true feelings are safely expressed, understood and corrected so we can bring health, not disaster, to our brothers and sisters in Christ. *From, and with the permission of, our friends at Our Daily Bread Ministries.*

This Week's Bible Readings: 8am: Ish 25: 6-9, Rev 21:1-6a and John 11:32-44. 10am Philipians 2: 1-18. **From CofE Calendar:** Richard Hooker, Priest, Anglican Apologist, Teacher of the Faith, 1600; Martin of Porres, Friar, 1639. **Anglican Church:** Church of the Province of Southeast Asia. **Parish:** St John's, Egham. **Incumbent:** Esther Prior. **Other clergy:** Will Bissett, Jeremy Brown, Michael Callaghan, Matt Prior, Mandie Shirnia, Simon Fraser (PTO). **LLMs:** Margaret Stevens. **Prayer requests:** Our Marks of Discipleship Prayer Series; our Hearing Clinic; our Dementia Carers Support Group. **Please pray for:** the victims of the severe flooding in Spain. **We continue to pray:** Break through the barriers that set people apart and the suspicions that make them walk alone. We remember our World, particularly the many troubled spots including Gaza, Israel, Ukraine and the Sudan.

The governments and their leaders. Show to all their need for each other and their shared responsibility for the world. Grant compassion in the little things of life, as well as the great,

that all humanity may be united in your love. **We pray for the sick in our parish:** especially remembering all who suffer from mental ill health and are victims of abuse and discrimination. **Please remember our Mission Partner:** The Walton and Hersham Food Bank and Rentstart. **The recently departed:** Karen Harris, Anthony Cilia, Pauline Gale, Annelies Reynolds and Pam Winton. **From the Memorial Book at their year's mind:** Elizabeth Ely, Joanne Crabb, John Williett, Cecilia Tyler, Edward (Ed) Salter, Edward Booth, Stanley Hepworth and Madge Dennis. **Please pray for:** Ryder, William, and their families as they prepare for baptism in November.



Collation

Revd Mark Ashworth will be Collated by The Rt Revd Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford and our Patron, on **Thu 21 Nov at 1930 at St Mary Oatlands**. Everyone is warmly invited to attend the service and afterwards for a light bite and celebration cake in the church hall. We are delighted and look forward to welcoming Revd Mark and his family to St

Mary Oatlands, and to his ministry among us. Please remember them in your prayers.

Sun 3rd Nov 11.45am. Interment of the ashes of the late Gladys Clarkson at St Mary Oatlands Church Garden of Remembrance.

The family welcomes all who knew her.

Sun 3rd Nov 12.30pm. Interment of the ashes of the late Pauline Gale at St Mary Oatlands Church Garden of Remembrance.

Tue 12th Nov 11am. Funeral of the late Pam Winton at Randalls Park Crematorium. Please pray for those who mourn them.



Churches Together in Weybridge

Sat 9th Nov (CTiW) at St James' Church, Weybridge 10am-3pm.

Prayer Event. Formal prayers at 10am, 12noon & 2.40pm.

'Drop In' event. Stay for as long or as short a time as suits you.

Complimentary lunch at 12.30pm. **Remembrance Sunday:** 10th Nov 10am St Mary Oatlands Service of Remembrance. **Local History**

Book: Available from the Parish Office. £10. **Poppies:** Poppies and poppy-related merchandise in support of the Royal British Legion are now available from the back of the Church.

Colouring Club and Knit Wits Wed 20th Nov 12.30-2pm. Let your mind roam whilst colouring. Bring a packed lunch, we will provide the tea, coffee and company. Contact Hugh.

Film Night: Wed 20th Nov 6.30pm for a light meal and drinks. Film 7pm. Please use the signing-up sheet at the back of the Church. **Meeting Point:** Wed 27th Nov. 12.30-2.30 pm.

'A lunch club for the young at heart'. Contact Jane R 07775 9317333 for more details.

Meeting Point Christmas Lunch: St George's Hill Tennis Club. Wed 11th Dec (12.30pm tbc). Everyone welcome. You don't need to be a MP member. Please contact Jane R for more details.

Operation Christmas Child: Good News! Great Joy! Helping in Jesus' name. Helping the children of Malawi. A hands-on way for you to bless children in need across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, personal care items, school supplies, and fun gifts. Ready-made boxes are available for £2 from the back of the Church or use a regular shoe box of your own. Please bring your packed boxes to the Church from 3rd -17th Nov. A helpful packing list is available from the back of the Church. The boxes will be collected by a Samaritans Purse volunteer and begin their journey.

Winter Fair: Sat 23rd November 11am-2pm. **Our biggest fund raiser of the year! Donations:** Please sign up for cake donations. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the Church. Please write a list of ingredients to be displayed with the cake. Please also sign up to help on a stall on the noticeboard at the bottom of the office stairs. Ask friends and family if they would like to help too, the more volunteers the more people can enjoy the fair and look around. We have been kindly sponsored once again by Martin and Wheatley Property Agents and Lodge Brothers Funeral Directors.

From Sunday 17th November, raffle tickets will be on sale in the church.

Thank you.