

## WCRKB Words of Hope 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Bible Sunday & Last after Trinity

Geraldine Intro:-

The words of the Holy Bible have changed countless numbers of lives over the centuries, it is the basis upon which the Christian church is built. Today we are giving thanks to God for His Holy Word and remembering that it is through the Written Word that we can come to know the Living Word that is Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Welcome to our Words of Hope for Bible Sunday, the last Sunday after Trinity

*Cue opening music*

Our opening hymn reminds us of the power of the word of God that brought creation into being. Thou, whose almighty word, chaos and darkness heard.

**Thou, whose Almighty Word  
chaos and darkness heard,  
and took their flight;  
hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the Gospel day  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light!**

**Thou, who didst come to bring,  
on Thy redeeming wing,  
healing and sight;  
health to the sick in mind,  
sight to the inly blind,  
now to all mankind  
let there be light!**

**Spirit of truth and love,  
Life-giving, holy Dove,  
speed forth Thy flight;  
move on the water's face,  
bearing the lamp of grace,  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light!**

**Blessed and Holy Three,  
glorious Trinity,  
wisdom, love, might;  
boundless as ocean's tide,  
rolling in fullest pride,  
through the earth, far and wide  
let there be light!**

*John Marriott 1780-1825*

Colossians 3.12–17

12 As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

<sup>13</sup>Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

<sup>14</sup>Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

<sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

<sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

<sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Intro to confession:-

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith:-

Confession:-

**Lord, we have not obeyed Your Word,  
nor heeded what was written in the scriptures.  
We repent with all our heart,  
and humble ourselves before You:  
in Your mercy forgive us,  
Grant us Your peace  
And the strength to keep Your laws.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*from 2 Kings 22*

Absolution:-

May the Father of all mercies cleanse *us* from *our* sins, and restore *us* in His image to the praise and glory of His Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

We say together the words of the Lord's Prayer:-

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name;  
Your Kingdom come; Your will be done; on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the Kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours,  
now and for ever, AMEN.**

And the collect for this Bible Sunday:-

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Psalm 119.9–16

- 9 How shall young people cleanse their way ♦□  
to keep themselves according to your word?
- 10 With my whole heart have I sought you; ♦□  
O let me not go astray from your commandments.
- 11 Your words have I hidden within my heart, ♦□  
that I should not sin against you.
- 12 Blessed are you, O Lord; ♦□  
O teach me your statutes.
- 13 With my lips have I been telling ♦□  
of all the judgements of your mouth.
- 14 I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies ♦□  
than in all manner of riches.
- 15 I will meditate on your commandments ♦□  
and contemplate your ways.
- 16 My delight shall be in your statutes ♦□  
and I will not forget your word.

Glory 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.

In our opening hymn we sang these words:

Thou, whose Almighty Word  
chaos and darkness heard,  
and took their flight;  
hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the Gospel day  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light!

Our short 2 minute video reminds us that the God revealed to us in the Bible is the God of light not darkness, and that Jesus the living Word of God is also the light of the world.

Video from SU

Nehemiah 8.1–4a[5–6] 8–12 read by Tim

<sup>8</sup>all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel.

<sup>2</sup>Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month.

<sup>3</sup>He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

<sup>4</sup>The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hash-baddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand.[]

<sup>5</sup>And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up.

<sup>6</sup>Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.[]

<sup>8</sup>So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

9 And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.

<sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'

<sup>11</sup>So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, 'Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.'

<sup>12</sup>And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

Hymn:

**Lord, Your Word shall guide us  
And with truth provide us:  
teach us to receive it  
and with joy believe it.**

**When our foes are near us,  
then Your Word shall cheer us  
word of consolation,  
message of salvation.**

**When the storms distress us  
and dark clouds oppress us,**

**then Your Word protects us  
and its light directs us.**

**Who can tell the pleasure,  
who recount the treasure  
by Your Word imparted  
to the simple-hearted?**

**Word of mercy, giving  
courage to the living;  
Word of Life, supplying  
comfort to the dying.**

**that we discerning  
its most holy learning,  
Lord, may love and fear You  
evermore be near You!**

*Jubilate Hymns version of 'Lord, thy word abideth', Henry Williams Baker (1821 - 1877) © Jubilate Hymns Ltd*

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Sermon from David

Creed

**We believe in God the Father,  
who reveals His love to us in Jesus Christ.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
Who pours out His Holy Spirit on us.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
whop teaches us God's truth.**

**We believe in One God:  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen**

*from 1 John*

Sarah leads prayers:-

Song from David

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path.  
(Repeat)

When I feel afraid,

Think I've lost my way,  
Still You're there right beside me.  
And nothing will I fear  
As long as You are near;  
Please be near me to the end.

I will not forget  
Your love for me, and yet  
My heart forever is wandering.  
Jesus, be my guide  
And hold me to Your side,  
And I will love You to the end.

Amy Grant & Michael W. Smith.

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Thank you for joining us for this Words of Hope

Next Sunday's Words of Hope for All Saints Day will be on the Church Website from early next Sunday morning, so we look forward to you joining us then

But our service of Public Worship in person next Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November will be at All Saints Ravensden at 10am for a service of Holy Communion as we celebrate All Saints Day, when we shall especially remember and give thanks by name for those from our 5 Parishes who have died in the last year or so. As ever you are very welcome to join us then but please let us know if you're coming to give us some idea of numbers to prepare for.

We also value your generosity to support the church financially in our work serving our communities. If you are able to give via your bank please email us via the website for details, and you can also give online via our website as each of our 5 churches are going through the process of setting up online giving.

The Blessing:

Almighty God, send us out with confidence in your word,  
that we might tell others about your love and the salvation won for us by Jesus  
Christ, and so may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father , the Son and The Holy  
Spirit be with us all, now and for evermore. **Amen.**