

# St Andrew's Church Woodside

14th July 2024

Morning Praise

'Spiritual Blessings in Christ'

*Today's collection will be in aid of the Hurricane Beryl Appeal*

## Collect for the Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Message from Julie

Today's reading is Ephesians 1: 3-14.

Tradition has it that this letter was written by Paul (or an amanuensis) from prison in Rome around AD60. It was a letter not just to the church in Ephesus but probably the surrounding communities where Paul had established churches.

Our passage is one long sentence in the original Greek and provides a rich overview of Paul's understanding of God's plan for the salvation of the world through Christ, His Son. Paul's hymn of praise celebrates the spiritual blessings that we receive in Christ.

God's grace is his abundant undeserved favour towards us. Previously this favour seemed to be reserved for the Jews, as his chosen people. But Paul makes clear that the gift of grace is just that – a gift – and it is available to ALL who believe – Jews and Gentiles. Later Paul will explain, "By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God." (Eph2:8.)

It is God's initiative but we are not passive. We are given new life for good works which God prepared for us beforehand. So grace is not only the means of our salvation through Jesus Christ, but also the empowering presence of God enabling us to live out our Christian lives.

In a nutshell we are:

- Chosen by the Father (vv4-6)
- Redeemed by the Son (vv 7-10)
- Sealed by the Spirit (vv 11-14).

Our lives make much more sense when viewed in light of God's overall plan.

How has God blessed you?

How has he equipped you to serve?

What might he be calling you to do?

## Prayer Ministry

Sylvia will be at the front of church after the service for those wishing private prayer.

Prayer will be offered for all those named on this News Sheet.

For those not in church, 10.30 Sunday services will be available on Zoom:

Meeting 878 5926 2657, passcode 664663 or click on:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87859262657?pwd=dTdad291VDk2anA5aGtmdnFCN3kzQT09>

## Contacts at St. Andrew's

**Priest in Charge:** Revd Nick Mwandia

**Vicarage:** 01582 285791 or 07398 663729

**e-Mail:** revstandreww@gmail.com

**Nick's day off:** Friday

**Reader:** Julie Taylor: 01582 413912

**Churchwardens:** Steve Baird: 01582 738205  
Tony Smith: 07976 830906

**We are here as God's family, to draw closer to God,  
to live out our faith and welcome all into the love of God.**

## Practical help for the Community



Azalea sends thanks to all those who contribute in various ways, which include our regular Gift Aided donations. They regularly collect our offerings of food, toiletries, etc; always gratefully received!

We continue to deliver food items to the Foodbank monthly as needs are greater than ever. Your generous support provides aid to both adults and children: our offerings are thankfully received. Please donate high protein food items: e.g. tinned beans, dry pasta, long life milk, etc. dropping your items in the Foodbank trug at church or at 7 Crawley Close. We plan to drop off at the Food Bank on Tuesday July 30th.

**The Foodbank appreciates regular Gift Aid donations where possible.**

**See <https://lutonfoodbank.org.uk>**



### Items for Asylum Seekers

Adult toothbrushes, Shampoo, Body Moisturiser, Shower Gel, Spray deodorants, Baby's toiletries, Baby oil/moisturiser. New T-shirts & Joggers S/M/L, Crop tops, Bras, Socks. Please place items into the box in church.

### Blister Packs Recycling

We have a collection box at the back of church for used blister packs, which Paula has kindly volunteered to take for recycling.

## Church Diary July

Sun 14th	10:30	Morning Praise
Tue 16th	11:00	Service at the Care Home, next to the church
Sun 21st	10:30	Holy Communion



**St. Andrew's Community Coffee Morning**  
**SATURDAY 27th JULY, 10 to noon**  
**Drop in for Tea, Coffee & Good Company.**  
**Come and see Paula's lovely Artwork!**

Sun 28th	10:30	Family Service
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## August

Sun 4th	10:30	Informal Communion
Sun 11th	10:30	Morning Praise
Sun 18th	10:30	Holy Communion
Tue 20th	11:00	Service at the Care Home, next to the church
Sun 25th	10:30	Family Service

## Gift Day

If you choose to give by cash or cheque please mark your envelope 'Gift Day', with your name and whether able to be gift aided.

To make a bank transfer, bank details are

St Andrews Woodside PCC CAF Bank Ltd sort code 40-52-40, account 00007320.



Monthly Prayers on first Wednesdays & Weekly Bible Studies ...

Zoom on 589 233 412, passcode 090636 or use:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/589233412?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/589233412?pwd=d11LL0E2Y0w4dDdpUXlTR0pHcGdSQTO9)

[pwd=d11LL0E2Y0w4dDdpUXlTR0pHcGdSQTO9](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/589233412?pwd=d11LL0E2Y0w4dDdpUXlTR0pHcGdSQTO9)