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**PARISH OF KIRKLEES VALLEY – WEEKLY SHEET
*First Sunday of Lent Year A – 1st March 2020***

**Today we consider how we care for God’s creation thinking about Light & Energy.**

**TODAY’S SERVICES**

**8.15am Trad. Communion: All Saints**

**9.30am Parish Communion: All Saints**

**10-12 noon Messy Church: St Francis**

**11.00am Parish Communion: St James**

**RECEIVING COMMUNION:**

*Please follow directions given. If you have a cold or feel unwell, we encourage you to receive the wafer only. Gluten-free wafers & chalice can be provided – please request before the service begins.*

**HYMNS**

*574 – O praise ye the Lord*

*100 – Christ is the world’s light*

*468 – Lord of all light and power*

*Suitable music during Communion:*

*681 – Such love*

*767 – Thou whose almighty Word*

**COLLECT FOR THE DAY**

Holy God,

our lives are laid open before you:

rescue us from the chaos of sin

and through the death of your Son

bring us healing and make us whole

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**



**WELCOME**

Please join us for tea or coffee after
the service today if you are able.
We would love to get to know you.

**TODAY’S READINGS**

**Genesis 1.1-6, 8-10, 14-19**

**Psalm 97**

**John 1.1-5**

**John 12.1-8**

***WHAT’S ON THIS WEEK…***

Monday 10am Monday Walking Group – *meet at Pack Horse, Birtle*

 7.30pm *Live Lent* Study Course – *Church Lounge, St Stephen’s*

Tuesday 7-8pm *Five Easy Pieces* – Five Film Reflections for Lent *St Francis*

Wednesday 12.30pm *Live Lent* Soup Lunch & Discussion *St James*

1.30pm Lent Communion *St James*

2-4pm Knit & Natter *St James*

7pm *Live Lent* Study Course – *Ashton Room, Bury Parish Church Hall*

Thursday 10am Holy Communion *All Saints*

10.30am *Live Lent* Study Course – *42 Greenhill Road, BL8 2LL*

 2-4pm Afternoon Tea @ *St James* / 2-4pm Art & Craft @ *St Francis*

Sunday 8th March – *Second Sunday of Lent – Theme: Water*

8.15am Holy Communion (Traditional language) *All Saints*

9.30am Parish Communion *All Saints*

11am Parish Communion *St James*

**#*LIVELENTBURY* REFLECTION – WEEK 1: LIGHT & ENERGY**

We begin this Lent of reflection on caring for God’s creation with **light**. The first words God speaks in the beautiful poetic account of the creation in Genesis 1 are *‘Let there be Light’*. From this all the rest follows. In John’s Gospel the Word is with God, and all things are created through him, because he **is** life ‘*and that life is the light of the world*.’

Scientifically speaking too, light is the **starting point for life on earth.** The capture of the sun’s energy by plants through photosynthesis is the **source of energy** for animal life, and human life in turn – be it through fossil fuels or renewable energy for artificial light, heat and all the electrical things we take for granted every day. It’s worth reflecting on how the intertwining of light, energy and life we find in the Bible is mirrored in scientific fact. Both Genesis and John’s Gospel remind us **light is a gift of God**, and our lives and the life of the world around us depend on that light for the energy we need.

As Christians, then, **using the energy we have wisely** is something that matters – it is a way of showing we care about God’s gift of life, and seek to be good stewards of that life. St John reminds us that without light there is darkness, but that the darkness has not yet overcome it. How do **we** **tend the flame of that light** – in our faith, and in our daily lives and our energy consumption – this Lent and beyond?

**SOME QUESTIONS**

1. *What strikes you most about the idea of light in our readings?*
2. *How do you respond to the idea that Christians have a calling to tend the flame of God’s light? Why? What might that mean?*

**PRACTICAL ACTIONS WE CAN TAKE THIS WEEK:**

1. *Think about the energy you are using at home.
Is there any way to* ***reduce*** *the amount you use?*
2. *Make one less car trip by going on foot or public transport instead.*
3. *Light a candle and stop to thank God for the gift of light & energy.*

For more *#livelentbury* resources, why not follow the online link below:

<https://sites.google.com/view/livelentbury/resources>

You can also sign up for daily email or social media updates by visiting the Church of England website:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/living-out-our-faith/lent-holy-week-and-easter/livelent-care-gods-creation>

**A reading from the book of Genesis** *(Genesis1:1-6,8-10,14-19)*

**1** In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, **2** the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. **3** Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. **4** And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. **5** God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. **6** And God said, ‘Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.’

**8** God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.**9** And God said, ‘Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.’ And it was so. **10** God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

**14** And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; & let them be for signs & for seasons & for days and years, **15** and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.’ And it was so. **16** God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day & the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. **17** God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, **18** to rule over the day & over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. **19** And there was evening & there was morning, the fourth day.

*This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God**

**A reading from the book of Psalms** *(Psalm 97)***1** The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice;
 let the many coastlands be glad!

**2 Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;**

 **righteousness & justice are the foundation of his throne.**

**3** Fire goes before him,

    and consumes his adversaries on every side.

**4 His lightnings light up the world;**

**the earth sees and trembles.**

**5** The mountains melt like wax before the Lord,

    before the Lord of all the earth.

**6 The heavens proclaim his righteousness;**

**and all the peoples behold his glory.**

**7** All worshippers of images are put to shame,

    those who make their boast in worthless idols;

    all gods bow down before him.

**8 Zion hears and is glad,**

**and the towns of Judah rejoice,**

**because of your judgements, O God.**

**9** For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth;

    you are exalted far above all gods.

**10 The Lord loves those who hate evil;**

**he guards the lives of his faithful;**

**he rescues them from the hand of the wicked.**

**11** Light dawns for the righteous,

    and joy for the upright in heart.

**12 Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous,
  and give thanks to his holy name!**

**Glory be to the Father, & to the Son, & to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever, Amen.**

**Gospel Reading:**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John *(John 1:1-5)*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being **4** in him was life, and that life was the light of all people. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

**Praise to you, O Christ**