



# St Nicholas' Church

## Bishopwearmouth

23 February 2025

2nd before Lent

### Worship this week

#### Sunday 23 February

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.30am Holy Communion\*

#### Thursday 27 February

10.00am Holy Communion

#### Sunday 02 March

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.30am Holy Communion\*

\*currently meeting in the church hall.

### Praying for

- Parish streets: those who live or work on Durham Road.
- Those who come to the Warm Welcome Space, Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10.30am-12.30pm.
- This week we heard that the person who had been asked to be our next Bishop of Durham has withdrawn. We pray for a new bishop, and for Bishop Sarah and the whole diocese as we wait patiently.



**On Tuesday mornings we pray together in church 7.30-8.00am.**

### Join in

Do you wish you had a better understanding of the Big Picture of the Bible? On **Saturday 22 March**, 10am-4.30pm, St Thomas' Newcastle will be hosting the excellent, interactive *Walk Through The Old Testament*. Tickets cost £17.50. If you are interested, please speak to Jo Dowsett.

# LIVING HOPE

Over the six weeks of Lent we shall be asking, **What is hope?** Come along on Wednesdays, 2-3pm, from 12 March or Mondays, 7-8pm, from 10 March.

### Key Contacts

Priest in Charge: **Revd Dr Andrew Dowsett**

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Churchwardens: **Mr Ray Taylor**

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Parish Safeguarding Officer: **Mr Peter Fielding**

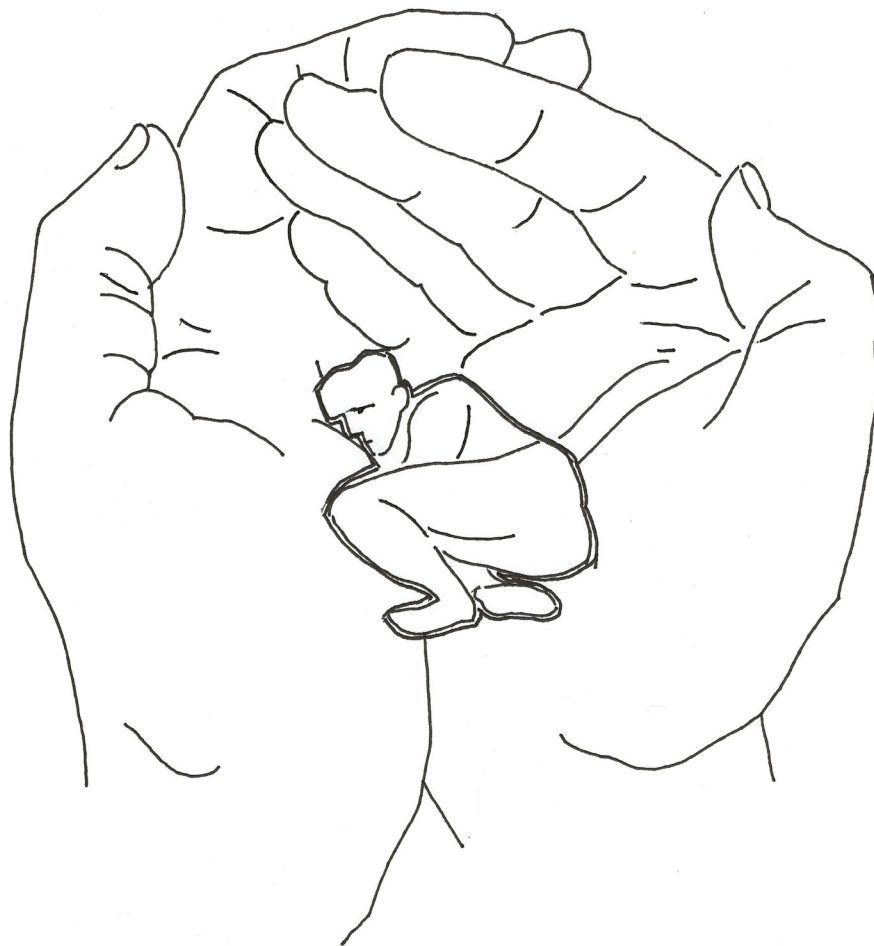
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### Supporting your local Church

As part of our response to God's love shown to us through Jesus we give financially to the Church. The money goes towards supporting the activities of the church as well as maintaining the building. There are plates in church into which you can place cash or a giving envelope before a service, or a card reader is available. Alternatively you can give a one-off gift or set up regular giving by scanning this QR code.





### At home

Find a place where you will not be interrupted, and read **Genesis 2.4-9, 15-25** and **Luke 8.22-25** through, out loud, a couple of times.

Genesis 1 tells a sweeping overview of creation. Genesis 2 slows the story right down. Here, God does not simply speak things into being, but shapes them: the human, a garden, every living creature. Like a potter or a gardener. The human, too, is invited into the slow processes of getting to know, and growing to love, all things. The time it takes to participate in the *goodness* (a word we have already met several times in Genesis 1) of God's creation. The invitation to love God, to love our neighbour as ourselves, to love all creation, takes as long as it takes: as The Supremes sang, 'You can't hurry love...'

In our verses from Luke's Gospel, Jesus rests—he sleeps—while his disciples rush around in panic. And peace radiates from him.

- Looking forward to the day ahead, does time feel like a gift or a tyrant (a task master driving us, or a prison governor constraining us)?  
As we get older, our body asks us to slow down. Does this feel like an invitation, to become more fully human, or something to be resisted for as long as we are able?
- 'good' conveys: agreeable, beneficial, beautiful, best, better, bountiful, cheerful, at ease, fair, favour, fine, glad, goodly, graciously, joyful, kindly, loving, merry, pleasant, precious, prosperity, ready, sweet, wealth, welfare, well-favoured. Thinking about today, how have you known the goodness of God?
- Reading the two passages again, is there a word or a sentence that stands out for you? What might God be saying to you through it?
- You might like to colour-in the drawing of the human asleep, held in the hands of God.