



kind words
are like honey
sweet to the
soul

PROVERBS 16:24

September 2026

Living Water: Marking the Season of Creation

On 1st September, the church calendar turns towards something it's easy to overlook amid post-holiday washing loads and back-to-school chaos: Creationtide. This ecumenical season runs until 4th October, the feast of St Francis, and this year the theme is Living Water, drawn from Ezekiel's strange and beautiful vision of a river flowing out from the temple.

If you're not familiar with this vision, you can find it in Ezekiel chapter 47, where the prophet sees water trickling from under the temple threshold - barely a stream at first - and as the prophet wades further in, it deepens: ankle-deep, then knee-deep, then a river too wide to cross. Wherever it flows, the land comes alive. Fish return to the sea. Trees grow on the banks, bearing fruit every month, their leaves for healing. It's not a tidy metaphor but it is a picture of what happens when God's presence is allowed to move through a place that had gone barren.

That's the invitation of Creationtide: to notice where we've let things run dry, and to ask what it would mean to let living water flow again - through our rivers and soil, yes, but through our common life too.

Care for creation isn't a bolt-on to the Gospel; it's bound up in it. We believe God made this world, called it good, and entrusted it to us. Every hedgerow strimmed with care rather than carelessly, every bit of plastic kept out of the sea, every conversation about how our own churches use energy or land - these are small acts of discipleship, not distractions from it.

You don't need a grand gesture to mark the season. A prayer for creation in the intercessions. A walk round the churchyard noticing what's flourishing and what isn't. A conversation with the children about where our water comes from and where it goes. And of course, all of this fits in well with our celebration of the Harvest, where we recognise that all we have is a gift from God and that it is right to give him thanks and praise for it.

You can find out more about the season of Creationtide and discover resources to help you celebrate it at seasonofcreation.org.

Ezekiel's river starts small. So can ours. The invitation this September is simply to wade in a little further than we did last year, and see what comes alive.

Revd Jonathan



Services in September



Friday 4 September

2.00pm **Communion**
Priest: **Robin Paterson**

Sunday 6 September

9.30am **All Together Worship**
 - Trinity 14

1st Reading: **Rom 13: 8-end**

2nd Reading: **Matt 18: 15-20**

Friday 11 September

2.00pm **Prayer Meeting**

Sunday 13 August

9.30am **Communion**
 - Trinity 15

1st Reading: **Rom 14: 1-12**
 Steve Aldwin

Gospel: **Matt 18: 21-35**
 Stella Ambler

Intercessions: *John Edwards*

Friday 18 September

2.00pm **Communion**
Priest: **Gordon Cooper**

Sunday 20 September

9.30am **Said Morning Worship**
 - Trinity 16

1st Reading: **Phil 1: 21-end**
 Jill Dorrington

2nd Reading: **Matt 20: 1-16**
 Maureen Martin

Friday 25 September

2.00pm **Prayer Meeting**

Sunday 27 September

9.30am **Communion**
 - Trinity 17

1st Reading: **Phil 2: 1-13**
 Ann Riley

Gospel: **Matt 21: 23-32**
 Chris Prior

Intercessions: *John Prior*

6.30pm **Taizé Service**

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for entries into the October issue of this Newsletter is

Tuesday 22nd September

Please send any items to
admin@elmetetrinity.org

If you need anything advertising between editions of the Newsletter, please contact Diane who will send out information via email and Facebook.

Need prayer?

Got something on your heart and need a listening ear? Our Prayer Ministry Team are here every Sunday after the morning service, just come over to the Prayer Area on the right side of the church. It's private, confidential, and you'll be with people who care.



**Our September meeting is on
7th at 7.30pm in St Philips.
Revd Jonathan will be taking our
annual communion service and
also enrolment of Chris Prior.**

**Our October meeting will be
on the 5th. We have
Robin Paterson giving a talk
about the "Rural Philippines"**

Mothers' Union is a global Christian movement working with people of all faiths and none to develop communities, strengthen families and advocate for change. Our members are active in 83 countries and work tirelessly to serve their communities to build a future where everyone thrives.

Ending violence, ending poverty, ending injustice. We are a truly worldwide Christian movement. And a local one!

We usually meet on the first Monday of each month at 7.30pm at St Philip's church.

If you want to know more, please contact:

Sally Wray ~ 07484 152 886
Elizabeth Lawson ~ 07518 642 942

This year it is the 150th Anniversary Mother's Union. It was founded by Mary Sumner in 1876 and there are now over 4 million members worldwide.

Our branch in Scholes has been active for over 60 years. Part of the role of being a Mother's Union member is to raise money for various causes. This year a big part of the fundraising is to raise awareness of and help abolish modern slavery in this country. To help us celebrate this milestone year and raise some much-needed funds, some of our members are going to bake some tasty treats. These will be available after the morning services on 6th & 27th September. These can be eaten in church or taken away.

We will have a plate out for donations and all money raised will be sent to the Mother's Union 150th Anniversary Fund.





ST PHILIPS, SCHOLES
27 SEPTEMBER @ 6:30pm

COME AND EXPERIENCE TAIZÉ WORSHIP

If you've never been to a Taizé worship service before, why not come along and discover something a little different?

Taizé worship offers a peaceful space to **slow down, be still and draw closer to God**. It includes simple, beautiful sung and chanted prayers, short liturgical readings, periods of silence and time for quiet reflection and prayer.

There's no pressure to say or do anything — simply come as you are, take a breath, and allow the music, silence and stillness to speak to you.

Come and rest awhile in God's presence.

Elmete

Elderberries

Every Monday 1pm - 3pm
(except Bank Holidays)

Each week we offer:

- *Gentle, chair-based, exercise
- *Help with family history research
- *Crafting & card-making
- *Games, Bridge, Jigsaws & Dominoes
- *Drawing & Painting
- *Brass Band & Folk Singing
- *Knitting, Crochet & Needlework
- *Computer & Camera assistance
- *Refreshments & a warm welcome

*Drop in to learn new things,
make new friends and enjoy a cuppa*

For Everyone: body, mind and spirit

HOME GROUP

 **Friendship & Fellowship**

 **Prayer**

 **Laughter**

 **A traditional hymn or two**

 **WHERE:** John & Sally Edward's home
73 Nook Road, Scholes LS15 4AX

 **WHEN:** First Wednesday of the Month
7:30pm - 9:00pm

Everyone is welcome!

Especially if you are not a regular at a home group — no need to book, just turn up.





Heritage Open Day

All Saints' Church, Barwick-in-Elmet

Saturday 12 September, 11am – 4pm

Why not come and join us anytime between 11am – 4pm on Saturday 12 September when you can learn more about the history of the church and the people who were commemorated on the various plaques on the inside walls. There will also be a display of local historical photographs. Two members of the Historical Society will be there to answer any questions, but visitors can just walk round on their own and enjoy the beauty of this old church.



Everyone welcome, including well-behaved dogs on leads.

Tea/coffee available.



FOOD BANKS NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

**We are supporting
the work of
Seacroft Parish Foodbank.**

Drop off points in Scholes:

- . Church
- . Four Pines, Elmete Croft



Elmete Trinity Benefice

Shopping List

- ☐ long life milk
- ☐ tinned vegetables
- ☐ tinned fruit
- ☐ tinned rice pudding or custard
- ☐ coffee & tea bags
- ☐ sugar or sweeteners
- ☐ soup
- ☐ pasta sauce
- ☐ cereal
- ☐ baked beans
- ☐ tinned tomatoes
- ☐ soap
- ☐ washing powder/capsules
- ☐ deodorant
- ☐ sanitary items
- ☐ shampoo/conditioner
- ☐ any baby or child items

ST. PHILIP'S FLOWERS

Week	Sponsor
6 Sept	Chris Prior
13 Sept	Stella Ambler
20 Sept	Peter Long
27 Sept	Sue Yardley

Thank you for the beautiful flowers we have in church each week which are sponsored by YOU as shown above.

There are some vacancies over the year, so if you would like to sponsor the flowers one week, please see Pat Ridsdale or Beryl Walker.

And Thank you!



Prayer Group

What is prayer?

And why do we do it?

Prayer is our way of communicating with God and, incidentally, with each other.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Friday afternoon of every month to discuss and then pray for people and events within our local community and in the wider world.

If you want to know more, please speak to Ros Loach or email admin@elmetetrinity.org. You would be very welcome to come along at any time, as and when you can, for a cup of tea and chat to find out what it is all about.

GIVING

SUPPORT THE WORK OF ST PHILIP'S

St Philip's is a charity which receives no funding from the government and is entirely dependent on donations to keep its doors open, continue its work in the community and maintain its buildings and surroundings.

If you would like to support us, you can donate in the plate or use the contactless device at the entrance to church. If you would like to give regularly, you can set up a Standing Order or use a Giving Envelope.

More info from Tim South, the Treasurer or Revd Jonathan.



Standing Order

Giving Envelope



Contactless



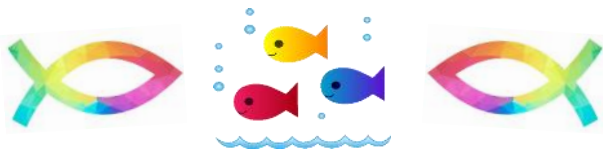
Collection Plate



giftaid it

If you pay UK Income Tax, we encourage you to Gift Aid all your giving to church. Gift Aid in the UK is a scheme enabling registered charities to reclaim the tax from the Government on a donation made by a UK taxpayer, increasing the donation by 25p for every £1 you give, without costing you any extra.

Little Fishes



Parent & Toddler Group

For ages 0 – 4

Every Tuesday
10.30am – 12.00pm



Drop in for friendly chats,
craft activities and
coffee & cakes

Find us on Facebook
www.stphilips-scholes.org

PRAYER REQUESTS



Is there something you'd like us to pray about? You can send your prayer requests by using this QR Code and completing the form.

All prayer requests are confidential.

THORNER TUESDAY EVENING HOME GROUP

meets at 7.30pm in the home of John and Jill Waddington: Beckfields, Station Lane, Thorner, LS14 3JF and will be re-starting mid-late September according to people's availability.

Many people from Scholes attend the group and you would be more than welcome to join us. If you are interested, please do speak to either John or Jill and they will give you more information.

CARING FOR EACH OTHER...



If you haven't seen someone for a while, please either try and find out how they are or let us know and we will try and make contact. Please also ask the person if they would like to go on the prayer list (using their full name or just first name). A note to us giving a contact number or address of the person concerned often helps.

Prayer for Growth

God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.

*Help St Philip's to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen*

Come along and enjoy a warm welcome!

Our Community Café is open **every Friday**
in September, 9.00am–12.00pm,
serving up:



- ☑ Great coffee & tea
- ☑ Irresistible homemade cakes
- ☑ Bacon butties
- ☑ Toasted teacakes
- ☑ Crumpets

And don't forget our **special Saturday opening on 26th September,**
10.00am–12.00pm!

Good food • Great coffee • Friendly company

Everyone is welcome!

Come along, grab a cuppa and stay for a chat!

**COMMUNITY
UPLIFTING
SPIRITUAL
WISDOM
PEACE
SPACE
FAMILY
WORSHIP
STILLNESS
BELONGING
INSPIRATION**

CHURCH
for me...

*what could
it be for you?*

About The Holy Spirit

I think that we often feel a bit confused about God the Holy Spirit, and that it might help to look at a few things we know about Him.

In the Old Testament

The Holy Spirit gets a mention right at the beginning of the Bible (Genesis 1:2, though not all translations show it). From the start He's God 'down here', at work hands-on in the world.

We read of the Holy Spirit coming to prophets, kings and other key people through the Old Testament (eg Judges 3:10, 6:34; 1 Samuel 10:9-10; Ezekiel 2:2) but came to them temporarily, for particular moments and tasks. For day-to-day contact with God, people had to go first to the Tent of Meeting (Exodus 33:7-11) and then to the Temple (from 2 Chronicles 7:1 onward).

Through this time, there was a promise that one day God would transform his relationship with his people (Ezek.36:26-27, Joel 2:28-29)

In the New Testament

Jesus spoke several times about the Holy Spirit (eg. Luke 4:18-19, Matt.10:20, John 3:5). He said that the Father would always send the Spirit when we ask (Luke 11:9-13),

and he promised that when he returned to heaven he would send the Spirit to his disciples in a new and fuller way (John 14:15-17). This happened at the first Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4), seven weeks after Easter. That was the day when Joel's prophecy began to be fulfilled, the Christian Church started, and things would never be the same again!

The Spirit leads us

At the Last Supper, Jesus concentrated on how the Holy Spirit would lead his disciples onward when he was no longer with them to teach them how to face new situations. (John 14:15-27, John 16:5-15) We need to pray for God's help to interpret Jesus' teaching and example for our own day – we face questions that he never had to, as well as many that would have been very familiar!

The Spirit makes us 'different but together'

St Paul writes about the Church as the 'Body of Christ', made alive through the Spirit of Christ. It's a wonderful image, especially as Paul develops it to show us how our different gifts, personalities and abilities are all needed to make the body whole, just as the different limbs and organs of the body work together. He's clear that the Spirit unites us as one body, but also that the same Spirit gives us all different gifts and abilities – some seeming

‘ordinary’, some quite strange!
(Romans 12:1-8; 1 Corinthians 12).
What gifts has the Spirit given to you
to use as part of the Church?

The Spirit makes us more like Jesus

While the Spirit gives different gifts to different people, St Paul tells us that there are some things He helps us all to grow in – the ‘Fruits of the Spirit’ (Galatians 5:22-23) – essentially the marks of a character becoming more like Jesus. Do take note that the key thing is the *becoming* more like Jesus – some of us start with further to go than others! The important thing is that we (and others around us) can see that we’re making some progress with the Spirit’s help. In which of these do *you* most need the Spirit to be at work?

The Spirit helps us to pray

In fact, it’s more than just that the Spirit helps us to pray. He somehow, living within us, draws us into the whole life of God. But let’s start with prayer. Most of us who try to pray find times when it’s hard to find the words. Paul tells us that at these times the Spirit prays from within us (Romans 8:26-27 – in fact it’s worth reading the whole of chapter 8 to think about life in the Spirit) – God speaks to God, and gives us the chance to get involved in the conversation!





How to Contact Us

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds

Rector

Revd Jonathan Brennan

☎ 0113 289 2437

✉ rector@elmetetrinity.org

Licenced Lay Minister

Alan Stanley

☎ 07739 184781

✉ alan.stanley8@btinternet.com

Licensed Lay Minister

Beckie Briggs

☎ 07794 155158

✉ beckie@the-briggs.co.uk

Reader Emerita

Ros Loach

☎ 0113 260 5073

Churchwardens

Ann Riley

☎ 0113 273 3560

✉ annl.riley@btinternet.com

John Prior

☎ 07484 630960

✉ jprior6@sky.com

Treasurer

Tim South

☎ 0113 265 1742

✉ tim@thesouths.uk

Rector's PA

Diane Brennan

✉ admin@elmetetrinity.org

Safeguarding Officer

Beckie Briggs

☎ 07794 155158

✉ safeguarding@the-briggs.co.uk

If you would like to speak to someone about any aspect of St Philip's Church safeguarding policy, or you have any concerns, please speak to Beckie in the first instance. You can also contact Revd Jonathan Brennan.

**come
serve
with us**

We need more volunteers in every area of church life, so if you would be interested to help with:

- Music Group
- Reading / Intercessions
- PA Desk
- Refreshments
- Welcome team
- Prayer Ministry
- Community Café

or would just like to find out more, please contact Revd Jonathan,
Ann Riley or John Prior.

All volunteers would be required to undertake necessary training / legal checks (DBS).