

## 10 March 2019 Lent I - 'He Took'

What does it mean for us that Jesus took the bread and wine and asked his disciples present with him, and now us, to eat and drink to remember him?

Throughout Lent we are going to be considering our 'worship' and each Sunday taking as the starting point one of Jesus' actions at the Last Supper. This Sunday we focus on: He took...

For me, taking communion with others is a very powerful moment when I feel very close to God. I am so glad that Jesus took those simple, everyday things, bread and wine, and used them in this symbolic and sacred way.

However, if all we do is take communion and then forget about action, it is meaningless. Jesus took action all the time to heal, teach and speak up for those on the margins of society and we are to be his hands and feet. For me taking communion means then taking action spurred on by my faith.

We are just coming to the end of Fairtrade Fortnight and I've been really upset by the lack of engagement by our supermarkets. The Co-Op is the best but still could do much more to highlight the work done and goods made by people in developing countries. These people are often exploited and by buying something with a Fairtrade symbol we can know they are getting a fair wage and other community support.

We may pay a bit more for the things we want but we are essentially giving to charity at the same time and taking action for a fairer world.

As our gospel reading says today: love one another as I have loved you... I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last...

*Nicky Davies*

*Growing in Faith,  
Reaching Out  
to All*

**St Mary's  
Fordingbridge  
SP6 1BB**

**St Mary's  
Breamore  
SP6 2DF**

**Holy Ascension  
Hyde  
SP6 2QJ**

**St Giles  
Godshill  
SP6 2JJ**

**St Boniface  
Woodgreen  
SP6 2AJ**

**St Mary's  
Hale  
SP6 2RF**

**Sandleheath  
Uniting Church  
SP6 IPT**

*We welcome all, especially visitors and those attending for the first time. If you need gluten free wafers at Communion, please speak to someone at the door before the service.*

***Please take this newsletter home with you for the week ahead.***

*Please stay after the morning service for tea and coffee, to meet folk and ask any questions. God Bless*

# READINGS - for you to use today and during the week

## Lent I—'He Took' 10th March, 2019

### COLLECT:

Heavenly Father,  
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,  
and grew closer to you in the desert:  
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer  
that we may witness to your saving love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**AMEN.**

### **PSALM 91:1-11** (*For Morning Prayer*)

1. Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,
2. Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold,  
my God, in whom I put my trust.'
3. For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler  
and from the deadly pestilence.
4. He shall cover you with his wings  
and you shall be safe under his feathers;  
his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.
5. You shall not be afraid of any terror by night,  
nor of the arrow that flies by day;
6. Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness,  
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.
7. Though a thousand fall at your side  
and ten thousand at your right hand,  
yet it shall not come near you.

8. Your eyes have only to behold  
to see the reward of the wicked.
9. Because you have made the Lord your refuge  
and the Most High your stronghold,
10. There shall no evil happen to you,  
neither shall any plague come near your tent.
11. For he shall give his angels charge over you,  
to keep you in all your ways.

## **A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy**

*Deuteronomy 26:1-11*

*The Jewish Law sets out the principle of offering the first-fruits of harvest in thanksgiving.*

Moses spoke to the people, saying: <sup>1</sup> When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, <sup>2</sup> you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. <sup>3</sup> You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.' <sup>4</sup> When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, <sup>5</sup> you shall make this response before the LORD your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. <sup>6</sup> When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, <sup>7</sup> we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. <sup>8</sup> The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; <sup>9</sup> and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup> So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.' You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. <sup>11</sup> Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

*At the end, the Reader says:*

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL READING

*Please stand and turn to face the Gospel Reader*

*When the Gospel is announced, the Reader says:*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *John*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**(Glory be to thee, O Lord.)**

*John 15:12-17*

*'He Took...'*

Jesus said: <sup>12</sup>'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

*At the end, the Reader says:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(At the end, the Reader says:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.)**

*(c) New Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible.*

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Lord God,  
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;  
by it you nourish our faith,  
increase our hope,  
and strengthen our love:  
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,  
and enable us to live by every word  
that proceeds from out of your mouth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**AMEN.**

**EMERGENCY PRAYER CHAIN** : Please send all requests for prayer to [prayer@avp-benefice.org.uk](mailto:prayer@avp-benefice.org.uk). If you feel able to commit to regular prayer for those on the list and wish to become a prayer partner, please make contact via the above e-mail address.



**GARY OUT & ABOUT** : Gary is leading worship in his role as Area Dean at All Saints' in St Ives this morning. **Monday**, meetings in the morning, Messy Church at Hyde in the afternoon, and Hale's Angels' Supper at the Rectory in the evening. **Tuesday**, 'Clergy Briefing' in Colbury in the morning, other meetings, and 'Digital Giving Training' at Old Alresford Place in the afternoon, followed by leading Evensong at Winchester Cathedral. **Wednesday**, Lent Group at the Rectory in the morning, followed by hosting the Deanery Chapter of Clergy at lunchtime, attending a lecture by a former Curate in the afternoon, and Staff Team Meal in the evening. **Thursday**, Meetings in the morning, 'Story & Song' at Fordingbridge Nursery at lunch time, assembly at Breamore School, and a wedding rehearsal for Saturday's wedding at Fordingbridge. **Friday** evening, leading 'Padre's Hour' at the ATC (Air Training Cadets).

**THANK YOU**, everyone who helped with the Concert and Supper last Sunday, and 'Pancakes for All' on Tuesday, both at Fordingbridge. More very successful events. Gary

**MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK**, April 15th - There will be a Sung Compline at Breamore at 7.30 that evening. Gary is getting a choir together, and the plainsong music is very simple. There will be a short rehearsal the previous day at 12.00 noon (after the Palm Sunday Service), and/or on the Monday evening at 6.45. ***If you would like to join the choir, please speak to Gary.***

**QUIZ NIGHT** : Fordingbridge Choral Society is holding a fundraising Quiz Night on Saturday 30th March in the Church Hall at 7pm. Cost is £10 and includes two-course supper. Bring your own drinks please. You can buy your tickets from Jane Calver - 01425 656189 or email [janecalver@btinternet.com](mailto:janecalver@btinternet.com). Hope you can come.

**MICHAELMAS** : The next meeting of the Michaelmas group will be on Tuesday, 19th March at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall. The speaker will be from "It's Your Choice", which offers free information, guidance etc. to those aged 12 to 25 years. All welcome.

**TRADCRAFT STALL**. I will be running a stall at the end of the 9.30 service this Sunday, to make up for my absence last week. I can take orders for Easter eggs and cards and a range of other cards. I will also be present at the **Fair Trade Event on Saturday 9th March (10-12 in the Salvation Army Hall)** and will have some leaflets about Easter eggs and cards with me. Hope to see you and thank you for your support. Trudi

**SP6 FRIENDSHIP GROUP** : Our Friendship group for people who have been bereaved will be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March at Bridges Café in Fordingbridge between 10.00am and 12.00md. Everyone is welcome. If you need transport, please phone Kate Wilson on 01425 540669. You will be assured of a very warm welcome.

**THEATRE TRIP** : "Educating Rita" at Salisbury Playhouse Wednesday 19th June 7.30pm. £14.50 a ticket. Starring Stephen Tompkinson aka DCI Banks and Danny in Wild at Heart. Contact me on 01425 655462 or email [thetagues@fordingbridge.com](mailto:thetagues@fordingbridge.com) Payment required by 25th March please. Helen Tague

**JIGSAWS** “ Wooden jigsaws have gone far and wide”. Some of you may know I have been trying to sell some Wentworth Wooden jigsaws on EBay, and I have had some success. Two went to Michigan, USA, one to Inverurie in Aberdeenshire, one to Great Missenden in Bucks, and one to London. £67 in total. One still to sell plus two Victory plywood ones. Will let you know how I get on! Helen Tague

**FORDINGBRIDGE MOTHERS’ UNION** : will meet on Wednesday March 13th at 2.30pm, when we will welcome Mrs Heidi Trotman as our speaker.

**HYDE MOTHERS’ UNION** : will meet on Tuesday 12th March at 7.30pm. Our speaker this month will be Sue Brinkman and her talk is entitled, Listen, Observe, Act- In step with God. Our meetings are back in the Church Community Centre this month. We do hope that you will join us.

**BREAMORE QUIZ NIGHT!** - Saturday 23rd March in the Hulse Hall, Breamore. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start. Delicious hot supper. Bar and raffle. Still only £10 for a ticket! Available from Viv or Andy Finch 01725 512267. Come on your own or with a team of 6/8. We can guarantee a fun evening!

**WEDDING FAIR** : Sunday 28 April, 11am to 3pm. All are welcome to the Wedding Fair being held jointly at St Mary’s Hale and Hale Park —many local wedding suppliers will be attending inc photographers, flowers, cars, dresses, food wine and more.

**SPRING CLEAN at St Mary's Church, Hale:** Ahead of our Wedding Fair (see above) on 28 April and many weddings this year, our church needs an extra clean and tidy up - inside and out! We plan to tackle the cobwebs etc from 10am to midday on Saturday 13th April. We will then enjoy a fish and chip lunch together. All welcome to join in. Call Rev Nicky to join in and to book your lunch order. 07931 413629.

**LENT GROUPS** start this week, as follows :

**‘Experiencing Prayer’:**

- Wednesday mornings, 10.00, the Rectory, 71 Church Street, Fordingbridge SP6 1BB;
- Thursday afternoons, 2.30 at Slate Cottage, 27, Bridge Street, Fordingbridge. SP6 1AH
- Thursday evenings, 7.30 at St Boniface, Woodgreen.

**‘A Beautiful Friendship’**, based on the film, ‘Casablanca’:

- Thursday evenings at 7.30 in Frogham Chapel at Hyde, SP6 2HZ (Coffee from 7.10).

**The LENT LEAFLET has full details of all the Lent Services and Activities - it is now available in the March Magazines, in Church, or from our website.**

**LENT LUNCHESES** : The 7 Lent Lunches in 2019 will continue on Wednesdays until the last lunch on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April, in Holy Week, all from 12.15pm – 1.30pm.** Hopefully you have these dates in your diary and can join us in the church hall to enjoy home-made soup etc. Thank you to everyone who has already offered help with serving soup, making coffee/tea and washing up; the rota is almost full. Funds raised from our Lent Lunches will be shared between St Mary’s Church and The Children’s Society. Thank you. Martin and Jane Calver (01425 656189).

**LEGO AMNESTY!** : We are currently collecting Lego, if anyone has any they would like to donate, please drop it off at the Church Office. Many thanks.

**MAGAZINES** : If you have any spare “news” type magazines, perhaps Sunday, daily paper magazines with news in, please could you drop them into the Church Office. Thanks, John Towler

**RINGWOOD & FORDINGBRIDGE FOODBANK** : The Warehouse is asking for some gluten free products—snacks, bread, biscuits, flour etc. Rice cakes are acceptable too. Thank you for all your support. Sarah Perrelle

**OPEN DOORS : What happened when Open Doors launched their World Watch List 2019 in Parliament?** You can read about this, and other topical issues in the March Open Doors magazine and Prayer Diary out now! Thank you everyone, who takes the Open Doors magazine, and prays for the persecuted church. Pick up a copy to see how you can help people like us, who suffer for being a Christian. More information from [www.opendoorsuk.org](http://www.opendoorsuk.org). *And Note For Your Diary:* there will be a Speaker from Open Doors at St Mary’s FB (at 9.30am) and St Mary’s Breamore, (at 11am) on Sunday 12 May.

**CHURCH OFFICE** : The Church Office will be closed on Monday 11 March.

## **REFLECTION :**

Lent is upon us! “Lent is an opportunity to realign ourselves to God and to pursue a new relationship with him” wrote John Main, a Benedictine monk who first introduced meditation as a way of prayer to our world. Meditation was the way of prayer of the Desert Mothers and Fathers in the third and fourth centuries. Lawrence Freeman also a Benedictine Monk tells us that Lent can be a time for ‘giving things up’ or a time for starting something new – or both.” Reflecting on ‘both’ I remembered how my grandmother used to say when I grumbled, “never mind just count your blessings” which brought to mind the song we sang in Sunday School ‘Count your blessings one by one’. A gift for reflection and prayer in Lent? Concentrating on one psalm in a quiet or silent time gives a feeling of enormous gratitude leading to prayer for those who are less fortunate. A way of both thanking God and remembering those worse off.

Bring us to our senses.

Kindle the flame of faith within us  
that we may live. (Psalm 80 redux)

*Daphne Himmel*

Contact : Jackie Garratt or Gail Newell, Church Office, The Rainbow Centre, 39 Salisbury Street, Fordingbridge SP6 1AB  
Tel. 01425 653163 e-mail:church.office@fordingbridge.com www.avp-benefice.org.uk

**CHURCH OFFICE OPEN - MONDAY TO FRIDAY 10.30am to 12 noon**

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<b>Sunday 10 March</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Hyde</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Woodgreen</b>
	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>	<b>Sandleheath</b>
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Breamore</b>
	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Evensong</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
Monday 11	9.00am	Morning Prayer	Fordingbridge
	All day	Church Office closed	Fordingbridge
Tuesday 12	9.15am	Alpha Course, The Vicarage	Hyde
	7.00pm	Alpha Course, The Vicarage	Hyde
	7.30pm	Hyde Mothers' Union	Hyde
Wednesday 13	9.00am	Morning Prayer	Fordingbridge
	10.00am	Prayers and coffee morning	Godshill
	10.00am	Prayer Meeting	Frogham Chapel
	11.30am	Holy Communion	Fordingbridge
	12.15pm	Lent Lunch, Church Hall	Fordingbridge
	2.30pm	Fordingbridge Mothers' Union	Fordingbridge
	7.45pm	Meditation Drop In	Fordingbridge
Thursday 14	7.30pm	Bell Ringing	Fordingbridge
Friday 15	6.20pm	Choir practice	Fordingbridge
Saturday 16	2.00pm	<i>Wedding-Gemma Christians &amp; James Forrest</i>	<i>Fordingbridge</i>
<b>Sunday 17 March</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Hyde</b>
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Annual Church Celebration/baptism</b>	<b>Hyde</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Worship for all</b>	<b>Hyde</b>
	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>C of E Morning Service</b>	<b>Sandleheath</b>
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Matins (NB-changed)</b>	<b>Breamore</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>Baptisms</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Baptism meeting in church</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Evensong</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>	