

Notices for Sunday 11th July 2021
Ponteland Methodist Church
Minister – Rev Jona Sewell (Tel. 822057)

LET THE LOVE OF JESUS BE KNOWN

15th in Ordinary Time // Slavery and Freedom
Action for Children Sunday

MESSAGE FROM JONA

Given the government announcement earlier in the week, it seems likely that our planned reopening for worship on July 25th will be able to proceed without any significant restrictions still in place. While we are awaiting confirmation of whether there will be any kind of Covid related measures remaining, the current narrative does seem to suggest that legal requirements around social distancing and facemasks will be lifted, and that we would be able to sing.

I am aware that some people are chomping at the bit and full of excitement at the thought of being back, while others are feeling some hesitancy and even a little bit of anxiety. As we return, it will be important that we are pastorally sensitive to what others might be feeling. Please don't put yourself at risk if you don't yet feel ready or safe, and if you would feel safer wearing a mask when you first return then I would encourage you to do so, whether it is a legal requirement or not.

At the moment, we expect our first few weeks back look like this:-

July 25th, 10am - Rev Jona Sewell. No evening service
August 1st, 10am - Steve Small. 5pm - 'Songs of Praise' at St Mary's
August 8th, 10am - Rev Jona Sewell. 6:30pm - Rev Jona Sewell

Please pray for us as we work towards getting everything ready for reopening. I hope to be able to confirm further details next week.

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Rev Jona Sewell
Newcastle West Circuit
01661 822057
@WanderingRev

LECTIONARY

2 Samuel 6 : 1-5, 12b-19, Psalm 24, Ephesians 1 : 3-14, Mark 6 : 14-29.

The following questions are from today's Lectionary using the NIV version:-

- 1) Who did Herod give a banquet to on his birthday?
- 2) What are the names of Abinadab's sons?

You will find the answers on the back page.

NEWCASTLE WEST METHODIST CIRCUIT SERVICE

The service for **11th July 2021** is led by **Rev. Tim Woolley** on the theme of **"Whatever happened to John the Baptist?"**

The Bible reading is **Mark Ch. 6 : v 14-29.**

CORNERSTONE

The Summer combined July/August issue is now available on the Ponteland Methodist Church website. For ease of access, if you click on this link below, it takes you straight to it by pressing Ctrl and click the mouse together :-

<http://www.ponteland-methodist-church.org.uk/images/cornerstone/cornerstone-Jul2021.pdf>

THANK YOU

Thank-you to everyone who has sent cards, telephoned, emailed, visited and sent flowers since my recent surgery. I am making good progress, but I know I have to take my time.

Rachel

ACTION FOR CHILDREN

Action for Children boxes - I obviously wasn't able to collect these over Christmas. I'm either happy to collect from those who have them or could you drop them with Howard by the 25th July. (24, Hadrian Court) I will then empty these and get them back to you in due course. Many thanks for your continued support of Action for Children.

Rachel

PONTELAND PARISH FLOWER SHOW 2021

The committee has reviewed the current Covid situation and now will be holding a virtual Flower Show in September. The schedule will be as 2020 show so entrants can start making photographic records for entries in the Show. Further details on how to enter will be made available as soon as they have been arranged.

Syd Cowan

PRAYERS

Be to us, O Lord Jesus Christ, the joy prepared for those who are faithful, the vision granted to the pure in heart and the light that shines on the path of those who love your word; now and forever.

Amen

Creator God, by whose word the universe was willed into existence and by whose love each one of us is created and redeemed, grant us so to recognise our interconnectedness with all creation that we might live in respect for all that is around us.

May we treat your creation gently and with reverence, respecting the ground on which we tread, that by our nurture and care of all that sustains us we may pass on to others that which we have received so that all might share in its benefits.

Help us to recognise that “the earth is the LORD’s and all that is in it” so that with all creation we may honour the Creator and live together responsibly and with love.

Amen

Draw us, O Christ, by grace irresistible, to the centre of all faith and to the heart of all sacrifice; to the deepest of all wells and to a work that is not our own; even your holy Cross, to which we cling and by which we are held; for your own name’s sake.

Amen

Eternal God, as you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbour, grant us the gift of your Spirit that we may be devoted to you with all our heart and united to each other with a pure will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

God of field and farm, forest and ocean, you entrust to us the stewardship of this incredible planet. We remember before you those whose work is to husband and harvest it, and pray that you will teach us again, each one, to love your world, to love each other, to love ourselves and above all, to love you. *Amen*

Loving God, thank you that in your love, forgiveness and compassion you did not abandon all that you have made but came amongst us in your Son, Jesus Christ, to heal, guide and transform. May your life and love truly inform and shape all our hearts and minds for the challenges and the opportunities that lie before us. For those who struggle, may there be comfort and release; for those who would bring relief, may there be wisdom and strength; and for those who lead, and for us all, may eyes and minds, hearts and hands be open to see, love and respond, as you see, love and respond, for the sake and love of all. *Amen*

**Please send your notices to Geoff Lisle by next Friday, 12noon,
Either by phone:- 01661 822532, by post:- 42, Ridgely Drive. NE20 9BL
or by E-mail :- Geoffandangela@btinternet.com**

Bible Quiz Answers:-

- 1) His high officials, military commanders and the leading men of Galilee (Mark 6:21)
- 2) Uzzah and Ahio. (2 Samuel 6:3)