

A Few Words on the Readings

Jonah 3:10, 4:1-11. Throughout the ages God has shown himself to be a loving God but Jonah finds it hard to understand how God can be loving to other peoples especially his enemies. He is angry and tries to run away from God but God calls him and reminds him that his goodness extends to all peoples, to whoever turns to him. This is a message which we sometimes find hard to accept and is echoed in Christ's words that *the last will be first, and the first last*.

Philippians 1:21-end. Philippa is the first town in Europe in which Paul preached. It was a Roman colony with a small Jewish community. On his second visit he founded a church and much later on he writes to its congregation. His letter is one of encouragement, urging the church's members to remain faithful to Christ. He speaks of himself and his conviction that *living is Christ and dying is gain*. He rejoices in the progress that the Christians of Philippa have made in the faith and urges them to live in a way that is worthy of the Gospel, showing unity and determination when faced with difficulties.

Matthew 20:1-16. The parable of the labourers in the vineyard challenges conventional thinking about reward and remuneration being proportional to the effort made. No-one can earn God's salvation and however long we have been followers of Christ we must accept that latecomers have an equal place in God's kingdom. God's generosity is overwhelming and there is no place for jealousy on our part if he extends his generosity to all those who turn to him.

Opportunities for worship, prayers and other resources 20.09.2020

Reflection & Compline on Thursday at 7.30 pm on the Southwell Minster website at www.southwellminster.org

Radio & TV

Sunday Worship on Radio 4 at 8-10 am Songs of Praise BBC 1 at 12.25 pm.
Choral Evensong Wednesday at 3-30pm on BBC Radio 3 & on Sundays at 3.00pm
The Daily Service (15 minutes on weekdays) at 9h45 on BBC Radio 4 long wave.

PHONE LINE for WORSHIP & PRAYERS for people without INTERNET

0800 804 8044 is available 24 hours a day and is a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes. Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.