

This week's services



Sunday 18th August

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Finstock**

Friday 23rd August

6.30pm, Evening Prayer, **Wilcote**

Sunday 25th August

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Finstock**

Everyone welcome at all services!



These Bible readings are designated for each day

Monday	<i>Acts 8: 26-end</i>
Tuesday	<i>Acts 9: 1-19a</i>
Wednesday	<i>Acts 9: 19b-31</i>
Thursday	<i>Acts 9: 32-end</i>
Friday	<i>Acts 10: 1-16</i>
Saturday	<i>John 1: 43-end</i>

Please pray for the following throughout the week

Monday *Those who are sick or grieving within our community.*

Tuesday *Those who are suffering in this country and around the world.*

Wednesday *The King and other leaders in this country.*

Thursday *For the troubled areas around the world, we pray for peace and justice.*

Friday *For the ministry of the Forest Edge Benefice and for those who lead us.*

Saturday *For an abundance of love, peace, harmony and forgiveness to reign within families and relationships.*

Please also pray for the Chipping Norton Deanery.



If we as a Church can help in any way, please contact:

The Rev'd Paul Mansell – 01993 868687
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PEW SHEET



18th August 2024
12th Sunday after Trinity

Please take this pew sheet with you when you leave.

Benefice website:

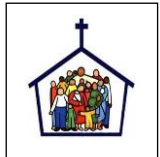
<http://www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk>

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forestedgebenefice

The Collect



Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

Proverbs 9: 1-6

Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town, 'You that are simple, turn in here!' To those without sense she says, 'Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight.'

Second Reading
Ephesians 5: 15-20

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading
John 6: 51-58

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.' The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'



Frank Baum was a newspaperman who put his writing talents to use in a series of children's books about a fairyland called the Land of Oz. His characters had wonderful adventures. Frank Baum later adapted his book into a musical. 20 years after his death, a musical film called "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" had its première yesterday (18th August) in 1939. In the story there are four unhappy characters:- a scarecrow who thinks he has no brain;- a tin woodsman who thinks he has no heart;- a lion who thinks he has no courage,- and a girl called Dorothy who thinks she has no power to change anything in her life. These four characters - all thinking little of themselves - believe that if they reach the Wizard of Oz he will change them so that they have the qualities and talents they would like. What they discover is that the Wizard doesn't force people to change; instead he cares about them. He sends each of them an invitation to see in themselves what they had not seen before. And so the scarecrow discovers that he already does have a brain. The tin woodsman realises that he does already have a heart. The lion possesses all he needs to be courageous. Dorothy has what it takes to change things in her own life. When Dorothy returns to Kansas (from where she had been taken by a tornado) she says to her aunt: "Oh, Aunt Em, I've been to many strange and marvellous places, looking for something that was right here all along... right in my own back yard!"

**God our Father,
in saying that you have written our names
on the palm of your hands,
you are telling us that each person
is unique and special to you.
We pray
that individuals may discover in themselves
the treasures you have given them,
and develop and put to good use
the qualities they hold in trust from you.
I pray and commit myself today
to promote goodness and happiness,
by treating others with respect and care
and understanding.
May others treat me today,
Father, in the same way as I treat them,
and so may we all
bring out the best in one another
and grow in the way we look at ourselves
and others.**

Amen

