

Readings for the week

Today	Romans 8 v 12 - 25 Matthew 13 v 24 - 30 & 36 - 43
Monday	Luke 20 v 41 - 21 v 4
Tuesday	Luke 21 v 5 - 9
Wednesday	Luke 8 v 1 - 3
Thursday	Luke 21 v 29 - 38
Friday	Luke 22 v 1 - 13
Saturday	Luke 9 v 46 - 56



Prayer

The Ministry Leadership Team would like you to pray for the following topics:

1. *Pray for parents and children at the beginning of the school summer holidays after a very strange term, that they may have patience with each other and find imaginative and joyful ways to use their time together.*
2. *Pray for Beth, our Children and Families worker, as she prepares activity packs to give away during the holiday time. Pray that God may bless this way of sharing his love and joy.*

We are delighted to welcome people back to services in church.

Priority will be given to those who are unable to access the on-line service which will continue. *Due to social distance restrictions our numbers are limited so **please remember to contact the Administrator by email or on 01789 763 246 to reserve a place at a service.***

The services will all be held at **10.00 am each Sunday.**

One will be held in St Nicholas, Alcester

The other will be held at a different Minster Church:

25 July will be at Holy Trinity, Arrow

02 August will be at St Peter, Coughton

Please share this information with anyone who cannot currently receive the Notice Sheet by email.



Did you know that you can now 'LIKE' Alcester Minster on Facebook? Find details and pictures of events at www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster If you would like to submit event notices or photos to be published on the page then please email administrator@alcesterminster.org



Welcome to the Alcester Minster Group of Churches Sunday 19 July 2020

Trinity 6 Green

"For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God"
Romans 8 v 14

Collect

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who
love you
such good things as pass our
understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward
you
that we, loving you in all things and
above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
through 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.

Alternative Collect

Creator God,
you made us all in your
image:
may we discern you in all
that we see,
and serve you in all that
we do;
through Jesus Christ our
Lord.

Common Worship, material from which is included on this pew leaflet, is copyright of The Archbishop's Council and The Central Board of Finance of the Church of England. St Nicholas, Alcester: Copyright licence: CCLI 296655

Ministry Team:

Revd Adrian Guthrie: St Nicholas Rectory, Old Rectory Garden,
Alcester, B49 5DB Tel: 01789 764 261 email: rector@alcesterminster.org

Revd Sue Henwood: Kinwarton Rectory, Sernal Lane, Great Alne
Alcester B49 6HY Tel: 01789 488 344 email: sue.henwood@live.co.uk

Revd Julian Davey: The Field House, Allimore Lane
Alcester, B49 5PR Tel: 01789 764 640 email: jw.davey@yahoo.com

Children & Family Worker:

Beth Clarke email: beth.clarke@covLEC.org Tel: 0749 432 9638

Administrator:

Tricia Berry (Monday - Friday 10.00am - 1.30 pm) Tel: 07840 284 294
email: administrator@alcesterminster.org Alcester Minster Office, Church House,
is currently closed.

Alcester Minster website: www.alcesterminster.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster

Matthew 13 v 24-26

²⁴ Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Thought for the Day

Most people seem to love gardening. I have got to say, it is not one of the things I like to do. To me 'it's a chore'! I much prefer being inside on my laptop. Isn't it brilliant that God made us all different?

In Genesis 1 v 28 – 29 it clearly states God wants us to care for the world he created. Planting and caring for what has been planted allows us to be close to nature and many do feel closest to God communing with his creation.

In today's passage Jesus is teaching about the Kingdom of heaven. Jesus said God sows good seed that should bring a good harvest. The first part of the passage explains how good and bad seed grow together. We live in the world surrounded by both good and evil.

If we are seed, we want to be good seed, the people of the kingdom. We do not want to be the weeds which will be 'pulled up and burned in the fire'.

I believe God wants all of us to be good seed. What we all need to do is to work out for ourselves how to be good seed. That is the hard bit. That needs more work than being one of the weeds. Working to be good seed is something I have to do every day.

Just like our gardens. It takes effort and commitment to keep the garden tidy. It is far easier to let the weeds run amok.

One of the most encouraging things from the passage for me is v36b *'His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field"'*. How often do we read something we don't understand and would like someone to explain it to us? I know, like the disciples, I don't have all the answers. Just as Jesus was happy to explain it for the disciples, I know God does not want us to be ignorant of his teaching. In last week's reading from Matthew 13, we are told in verses 18 – 19, if we do not understand the message will be 'snatched away'. *"Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: when anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart"*.

I know, if I don't understand what I read in the Bible, I can ask God to help me understand it. That is why I give thanks for the Holy Spirit, who can help me to understand. Sometimes through meditating on the passage by myself other times by discussing with others, such as in my home group. It can become to feel less confusing.

*Proverbs 24 v 3: By wisdom a house is built,
and through understanding it is established.*

I choose to seek wisdom and understanding.

The more I can understand, the more confident I can grow in my faith. My hope is that I can grow to be 'good' seed. And, with the help of the Holy Spirit, I can try to share my experience of God with others. Help to bring a good harvest, help to build his house here on earth.

Prayer

*Father God, we seek your guidance:
to grow into good seed,
to ignore the bad seed.
to grow in wisdom and understanding. Amen.*