

Reflection

Today is Bible Sunday, the day in the church year where we traditionally give thanks for the Holy Scriptures – the living Word of God. The Bible shows us who God is, who we are as God's people, and how we are called to live. Through its stories, laws, poetry and teaching, we encounter the character of God, the story of redemption and God's overwhelming love for each of us.

As members of the Church of England here at St Thomas', we stand in a rich tradition where Scripture is at the heart of our worship, doctrine and daily life. The words we hear in our liturgy, many of the hymns we sing and the prayers we pray are all shaped by the Bible.

Some of you may be familiar with the true story of Mary Jones, a 15year old Welsh girl who, in 1800, walked 26 miles to buy a Bible. I have previously played the role of Mary's mother in 'Greater than Gold' – a musical based on Mary's life, and was hugely inspired by her story. Mary saved up for 6 years by cleaning homes and selling eggs and honey before walking barefoot over the Welsh mountains to buy the precious book. Her inspirational story served as a catalyst to establish the British and Foreign Bible Society, (The Bible Society) which helps make the Bible available to more people around the world.

But there are still many people who cannot access a Bible in their native language – there are nearly 1700 languages where there is still no Bible translation. And so today, we give thanks and pray for the work of the Bible Society as they translate and distribute God's Holy Word to all corners of the world.

Rev Sarah



NEXT SUNDAY 02.11.25 All Saints Sunday

10.30am in the Church

READINGS: OT Isaiah 45: 22-25

NT Romans 15: 1-6

GOSPEL Luke 4: 16-24



4pm All Souls service with reading of names

CONTACT US

Revd Sarah Mounoury, Minister 07491 360399

revsarahmounoury@gmail.com

Day off: Monday

Ian Totterdell, Church Warden 07536 459096

ian.totterdell@cantab.net

Mary Daunton, Church Warden 0779742792

Phil Baker, Licensed Lay Minister 07970 216740

lionelbaker@outlook.com

Revd Mike Clark, Associate Priest

mike.clark@exeter.anglican.org

Revd Terry Litherland, 07594 633195

tlitherland36@gmail.com

Revd Sarah Cumming Assistant Priest [on secondment at St Davids]

Liz Pioneer Community Worker & LLM

pioneerstthomas@gmail.com

Email: parishoffice@stthomaschurchexeter.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sttexeter

Website: www.stthomaschurchexeter.co.uk

X (formerly Twitter): @sttexeter

Office Tel: 01392 437486 Messages at any time.



St Thomas, Exeter

26th October 2025

Bible Sunday

10.30am in the Church

Today

Sung Eucharist

Hymn Numbers

27 *Amazing grace*

128 *Fight the good fight*

287 *Just as I am, without one plea*

261 *Jesu, lover of my soul*

Tuesday 28th October

7.30pm House Group at Helen's house.

Wednesday 29th October

10am Holy Communion (BCP)

Thursday 30th October

9.30-11am St Thomas Tots

10.30-12noon Knit & Natter at Jenny Tuckett's house

Friday 31st October

9.30am Morning Prayer

10am Staff Meeting



Collect

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Isaiah 45: 22-25

Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth!
For I am God, and there is no other. By myself I
have sworn, from my mouth has gone forth in right-
eousness a word that shall not return: 'To me every
knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.' Only in
the Lord, it shall be said of me, are righteousness
and strength; all who were incensed against him
shall come to him and be ashamed. In the Lord all
the offspring of Israel shall triumph and glory.

Psalms 119: 129-136

Your testimonies are wonderful;
therefore my soul keeps them.
The opening of your word gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.
I open my mouth and draw in my breath,
as I long for your commandments.
Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as is your way with those who love your name.
Order my steps by your word,
and let no wickedness have dominion over me.
Redeem me from earthly oppressors
so that I may keep your commandments.
Show the light of your countenance upon your
servant
and teach me your statutes.
My eyes run down with streams of water,
because the wicked do not keep your law.

Romans 15: 1-6

We who are strong ought to put up with the fail-
ings of the weak, and not to please our-
selves. Each of us must please our neighbour for
the good purpose of building up the neigh-
bour. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it
is written, 'The insults of those who insult you
have fallen on me.' For whatever was written in
former days was written for our instruction, so
that by steadfastness and by the encouragement
of the scriptures we might have hope. May the
God of steadfastness and encouragement grant
you to live in harmony with one another, in ac-
cordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you
may with one voice glorify the God and Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 4: 16-24

When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had
been brought up, he went to the synagogue on
the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up
to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was
given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the
place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord
is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring
good news to the poor. He has sent me to pro-
claim release to the captives and recovery of
sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he
rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant,
and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue
were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them,
'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your
hearing.' All spoke well of him and were amazed
at the gracious words that came from his mouth.
They said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?' He said to
them, 'Doubtless you will quote to me this prov-
erb, "Doctor, cure yourself!" And you will say, "Do
here also in your home town the things that we
have heard you did at Capernaum." ' And he said,
'Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the
prophet's home town.

Intercessions

God of our making
Have mercy on us

Post Communion

God of all grace, your Son Jesus Christ fed the
hungry with the bread of his life and the word of
his kingdom: renew your people with your heav-
enly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by
your true and living bread; who is alive and
reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Notices

Today we are hosting the annual multicultural All
Souls Festival with activities, talks and choir in the
hall, church and churchyard. Please come along to
support this vibrant event

Our own **All Saints and All Souls services** will be
held on **2nd November**; All Saints at our 10:30am
Sung Eucharist, and All Souls at 4pm. As usual we will
be reading the names of the departed at the All Souls
service; if there is a *new* name you would like added
to the list this year please speak to the churchward-
ens or Jenny Thomas.

St Thomas Methodist Church is organizing Christmas
shoeboxes for Ukraine and Moldova. Fill a box with
simple presents for an adult or a child, label it with
the age of the intended recipient and bring it to our
church no later than Sunday 2nd November.

**On Remembrance Sunday 9 November from
2.30-4.30pm, please Come and Remember.**

An opportunity to drop in to church, share stories,
and light a candle in memory of a loved one. Re-
freshments will be available. Do come, and spread
the word amongst your friends and neighbours.

