

Hello St Thomas!

I am delighted to be joining you all for the next few months, and leading the worship here for the first time this morning. Thank you all for your welcome so far.

I join you all from my previous role as a curate in East Devon, where I served the parishes of Woolbrook, and Sidbury with Sidford in the Sid Valley, and due to the short time I will be with you, I will remain living in Sidmouth with my family and will commute into Exeter as I serve here. I have a wonderful, supportive husband, and 3 teenagers, one of whom has recently started university, the other two are students at Exeter College.

I have had a mixed background prior to ordination – my first career was in the Royal Navy where I served as a navigator; I have also worked as an Estate Agent, owned my own cake business, and been a childminder and a Teaching Assistant, more recently for children with additional needs. I hope that some of these skills will serve me well in my vocation in the church!

I am excited to be among you here and am looking forward to exploring new and different ways to worship outwith our Sunday service, and listening to you all as we seek to continue to share God's love and grow God's kingdom in this fabulous community. I am looking forward to getting to know you and hearing your stories, and discerning God's vision for this next chapter here at St Thomas'. My prayer is that this will be a place where everyone is seen, heard and valued, where questions are welcomed and where we can all journey together and serve in faith, hope and love as we grow as a kingdom people in this place.

Revd Sarah



NEXT SUNDAY 26.10.25 Bible Sunday
10.30am in the Church

READINGS: OT Isaiah 45: 22-25

NT Romans 15: 1-6

GOSPEL Luke 4: 16-24



CONTACT US

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Day off: Monday

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St Thomas, Exeter

19th October 2025

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am in the Church

Today

Sung Eucharist

Hymn Numbers

560 Will you come and follow me

467 Tell out, my soul

316 Lord, teach us how to pray aright

310 Lord, for the years

Wednesday 22nd October

10am Holy Communion (BCP)

2pm Young at Hearts

Thursday 23rd October

9.30-11am St Thomas Tots

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

Friday 24th October

9.30am Morning Prayer

10am Staff Meeting

Saturday 25th October

12.30pm Ladies Lunch at the Royal Oak



Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; 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.

Amen

Genesis 32: 22-31

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

2 Timothy 3: 14-4:5

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for re-

proof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Luke 18: 1-8

Jesus told the disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "Grant me justice against my opponent." For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming." 'And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?'

Post Communion

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that

table where you reign with all your saints for ever. **Amen**

Notices

Thanks for all the produce donated to our Harvest Thanksgiving service. It has all been transferred to Exeter Foodbank for distribution to those in need.

Next week we are celebrating **Bible Sunday**. If anyone has a bible or Christian books at home they no longer need, please bring them to church and they will be distributed to churches in Africa where there is a need for theological literature. A box will be placed at the back of the church.

On **Sunday 26th October** our church, hall, and churchyard will be hosting a **multi-cultural All Souls Festival** (events in the church itself, talks and a choir, will follow our usual Sunday service). Please support this vibrant event taking place on our doorstep! Volunteers are needed, see Liz for more info.

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 churchwardens 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.

