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

Nehemiah 8: 1-4a (5-6) 8-12

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose. [And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.] So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.' So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, 'Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.' And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

Colossians 3: 12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Matthew 24: 30-35

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven" with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. 'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.'

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 heavenly 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

Please note that the Knit & Natter venues have changed for the next two Thursdays. Details on the front of this sheet.

Sunday 25th October There will be a multi-cultural All Souls celebration in the Church, Churchyard and Hall. Our service will be as usual but the refreshments will be in the church and the time shortened.

Don't forget to put your clocks back at 2am on Sunday morning.

Sunday 1st November All Souls/All Saints. We are asking for names of loved ones to be read out at the All Souls service.

Sunday 8th November. There will be the usual gathering at the memorial in the churchyard followed by a joint service here with the Methodist Church.

Reflection – Bible Sunday

Bible Sunday is a day set aside to celebrate the Bible and its impact on our lives and on our communities. Its aim is to focus on its teachings, to highlight the importance of Scripture in our lives It also serves as a reminder of the many people that do not have some form of Scripture in their own language. The idea of a Lectionary that uses a cycle of readings began in the Jewish Synagogues, but Archbishop Thomas Cranmer formulated a one-year cycle in1549,later revised in 1662. Now we use a three-year cycle of readings.

Can I encourage you to take this Pew sheet home with you, focus on the set readings, and I hope and pray that you can find a stimulation for your daily prayers.

Fr Terry



NEXT SUNDAY 01.11.26 ***All Saints Day***
10.30am in the Church. All Age with Baptism
OT Revelation 7: 9-end
NT 1 John 3: 1-3
GOSPEL Matthew 5: 1-12
3pm in the Church All Souls
6pm Evening Service

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St Thomas, Exeter

25th October 2026
Bible Sunday

Today
10.30am Sung Eucharist (in the church)
Hymn Numbers
296 Let all the world in every corner sing
39 As the deer pants for the water
309 Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour
321 Love divine, all loves excelling
12noon-5pm Multi-cultural All Souls in the Church, churchyard and the hall
6pm Evening Service (in the church)

Tuesday 27th October
7.30pm House Group at Helen's house

Wednesday 28th October
10am Holy Communion (BCP; in the church)

Thursday 29th October
9.30-11am St Thomas Tots (in the hall)
10.30-12noon Knit & Natter (at Su & Ted's house)

Friday 30th October
9.45am Morning Prayer
10.15am Staff Meeting