

# Outlook

*"The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,  
and his ears are attentive to their cry."*



Psalm 34:15-16

Last week our nation celebrated the 80th anniversary of VE Day. We rightly paused to remember the tremendous sacrifice of all those who served and the many who gave their lives for freedom in Europe from the tyranny of Nazism. But do you know the story of what Winston Churchill did in Parliament on May 8th 1945?

As Prime Minister, Churchill offered a spontaneous invitation to all the Members of Parliament to accompany him in a visit to Westminster Abbey - there and then, in the middle of the working day - to give thanks to God for the liberation of Europe and an end to that phase of the 2nd World War.

Records show that people all across the UK raced to attend church meetings that day - so much so that Westminster abbey and elsewhere held back-to-back services all day to try to accommodate the grateful crowds.

Overleaf is just one of the prayers printed in the Abbey's order of service from that VE Day:

To Thee, O Lord, Champion Leader of Thy people, do we Thy servants ascribe thankoffering of victory, for Thou hast delivered us in the cloudy and dark day. And as Thou has invincible power, let the design of Thy great love lighten up the waste of our wraths and sorrows; and give peace to Thy Church, peace among nations, peace in our dwellings and peace in our hearts. We ask it in the name of the Victorious Christ, Thy Son our Blessed Lord. *Amen.*

**Above:** *Prayer from the order of service at Westminster Abbey on VE Day.*

Here's just one thought that occurs to me having read this prayer and heard about Churchill's leadership that day: Wouldn't it be incredible to see a return to lively Christian faith at the heart of our nation's life? This prayer acknowledges that the Victory in Europe was Christ's, and that we need his invincible power and love to bring a similar victory to our churches, homes and hearts. It was a vision for Christ to be King of everything!

### Collect for Sunday May 11th

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life of  
righteousness, that we may seek  
those things which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.



### \*\*\*Change of Date for APCM\*\*\*

The date for our Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
has been moved to:

**10:00am Saturday 31st May 2025**

The meeting will be held in All Saints' as previously advertised.

## Bible Readings

### Psalm 23: A Psalm of David.

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| <p><sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures,<br/>he leads me beside quiet waters,</p> <p><sup>3</sup> he refreshes my soul.<br/>He guides me along the right paths<br/>for his name's sake.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> Even though I walk<br/>through the darkest valley,<br/>I will fear no evil,<br/>for you are with me;</p> | <p>your rod and your staff,<br/>they comfort me.</p> <p><sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me<br/>in the presence of my enemies.<br/>You anoint my head with oil;<br/>my cup overflows.</p> <p><sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and love will<br/>follow me<br/>all the days of my life,<br/>and I will dwell in the house of<br/>the Lord<br/>for ever.</p> |
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### Various Passages from Luke's Gospel

#### Luke 1:1-4

<sup>1</sup> Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, <sup>2</sup> just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eye witnesses and servants of the word. <sup>3</sup> With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup> so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

#### Luke 2:4-7

<sup>4</sup> So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup> He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup> and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

#### Luke 4:28-29

<sup>28</sup> All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. <sup>29</sup> They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff.

### Luke 13:23-30

<sup>23</sup> Someone asked him, 'Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?' He said to them, <sup>24</sup> 'Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. <sup>25</sup> Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, "Sir, open the door for us." 'But he will answer, "I don't know you or where you come from." <sup>26</sup> 'Then you will say, "We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets." <sup>27</sup> 'But he will reply, "I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!" <sup>28</sup> 'There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. <sup>29</sup> People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. <sup>30</sup> Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last.'

### Luke 19:10

<sup>10</sup> For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

### Luke 24:47

<sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

### Luke 24:39


<sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.

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## APCM - Might You Serve as a Deanery Synod Rep or PCC Member?

 Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (like an AGM) has been **MOVED** and will take place at **10am on Sat 31st May in All Saints'**.

## "2nd Sunday at 6" - Tonight, 11th May

 Join us at 6pm for a time of worship on Sunday 11th May. Tea & cake will be served at 5:30pm. Our focus will be prayer for the persecuted church.

## Keep in Touch



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