

## Bible Reading from the Old Testament

Genesis 25: verses 19 to 34

### The Birth and Youth of Esau and Jacob

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, 'Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger.' When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skilful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

### Esau Sells His Birthright

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.' Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?' Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Bible Reading from the New Testament

Romans 8: verses 1 to 11

### Life in the Spirit

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**



## Gospel Reading

Matthew 13: verses 1 to 9 and 18 to 23

### The Parable of the Sower

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!'

### The Parable of the Sower Explained

'Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Notices

**Refreshments** – are served at the back of church following this service – please join us for a cuppa and a chat – all welcome!



**Come and Join Us!** From 21<sup>st</sup> June our beautiful church will be open every Wednesday from 1pm – 4pm to welcome you with refreshments, a chat or simply as a space for quiet reflection. Please pop in – we will be delighted to see you!

### **200 Club, Kirk Langley**

Members' subscriptions are now due for 2023/24 and renewal letters will soon be distributed to existing members. The cost of membership is £15 per ticket and there are three draws each year – Harvest, Christmas and Easter - with prize money of £30, 1st place and £15, 2nd place. If you are not already a member and would like to join, please contact Michael Heap or Margaret Matthews for further information. Funds from the 200 Club help with the daily running costs of the Church.

### **Halter Devil Chapel Tercentenary**

Join us on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July from 1pm to celebrate 300 years of worship at this historic chapel on Intakes Lane DE56 2LU. If you have never visited before, this is a great opportunity to learn of its unusual history. The chapel will be open from 1pm and there will be a short service between 2-230pm. Mugginton School children are busy making a time-line to add to the display boards compiled by members of the history group. There will be an opportunity to try the harmonium from 230-4pm and refreshments will be served. All are welcome!

*If you would like to include a notice in the pew sheet please contact Emma Jones at [emvicjones@gmail.com](mailto:emvicjones@gmail.com)*

## Congratulations on your Baptism

Today we have the privilege of witnessing Rexton Richard Roy & Percival Arthur Thomas being welcomed into God's family



### Dates for your Diary

#### Next Sunday.....

23<sup>rd</sup> July – Trinity 7 Holy Communion at 9.30am.

### Contacts

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**WELCOME TO  
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH  
KIRK LANGLEY**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**Sixth Sunday after Trinity**



**The service today is Holy Communion  
With Baptism**

*If you have a prayer request, please  
pass to the Church Warden.*

**Please take this leaflet home with you for reference.**