

## St Andrews March 9

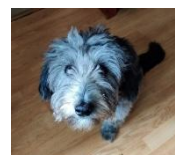
Lectionary: Luke 4:1-13, Romans 10: 5-15 Isaiah 52:7-8

### Introduction

*The lord be with you. And also, with you. (PICTURE OF ARTIE)*

I love my dog. **In public it is easier to tell strangers this, than to tell them I love God. I wonder why?**

***“Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy.”*** (Pope Francis)



### Notices

**Deployed by Methodists today. I'll share...**

Lent theme: **“Soul Food -All the things that nourish us.”** Great resources online. A usual, Meth and CE lectionary readings are the same today now that we have paused our local lectionary on the theme of tell. But that theme is not dead!

**Greenhill praise 22<sup>nd</sup> March.**

On **Ash Wednesday** at St John's Rev \*\*\* said, **“A lot has happened in the world** over the past few weeks with so much uncertainty. I reminded everybody, including myself, that when we put our hand into the King of King's then ultimately all the uncertainty, unpredictability and fear has an opportunity to be put into perspective. Jesus is King and always will be. Jesus is ultimately in charge. At least for me that brings comfort in times like this.”

\*\*\* went on to express the importance of prayer -the theme I picked up Ash Wednesday at St Swithin's. Prayer is the theme of the Lent course here on Wednesdays:

Dinks 7.15 for one hour learning together 7.30-8.30. **More News?**

## Hymns/Songs X1? (1)

Let's not forget -we are her to praise God!

*"To God be the glory"* -on screen

## Children attend their groups after story during and worship.

What's going on down there? Excuse me. My friend Horatio needs me. He's my short-sited hedgehog. Unlike other hedgehogs – he's soft and not prickly at all. (Pick up puppet and tell rhyming story)

**We do need to see the world and read the bible through the lens of the holy spirit to see and trust Jesus.**

## All my Days (\*\*\*) (2)

### Prayer/Confession

Lord's Prayer (ON SCREEN together)

Prayer from front:

*Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,*

*and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:*

*give us grace and resilience to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; to share your love with our neighbour,*

*and, as you know our weakness,*

*so may we know your power to save;*

*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.*

## You are beautiful beyond description (\*\*\*) (3)

### Bible Readings (\*\*\*)

Isiah 52:7-8 Luke 4:1-13. Romans 10: 5-15

### Creed (screened) (4)

### Sermon: (David Channon)

#### In our Gospel Reading we heard of the temptation of Jesus.

We should not expect a Christian life without challenge.  
Resilience needed.

When I was President of the CU we had a mission, supported by local churches. This made me a target. An outspoken student, called **Joe 90**, told me the **disciples had knives and even cut off ears. They were therefore bad people. He left quickly feeling smug. I should have done better but felt a bit battered. His use of the bible surprised me.**

Jesus too faced misuse of scripture. The Devil used the bible to try to trap Jesus. He did what he does to us. He tried to get Jesus distracted by **worldly riches of glory and authority.**

(Luke 4:7-8) *If you worship me, it will all be yours."*

*Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'"*

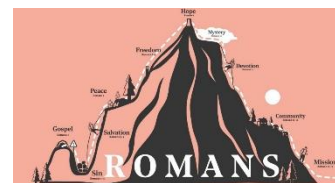
**Jesus replied with scripture and what he later called the greatest commandment.** The greatest commandments are all over the bible, old and New Testament.

If people, try to trick us with **scripture taken out of CONtext** we should take the lead from Jesus. Does what we hear adhere to the **greatest commandments?**

**We need to see the big picture of God’s love throughout the bible.**

Many have come to faith through the book Romans. In 1986 the actor David Suchet (perhaps best known in the role of Hercule Poirot “proclaimed” himself Christian after reading Romans 8 in his hotel room. He’s the voice of scripture behind Nicky Gumbles’ bible in a year. **He’s read the whole Bible for the big picture of God’s love to all – have we?** In November 2012, the Bible Society appointed David Suchet vice-president.

The Bible society recently released “The **Romans course**” by the **Dr Andrew Allerton**. He offers a big picture of a journey though the book of Romans.



**God’s purpose may be mysterious, but our role is clear. To share God’s love for all.**

**What’s afoot down there now? Do you like my boots?**

This pair is rather **worn**. Been **battered by the purpose** of getting me about. This **newer** pair is more beautiful on the outside, but may be a bit **stiff and not quite match the needs my feet**.

**What do beautiful feet look like? If off for a 20 mile walk in rough terrain -I Know which pair, I’d pick. Not the one that looks good on the outside. The one a bit battered but experienced and ready for serving their purpose?**

How can anyone **preach** unless they are sent?

“How beautiful are the **feet** of those who bring good news!” (Rom 10:15 NIV)

*Preach (NIV) Proclaim (NRSV) Tell (MSG)*

**Romans 10:15**

**Preach/Proclaim?**

**Κηρύσσω**

(Kay-roos'-so)



**Isaiah 52:7**

**Herald/Announce?  
(bringing, coming)**

**שָׁמַע**

(Shaw-mah')

(Isaiah 52:7 NIV) How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who **proclaim** peace, who bring good tidings, who **proclaim** salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

Preaching smacks of what I'm doing now at the front of a church. In this verse **Paul's metaphor using Isaiah is about sharing the good news to those at a distance.**

**Being over 50 I still use Facebook. Last week I wrote.**



David John Channon

5h · 🌐



It's easy to tell strangers you love your dog whilst out walking. It's not easy to tell them you love Jesus. This came whilst walking the dog...

Christians should be fishers of people. (Mat 4:19) That means getting out of our comfort zone. Not Goldfish safe in our own glass bubble. Unable to survive outside, but expecting admiration from those looking in. Dressed in fine gold. Opening and closing our mouths repeatedly at distance. God came and suffered with us in Jesus.

Christians are sent to tell the good news to those who've not heard. Walkers with beautiful feet. People who get out and proclaim the good news to all people. Romans 10:5-15 for me next Sunday.

I love my dog. Oh, and Jesus.

**We are called to be heralds. Leave our comfort zone**, go out of our way to **share God's love**. The heralds of the day would have run miles and taken risks wearing questionable footwear, if any at all. **Bruised and bloody, beautiful feet.**

What might it mean for us to have 'beautiful feet' ?

How can we go out of our way to **share God's love with colleagues and neighbours every day?**

(Psalm 94:18-19 NIV) *When I said, "My foot is slipping," your unfailing love, LORD, supported me. When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy.*

*(I may have slipped up, but the CU mission was a success to the extent that the University and Colleges Christian Fellowship made me their area rep.)*

Do you remember the first time you were bursting to share exciting news? A **birth or engagement**. A lottery win? **Could you keep it quiet?**

Have you ever had the privilege of telling another person the message of Jesus in such a way that they believed? More exciting?

In what ways can we **herald-proclaim-tell** of our allegiance to Christ today?

In the OT the name of God was once a name not allowed to be said. **BUT now we should speak** the name of the Lord Jesus.

(Romans 10:9) *"If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."*

The good news is both:

**Exclusive** - Jesus is the culmination of Law 10:4  
Jesus is the name given for our salvation. V10:9

(Joh 14:6 NIV) *Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

And yet the Christian message is also...

**Inclusive** - for, "**Everyone** who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (Romans 10:13)

**Declare and believe and you are saved. What do we believe?**

**Do we accept** the truth of the Incarnation, that the baby of Christmas is THE hope of life and glory? That Jesus of the NT is the LORD?

**Do we accept** the truth of His **resurrection**. That God raised Him from the dead. That our **salvation is** complete because of God's loving grace in the sacrifice of Jesus.

**Sharing god's love is critical. Not just privately, but publicly.**

**Have you gone public and clearly declared that Jesus Christ is Lord?**

(Rom 10:14 NIV) "...And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?"

Those who have not heard are unlikely to be in regular attendance at church. Those with beautiful feet get out there to share the good news of God's love. v15.

**What an honour and privilege** to proclaim his name. To worship and work with him for the salvation of our neighbours -not just those in church. **We must remain patient and ready to receive and reflect on his response. We await his return.**

**We long for your coming Lord Jesus (\*\*\*) (5)**

**Intercessions (\*\*\*)**

It's time to come before him in prayer right now.

**Children Return**

**Close**

The Christian journey is often tough. We will get battered and bruised in our service for God. We should not be like Rich Tea biscuits that go soggy and fall apart when dunked in hot stuff. We need the resilience of a Hobnob. God is with us.

**Go forth and Tell Screened (6)**

**Closing Prayer**

***Lord, thank you that everyone who calls on your name will be saved. Thank you that there is no greater privilege than being sent out to tell others. Help us to leave now and rise up taking the good news to all people, for all people. Amen***