

Dear Friends,

I have to confess that January is not my favourite month! I dislike putting Christmas decorations away and everything always seems bare and cold and a little dismal. Perhaps this year this is even more marked as we continue in lockdown. The one thing that cheers me and gives me hope is the sprouting of the Spring bulbs.

Bulbs when you plant them never look like they will come to much, but at this time of year they come into their own. Green shoots spring up amidst the fallen leaves, followed by the first snowdrop, the crocuses, then the daffodils and tulips. My favourites however are the tiny yellow winter aconites, often the very earliest to be seen. They are so small and frail and yet they withstand the very worst the winter has to throw at them; snow, frost, deluges of rain and winter storms, they shine through it all offering us a glimpse of springtime hope.

Something small and frail, yet with the ability to cheer and lift spirits and to bring hope and strength- not unlike a babe in a manger, who grows to become a teacher, healer and Saviour. In our readings at this time of year, we hear of the child Jesus growing to adulthood and beginning his ministry. A dove descends at his baptism, wine flows at a wedding and those curious about this new rabbi are told to 'come and see'. Glimpses of a heavenly kingdom and of a ministry to come.

What about us? How can we provide a glimpse of God's love to others or perhaps a ray of hope in the winter gloom? It might be through a phone call, a card sending loving thoughts or even something as simple as a smile.

Let's keep our eyes open for winter aconites and our hearts open to share God's love.

God Bless Ruth, Rita and Debbie

Vaccination Scam

Please be very careful. I have heard that people are being unscupulous and taking advantage of people who are awaiting the Coronavirus vaccination. The vaccination is free and you must not give your bank details to anyone in order to have the vaccination.

Sunday Worship A Circuit video recording of the Sunday Worship Sheet can be found at: http://www.trinitymethodistchurch.org.uk/worshipthisweek.htm

There is also a pre-recorded carol service on this link

Zoom Sunday Worship: You are welcome to join Zoom Worship on a Sunday morning with Rev Debbie Borda or Rev Rita Carr. If you would like to join in worship in this way then please contact either of them and they will give you details of how to join a zoom meeting.

Live stream service Ruth Ridge is leading a weekly service on the St John's Facebook page live at 6pm every Thursday. The service lasts about 30 mins and is available to watch live and on the page at any time after it has been broadcast. The service is available at: <u>https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsmethodistchurchsudbury</u> and you do not have to have a Facebook account to access it.

Keep following government advice to stay safe.



and open windows to let fresh air in.