

Dear Friends,

7th August 2020

I wonder how August is going for you? There is uncertainty, there has been utter devastation in Beirut, and there are so many risks in living through a global pandemic. And we are reminded of several miracles: the Feeding of the 5000 last week; the feast of the Transfiguration as I write this; and on Sunday Jesus walking on the water. I think each of those miracles can point us to discover anew ways that God is with us in our everyday lives and the ways we can respond compassionately.



On Tuesday, Chris Nickless led a socially distanced walk in Penn Street Woods and Three Counties Radio heard about it via our Facebook page and think it's a great idea – I'm sure there will be another walk or two soon.



Evensong on Sunday was another special service with live and recorded music, voices from home and church, together in a physically distanced way. How can we participate in worship and in church life while keeping each other safe? Please keep your ideas coming and your reflections – perhaps we will discover a valuable contemplative space. We've been working on the strange sound system noises and the livestream intermissions at the last couple of services in church. We hope to do a short livestream video just before the 8am service in church begins and to record the whole service for upload soon after.

You are welcome to attend the 8am Communion service in church this Sunday 9th August – no need to 'book'. Face coverings are mandatory in places of worship from this weekend unless you have an exemption, and you can remove your face covering to lead, read, intercess, preach etc. There are other practical notes about services during Covid in the newsheet.

10am Communion is pre-recorded and will be at www.facebook.com/greatmissendenchurch and at www.missendenchurch.org.uk/video from 9:58am. Compline will be live on Facebook at 6pm on Sunday.

During the week, Short Morning Prayer continues at 9.30am on Monday, with a Thought for the Day on Wednesday at 9.30am and Short Evening Prayer at 5pm on Friday – all live on Facebook and uploaded to the website at www.missendenchurch.org.uk/video shortly after.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered for Track & Trace to check people in for services, and also to spend a few minutes cleaning pews after services – if you would like to join either of these rotas, please contact Harriet in the Parish Office: 01494 862352 office@missendenchurch.org.uk

Do get in touch if you'd like a chat, a prayer or help. We will write again next week.

With our love and prayers,

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