

Welcome

Week beginning Sunday 12th October
17th After Trinity

Whenever I read 2 Kings 5 I think that Naaman sounds like a pretty unpleasant guy. Perhaps this is a bit unfair, as in his time being the commander of an army that attacked other nations and took slaves would have been seen as a normal way of life. But from a 21st Century perspective it is hard to feel warmly towards a man who made a living by fighting wars and who took a young girl away from her family to be a slave. And his reaction to Elisha's command to wash himself in the Jordan is almost comical in how over the top it is. Why does such a simple suggestion fill him with so much rage? What a diva!

Naaman's servants show how well they understand their master when they say, 'My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more then, when he tells you, "Wash and be cleansed"?'

The barrier between Naaman and his healing is his pride. A man who has earned everything in his life through his own abilities is offended at the idea that his healing will be a free gift that he cannot earn. He would have been much happier if Elisha had set him some difficult task so that he could feel he had earned his healing. A man used to wielding great power finds himself powerless to cure himself, and this threatens his identity, his sense of pride in himself. Amazingly, he overcomes his pride, humbles himself enough to obey Elisha's instructions, and is healed. Even better he comes to know that 'there is no God in all the world except in Israel.'

Naaman's story is an Old Testament foreshadowing of what Jesus did for us in his life, death and resurrection. Humanity was sick with sin, and we could not heal ourselves. Jesus gave his life to heal us and now offers us the free gift of God's mercy, forgiveness and love. All we have to do is have enough humility to accept this free gift. This belief that we cannot save ourselves is as offensive now as it was to Naaman. Many people think they will earn a place in eternity by being a good person. Naaman was not a good person, but our good God offered him his love and healing. We are not good people, but God offers all of us his love and healing through his Son, Jesus. Will we have the humility to accept this gift?

Readings

2 Kings 5. 1-3, 7-15 Luke 17. 11-19

Collect

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

St Andrew's Church Rooms, Preston. DT3 6BU

Variety Evening

7pm for 7.30pm Friday 24th October

Variety of Local Acts, Bar, Raffle, FUN!
Tickets £10 from the Team Office

Please contact 01305 837147 or
weymouth.ridgeway.team.office@gmail.com

Quiz Night

7pm Friday 14th November

(max 8 people per team)

Light supper provided & soft drinks available

Please bring your own alcohol & glasses.

Tickets £7 per person

Contact: Carole Anders 07901 282128

St Andrew's Christmas Cards 2025

Two festive designs,
packs of 6 (3 of each) for just £5!

- A6 size with envelopes included
- Blank inside for your own message

Order forms in the Church & Church Rooms

Order by Sunday 26th October

ready for distribution early/mid November.

Pay by cash or card

All proceeds go to Church funds – spread the joy and support St Andrew's this Christmas!

Request for Sleeping Bags

With the colder weather approaching sleeping bags are urgently needed for those sleeping rough in our area. Do you have a sleeping bag (with carry bag) that you no longer need, or would you be willing to purchase one?

Please contact: Julia Curtis-King
juliackh7@gmail.com

St Laurence Church, Upwey. DT3 5QE

Lady Maisery

8pm Friday 31st October

We are lucky to have Lady Maisery coming on 31st October, at 8pm. Advance tickets are £18 from ticketsource. If available, tickets on the door will be £20.

Individually three multi award-winning artists, Lady Maisery form a unified voice, carrying stories of human struggle, the joy of living and the vitality of song with the "freshest possible take on traditional music" (Folk Radio UK). Their long-standing effervescent collaboration has been described as "adventurous and beautiful" (Mark Radcliffe, Radio 2) "exquisite and thrilling" (The Guardian)

Preston Village Hall. DT3 6BH

Worship Room

7.30pm Saturday 25th October

The Worship Room is a non-denominational Christian ministry, based in Weymouth.

The meetings include charismatic worship & prayers.

The theme for this meeting is holiness.
Everyone is welcome!

Osmington Village Hall. DT3 6FT

Trafalgar Night

Friday 17th October

3 course Dinner, Wine & Port
Music, Song & Entertainment.
(Smart attire appreciated)

Tickets £20

Call: 07885 772488 to book.
All profits to local charities