

## John 5:36-47

For the works that the Father has given me to finish—the very works that I am doing—testify that the Father has sent me.<sup>37</sup> And the Father who sent me has himself testified concerning me. You have never heard his voice nor seen his form,<sup>38</sup> nor does his word dwell in you, for you do not believe the one he sent.<sup>39</sup> You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me,<sup>40</sup> yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

<sup>41</sup> “I do not accept glory from human beings,<sup>42</sup> but I know you. I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts.<sup>43</sup> I have come in my Father’s name, and you do not accept me; but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him.<sup>44</sup> How can you believe since you accept glory from one another but do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?

<sup>45</sup> “But do not think I will accuse you before the Father. Your accuser is Moses, on whom your hopes are set.<sup>46</sup> If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me.<sup>47</sup> But since you do not believe what he wrote, how are you going to believe what I say?”

NIV

## Service of Commemoration

Sunday 31st October 2021

*Remembering all those who have died during the Covid-19  
Pandemic of Covid or of other causes*

The Church of St Peter ad Vincula, Ashwater

11.00 am

*With The Venerable Verena Breed  
Archdeacon of Barnstaple*

*Followed by Bring and Share Lunch in the Village Hall*

ALL WELCOME



*The United Benefice of Ashwater, Beaworthy, Black Torrington,  
Clawton, Halwill, Highampton and Tetcott*  
**Sunday 24th October 2021**

Bible Sunday

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

9.30 am All Age Service, Ashwater  
11.00 am Holy Communion, Halwill  
11.00 am Morning Service, Clawton  
6.30 pm Iona Communion, Black Torrington



## Readings

Isaiah 55: 1-11

Psalms 19: 7-14

2 Timothy 3: 14—4:5

John 5: 36b—47

## Collect

Blessed Lord,

who caused all holy Scriptures to be written  
for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark,  
learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience,  
and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace  
and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life,  
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## Interim Priest-in-Charge (part time)

Revd Stephen Skinner

[sjmskinners@btinternet.com](mailto:sjmskinners@btinternet.com)

07554 142264

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

**The Mission Community:** for all who live and work in our Mission Community.

**Rest in peace** all who have recently died including Margaret Grabham (Black Torrington)

**All who are mourning** the death of a loved one including the family of Margaret Grabham.

**Those who are ill** or in any kind of need and those who are vulnerable due to underlying health conditions, including Grace Spelman, Mavis Watson, Malcolm and Judith Lusted, Jenny Hyslop, Brian Colebrook-Clark, Tim Kirk, Gina Brock, Doreen Clarke

**For Ella Ley**, her parents and godparents as they prepare for her Baptism

**For our Benefice Schools**, that all staff, pupils and parents have a restful half term holiday

**Dates for your diary**

<b>Monday 25th October</b>	2.30 pm	Benefice Churchwardens & Reps Meeting, Clawton Church
<b>Tuesday 26th October</b>	11.00 am 4.15 pm	ZOOM Bible Study Hand Bell Ringing Black Torrington Church
<b>Wednesday 27th October</b>	10.00 am	Morning Prayer Black Torrington Church
<b>Thursday 28th October</b>	8.00 pm	ZOOM Compline
<b>Saturday 30th October</b>	2.00 pm	Baptism of Ella Ley Ashwater Church
<b>Sunday 31st October</b>	11.00 am	<b>Benefice Service</b> of Commemoration Ashwater Church to be followed by bring and share lunch in the hall



**ZOOM Meeting**  
**ID: 317 183 8102 Passcode: 848984**

**Thought for Sunday 24th October 2021**

**BIBLE SUNDAY**

*What's the story Bible Sunday?*

Bible Sunday is on 24 October this year, but the story of this special day goes back to 1549.

The story of Bible Sunday goes back to 1549 when the Anglican Book of Common Prayer was first published. This has set verses and prayers for each Sunday. The prayer for the second Sunday in Advent was a Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Holy Scriptures. It was based upon the first line of Romans 15.4, 'For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us ...'

The prayer was: '*Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.*'

As a result, for centuries the second Sunday in Advent was called Bible Sunday in Anglican churches.

**Bible Sunday and Bible Society**

As the British and Foreign Bible Society developed, many towns had their own auxiliary branches, with representatives of all the local congregations. From the 1870s it became the custom for Bible Sunday to be held in each church, and they would all make a collection for the Bible Society. The idea spread across the world, especially where British missions had established churches. It was never compulsory to hold it on that Sunday, and some churches might hold it a different Sunday, for example if a Bible Society speaker was coming.

**Special Bible Sundays**

There were two years when Bible Sunday was declared for a different Sunday. In 1904 a Universal Bible Sunday was declared for 6 March to acknowledge the hundredth anniversary of the Bible Society movement, which was marked by churches across the British Empire, in the United States and by Protestant churches of Europe. And in 1938, Bible Sunday was declared for 19 June, to mark the 400th anniversary of the placing of an English Bible in every parish church. Since the turn of this century, most British churches now mark Bible Sunday on the fourth Sunday in October, which is usually the Sunday before All Saints' Day.



*Copied from [www.biblesociety.org.uk](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk)*