

BENEFICE OF ASHWATER BULLETIN



ASHWATER * BEAWORTHY * CLAWTON * HALWILL * TETCOTT



Dear Friends,

March 2015

I was reminded this week of that lovely word 'grace'. We say things like a swan is graceful or a ballet dancer is graceful, but that is only a small part of the word 'grace'. Grace is so much more.. ..think of the hymn "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me." This hymn was written by John Newton, a onetime slave ship owner who became an abolitionist for the slave trade, a committed Christian and a priest. John Newton recognised God's saving grace in his life that transformed him to become the person God wanted him to be.

There is a saying that goes something like "Grace is not getting the punishment we do deserve and receiving blessings which we don't deserve." We could all do with being more grace-full to one another in our lives, but like most things which go against our human nature; it has to be practised on a daily basis until it becomes as natural as breathing. As we are in this Lenten season it could be that we could learn to utterly depend on God, to take away the crutch of living to and for the world and learning to live on God's grace alone. Then, I believe we shall be as transformed as John Newton was, we could be living to God's plan and purpose for our lives. As we look to the journey of Jesus to Jerusalem, his passion and crucifixion may we find space for a quiet time each day to give thanks for all the good things and benefits of our

faith and to strengthen our belief that God loves each one of us generously and lavishly and wants us to draw closer to him in every way.

May his grace support and uphold you this journey through. Amen.

Jane



Services in March

1st March

Lent 2

Ashwater	9. 30am	Morning Worship
	2.30pm	Baptism
Beaworthy	6.30pm	Evensong
Clawton	10. 30am	Holy Communion
Halwill	11.00am	Morning Worship
<i>OT</i>	<i>Gen 17: 1-7, 15-16</i>	
<i>NT</i>	<i>Romans 4: 13-25</i>	
<i>Gospel</i>	<i>Mark 8: 51-58</i>	

8th March

Lent 3

Ashwater	9. 30am	Holy Communion (
Beaworthy	11.00pm	Morning Worship
Clawton	10.30am	Morning Worship
Halwill	11.00am	Holy Communion
<i>OT</i>	<i>Exodus 20: 1-17</i>	
<i>NT</i>	<i>1 Cor 1: 18-25</i>	
<i>Gospel</i>	<i>John 2: 13-22</i>	

15th March 22

Lent 4 Mothering Sunday

Ashwater	9.30am	Holy Communion (said)
Beaworthy	6.30pm	Holy Communion
Clawton	10.30am	Holy Communion
Halwill	11.00am	Morning Worship
<i>OT</i>	<i>Exodus 2: 1-10</i>	
<i>NT</i>	<i>2 Cor 1: 3-7</i>	
<i>Gospel</i>	<i>Luke 2: 25-35</i>	

22 March

Lent 5 Passiontide begins

Ashwater	9.30am	Holy Communion
Beaworthy	11.00am	Morning Worship
Clawton	10.30am	Let's Get Together
Halwill	11.00am	Holy Communion
<i>OT</i>	<i>Jer 31: 31-34</i>	
<i>NT</i>	<i>Hebrews 5- 5-10</i>	
<i>Gospel</i>	<i>John 12: 20-33</i>	

29th March

Palm Sunday

Whole Benefice Service at Halwill.

11am Palms and walking with the donkey, followed by a service in church

Lit of Palms

Mark 11: 1-11

Lit of the Passion

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Phil 2: 5-11

Mark: 14,1 to 15,47

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! (how sweet the sound)
That sav'd a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears reliev'd;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believ'd!

Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promis'd good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease;
I shall possess, within the veil,
A life of joy and peace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine;
But God, who call'd me here below,
Will be forever mine.
John Newton, *Olney Hymns*, 1779

++ **god's grace**

**is the only
grace,**

**and all grace
is the grace
of god**

APOLOGIES for a Bulletin that is shorter than usual. Be prepared for an update later in the month. TM