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Weekly Letter

7 February 2021

Proverbs 8: 1, 22-31: Psalm 104.26-end

Colossians 1.15-20: John 1.1-14

The Introductory Hymn

The Prologue

Probably like you, I have always loved listening to John's opening thoughts read out loud, especially when it is read with heart and sincerely. It is an absolute gem because it gives you a taste of the drama that is about to unfold,* and because it is beyond the power of man to write as John does.

What is for sure is that words can have power. When I, and probably you listen to Sir Winston Churchill's most famous speeches we are struck by his inspirational and challenging words. His beautifully crafted expectations 'did things to people'. Thus, I suppose it always has been, that when somebody says words with spirit and love in them we are moved by them. Words steeped in meaning repeatedly change our lives (Can you think of examples in your life?). Our hearts change the way we think and act. Words can have extraordinary power.

John begins his Gospel by saying : if you would like to see the Word of God; if you are keen to experience the creative power of God in your life; if you would like to engage with the source of creation and life; if you wish to see the light that opens to you eternal truth; if you are sincerely looking for a meaningful existence, immerse yourself in the life of Jesus Christ, for when you 'welcome' the life of Jesus Christ you will be looking at the human face of God, and nothing beats that!

*The unfolding drama is still surprising as it is not how humans can leave this present world and be given 'a ticket' to heaven. Rather the focus is as how heaven itself, in the person of Jesus of Nazareth comes to dwell among us, and how through the One who made all things, has come to rescue and renew this created world. A drama that takes your breath away?

Stephen

Church News

Sunday Worship, when we will share Communion, will be led by Rev Dr Noel Davies.

The Bible Readings are : 1 Corinthians 9.16-23: Mark 1.29-39.

Cycle of Prayer for the Swansea Region – we will pray for Hall Street, Llanelli.

A time to say “Help”

Sometimes, please ...

Sometimes I find myself falling – please catch me.

Sometimes I am lost – please guide me.

Sometimes I am overwhelmed – please sustain me.

Sometimes I feel empty – please inspire me.

Sometimes I am weary of my tasks – please energise me.

Sometimes I feel sick at heart – please encourage me.

Sometimes I feel weak – please give me your strength.

Sometimes I am so tired – please help me find rest.

And when, quite simply, I lose sight of you,
and I don't know how to face the next step –
please carry me, reassure me, and surround me with your grace.

(Karen Campbell, URC Handbook 2021)

