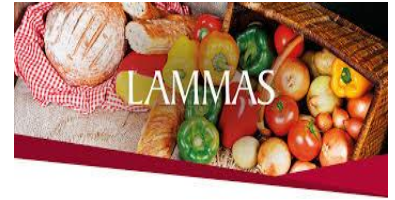




28th July 2024



*For meditation: Grant us, Lord, the penitence of the publican who dared not raise his eyes to heaven, surrendered all to possess the kingdom. Rabbula of Edessa (c350 – 435)*

**NEWS AND VIEWS**

August 1<sup>st</sup> is Lammas – the beginning of harvest. It was originally a pagan festival which gradually developed into a Christian observance incorporating the Jewish festival of First Fruits (Shavuot). The first corn to be cut from the new harvest was taken to the miller to grind and a loaf of bread was made in time for the Lammas celebration. In some areas, such as the West Country, the bread was used in Holy Communion. The early Harvest Festival was marked by Lammas Fairs, at which brittle toffee called Yellow Man was sold. Large sheep fairs were also traditionally held in many parts of the country and these were occasions for general festivity and games.

**POINTS FOR PRAYER**

Caring God, we ask you to be with us this week. Open our eyes to see people as you see them, make us a blessing to all who are affected by our choices, whether they are right in front of us or far away. Help us to live by the values of your kingdom, which is fair and just, and to value all people as made in your image. Amen.  
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In the circuit we praying for the congregation at Paulton.

**LECTIONARY READINGS** – 4<sup>th</sup> August

2 Samuel 11: 26 – 12:13a  
Psalm 51: 1-13  
John 6: 24  
Ephesians 4: 24-35

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

“I am telling you the truth,” Jesus said. “what Moses gave you was not the bread from heaven; it is my Father who gives you the real bread from heaven. For the bread that God gives is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” “Sir,” they asked him, “give us this bread always.” “I am the bread of life,” Jesus told them. “He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never be thirsty.”  
John 6: 32-35

*When God has told you what you ought to do, he has Already told you what you can do.*  
W S Landor

**DIARY**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August**

Café 9.30 – 12 noon  
All welcome.

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August**

There will be NO service at Box Methodist

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August**

**Morning worship** 11.00am  
led by Rev Jan Tate and including Holy Communion

Psalm 14  
Paraphrased by Leslie Brandt

How foolish it is to deny the existence of God or to say that “God is dead”!  
And yet there are many who do so.  
They say it in the way they live  
if not in the words they speak.

Our great God is for ever searching for those  
Who will open their lives to Him.  
He is not looking for such  
In verbal profession alone,  
But in the way men live and act.

He sees denial and rebellion in the lives of all men.  
What good they do is tainted by sin and self-centredness.  
They are more apt to be destructive than creative.  
How foolish they are if they neglect to surrender their lives to God!

It is obvious that God works  
through those who trust Him,  
through those who dedicate their lives to his service.  
It is they who are set free from self-glory to enjoy and to serve the living God.  
They can truly celebrate the eternal presence of God.

