



You can explore the LyCiG prayer and Luke's exciting account of life in the early church that is recorded for us in Acts 2.38-47 in Andrew Roberts' book 'Holy Habits'

IN SEPTEMBER OUR MORNING SERVICES ARE AT 10.30AM

September 23rd HC+ Growing in service...
Acts 2.38-47 & Luke 10.25-37

September 30th MP Growing in Spirit...
Acts 2.38-47 & Matthew 25.14-30

FROM OCTOBER OUR MORNING SERVICES WILL BE MOVING TO 10.00AM

October 14th HC Growing in Numbers...
Acts 2.38-47 & Mark 4.1-20

October 28th HC+ From a Vision... to a Plan...
Acts 2.38-47 & Matthew 13.31-33

November 4th AP Wisdom in action...
Acts 2.38-47 & Luke 6.46-49

November 25th HC+ God of Mission.
Acts 2.38-47 & Luke 15.1-7

**December 2nd AP Advent Sunday
Powerful witness...**
Acts 2.38-47 & Luke 8.16-18

AP - All Age Parade
HC - Holy Communion
MP - Morning Praise

Points to ponder:

'...the mission of God flows directly from the nature of who God is..... God's intention for the world is that in every respect it should show forth the way he is..... love, community, equality, diversity, mercy, compassion and justice.' (J. Andrew Kirk, 1999, What is Mission?)

'The overwhelming motive for mission is the compassion and love of God for his creation and the end point of mission is the kingdom, the reign of God over his people.'
(<https://www.kouya.net/upload/missionofgod.pdf>)

'The Holy Spirit is the evangelist and the mission belongs to God. What we do is simply live our lives publicly as a community in the way of Jesus Christ, and when people inquire as to why we live this way, we share with them an account of the hope within us.' (Karen Ward, an American Emerging Church leader)

The Kingdom of God is justice and peace

And joy in the Holy Spirit

Come, Lord, and open in us

The gates of your Kingdom (Taize)

If you would like to share any thoughts or suggestions that have arisen from this study, please let us know.

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Study prepared by Marion Hoyland November 2018

**Leading our Church
into Growth
Autumn 2018
September - November**



**Week 6
God of mission**

God of Mission

*Who alone brings growth
to your Church,*

Send your Holy Spirit to give

Vision to our planning,

Wisdom to our actions,

And power to our witness.

Help our church to

grow in numbers,

In spiritual commitment to you,

And in service to

our local community,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



**Church of the
Holy Redeemer**

'A Place to Connect'

Finding, exploring, sharing and celebrating together God's love as seen in Jesus Christ.

Acts 2.38-47 (NRSV)

³⁸ Peter said..., “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. ⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Jesus Announces the Good News

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!” (Mark chapter 1)

Five Marks of Mission

The five marks of mission have been developed by the Anglican Consultative Council since 1984 and revised most recently in November 2017 by the Mission Theology Advisory Group to the Church of England. They are:

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

www.anglicancommunion.org/mission/marks-of-mission.aspx

For consideration and discussion:

What are we already doing a) individually and b) as a church in each of these areas?

What else could we be doing a) individually and b) as a church.

Try to be specific and remember that small steps are still steps! If you have identified things that we could be doing as a church, what will your part be and who do you need to talk to about it?

Galilean Principles of the Mission of Christ (So called because Galilee was the centre of Jesus’s ministry of teaching, healing, caring, and listening and of discipleship.)

These are identified as the principles of Christ’s mission.

What can we learn from them about our mission? Which are most important for you personally?

1. Contemplative listening, which frames all ministry; listening to God, to other people, to oneself, especially in times of prayer and retreat

2. Addressing society as a whole, at points where people live and work, including and especially the marginalised. This results in being received and accepted by some but rejected and opposed by others.

3. Pointed to the inaugurated yet still awaited kingdom, in word and in surprising saving deed (symbolic actions) which address the actual needs of people (both individual and structural); but without publicising the wonders.

4. Calling for a personal response by all to the coming of this kingdom

5. Doing all this through a collaborative team, who themselves are powerless and vulnerable and must suffer the consequences.

Taken from Christian Mission; An SCM study guide by Stephen Spencer