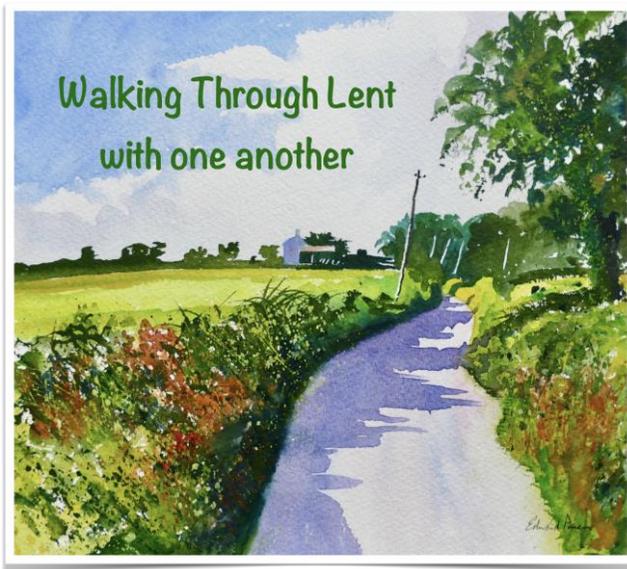




**The Parish of Tidenham
together with St Briavels, Hewelsfield & Brockweir**

**LENT 2022:
A journey of learning to be God's people once again**



**A BIBLE READING FOR EACH DAY
OF LENT & HOLY WEEK**

How can we be the community/church God wants us to be?
The 'One Another' teachings of the Bible can show us the way.

The One Others

Each week of Lent we will be focusing on the 'one others' of Scripture. There is a daily Bible reading to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest each day with a headline phrase. Take time to dwell on the verses of Scripture, or at least the headline phrase, and listen out for what it may be teaching you about how we are to 'do relationship well' with God, with one other as God's people, and with the wider world.

We will focus on some of the One Others in our Life Groups, including the specific weekly Lent Life Groups, as follows:

A Community of Peace: Be at peace with one another.

A Community of Prayer: Pray for one another.

A Community Hospitality (& honouring): Be hospitable to one another.

A Community of Accountability: Bear one another's burdens.

A Community of Gifts (& fruits). Use gifts for one another.

Material will be available online through the Parish Website www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk (under the News section) and on the Parish Facebook Group each day.

There will also be some hard copies of this booklet made available in the church porches to take away.

Preamble...

When someone becomes a Christian, relationships change.

God and Me: Suddenly there is realisation that we are ‘in Christ’ and ‘Christ is in us.’ We have a union with God which is awesome.

God, Me and Other Christians: Individual union with God in Christ by his Spirit also brings us into relationship with other Christians. As God’s children we have brothers and sisters, and we are part of a worldwide family of faith in and through Christ Jesus... something called church! With such a bond through Christ the church (Christians) has a special quality of relationship.

God, Me and the Church in the World: The church, that family of faith, is in turn called to be light and salt in the world and an authentic witness to the transforming love, mercy and power of God in Christ in day-to-day life.

‘See how these Christians love one another’ (likely a 3rd Century pagan remark having observed the Christian community) reminds us of how our relationships as fellow Christians should be, and reminds us of the impact our relationships with one another can have on other people’s response to God and faith. Our relationship with the community of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, brings about a relationship of community amongst God’s people. In turn, the quality of our relationship with God and our relationships with one another as Christians, has a bearing on the church’s relationship in and to the world, and has a bearing on the world’s response.

Learning to be the Church: This year, and particularly this Lent, our Parishes are reflecting on what it is to be God’s people once again. What does it mean to be the Church here in these Parishes? What does it mean to be a people that authentically ‘love one another?’

DAY 1. Ash Wednesday: *Go now and leave your life of sin.*

John 8:1-11 says, ¹ but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ² At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. ³ The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group ⁴ and said to Jesus, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” ⁶ They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. ⁷ When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” ⁸ Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. ⁹ At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰ Jesus straightened up and asked her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” ¹¹ “No one, sir,” she said. “Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.”

DAY 2. Thursday: *Serve one another in love and do not devour and destroy each other.*

Galatians 5:13-16 says, ¹³ You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. ¹⁴ For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” ¹⁵ If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. ¹⁶ So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

DAY 3. Friday: *Speak to one another and submit to one another.*

Ephesians 5:19-21 says, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

DAY 4. Saturday: *Encourage one another.*

Hebrews 3:12-14 says, ¹² See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. ¹³ But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness. ¹⁴ We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end.

WEEK 1: A Community of Peace

DAY 5. Sunday. Lent 1. *Be at peace with one another.*

Mark 9:50 says “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt among yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”

DAY 6. Monday: *Live in peace with one another.*

1 Thessalonians 5:12-15 says, ¹² Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. ¹³ Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. ¹⁴ And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. ¹⁵ Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

DAY 7. Tuesday: *If it is possible... live at peace with everyone.*

Romans 12:16-18 says, ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

DAY 8. Wednesday: *See that no bitter root grows up.*

Hebrews 12:14 says, ¹⁴ Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that

no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

DAY 9. Thursday: *Be of one mind. Agree with one another. Try to get along!*

2 Corinthians 13:11 says, ¹¹ Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹² Greet one another with a holy kiss. ¹³ All God's people here send their greetings. ¹⁴ May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

DAY 10. Friday: *Goodness can disarm opposition.*

Proverbs 16:7 says, ⁷ When the ways of people please the Lord, he causes even their enemies to be at peace with them.

DAY 11. Saturday: *Jesus said, "No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit."* Luke 6:43 which links well with...

James 3:17-18 which says, ¹⁶ For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

WEEK 2: A Community of Prayer

DAY 12. Sunday: Lent 2. *Pray for one another.*

Colossians 1:9-14 says, ⁹ For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, ¹⁰ so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, ¹¹ being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great

endurance and patience,¹² and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you^[f] to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.¹³ For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

DAY 13. Monday: *Pray for the Lord's people*

Ephesians 6:18 says,¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

DAY 14. Tuesday: *Gather together to pray*

Matthew 18:19-20 says,¹⁹ "Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.²⁰ For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

DAY 15. Wednesday: *Pray for your fellow believer(s) to be made well*

James 5:16 says,¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

DAY 16. Thursday: *Pray for ALL people*

1 Timothy 2:1 says, I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people.

DAY 17. Friday: *The Spirit of God helps us to groan in prayer!*

Romans 8:26 says,²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

DAY 18. Saturday: *Pray for those who persecute (you)*

Matthew 5:44-46 says, ⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. ⁴⁶ If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that?

WEEK 3: A Community Hospitality (& honouring)

DAY 19. Sunday. Lent 3. *Be hospitable to one another.*

1 Peter 4:9 says, ⁹ Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.

DAY 20. Monday: *Practice/extend/pursue/exercise hospitality*

Romans 12:13 says, ¹³ Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

DAY 21. Tuesday: *Don't forget to show hospitality*

Hebrews 13:2 says, ¹³ Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. ² Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. ³ Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

DAY 22. Wednesday: *Be devoted to one another*

Romans 12:10 says, ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves.

DAY 23. Thursday: *Honour Christ and put others first.*

Ephesians 5:21 says, ²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

DAY 24. Friday: *Love them as yourself!*

Leviticus 19:33-34 says, ³³ “When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. ³⁴ The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God.

DAY 25. Saturday: *You gave Christ food, clothing, an invite and a visit.*

Matthew 25:34-40 says, ³⁴ “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?

³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ ⁴⁰ “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

WEEK 4: A Community of Accountability

DAY 26. Sunday. Lent 4. Mothering Sunday. *Bear one another's burdens.*

Galatians 6:1-5 says, ¹ Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. ² Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ. ³ If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves. ⁴ Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, ⁵ for each one should carry their own load.

DAY 27. Monday: *Call the elders. Confess to each other.*

James 5:14-16 says, ¹⁴Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

DAY 28. Tuesday: *Don't give up meeting together*

Hebrews 10:24-25 says, ²⁴And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

DAY 29. Wednesday: *Be accountable*

Matthew 18:15-17 says, ¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’^[d] ¹⁷If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

DAY 30. Thursday: *Do what is good for each other*

1 Thessalonians 5:11-15 says, ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. ¹²Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. ¹³Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. ¹⁴And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. ¹⁵Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

DAY 31. Friday: *Influence one another... for good*

Proverbs 27:17 says, ¹⁷ As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

DAY 32. Saturday: *Forgive one another*

Luke 17:3-4 says, ³ So watch yourselves. "If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. ⁴ Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying 'I repent,' you must forgive them."

WEEK 5: A Community of Gifts (& Fruits)

DAY 33. Sunday. Lent 5. Passion Sunday. *Use gifts for one another.*

1 Peter 4:10-11 says, ¹⁰ Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

DAY 34. Monday: *Come together and build up the church*

1 Corinthians 14:26 says, ²⁶ What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up.

DAY 35. Tuesday: *Grace given to each one of us*

Romans 12:6-8 says, ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your ^[a] faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, ^[b] do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

DAY 36. Wednesday: *You are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.*

1 Cor 12:4-11 & 27-30 says, ⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, ^[a] and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ^[b]

¹¹All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

²⁸And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues ^[d]? Do all interpret? ³¹Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

DAY 37. Thursday: *Build up the body of Christ*

Ephesians 4:11-13 says, ¹¹So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

DAY 38. Friday: *Bear spiritual fruit*

Galatians 5:22-23 says,²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

DAY 39. Saturday: *Let your light shine*

Matthew 5:14-16 says,¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

HOLY WEEK

DAY 40. Sunday. Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week.

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.

Philippians 2:1-11 says, ² Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. ⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should

bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Monday in Holy Week: *Spur one another and encourage one another.*

Hebrews 10:24-25 says, ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Tuesday in Holy Week: *Love one another.*

1 John 4:7-10 says, ⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Wednesday in Holy Week: *Forgive one another.*

Colossians 3:13-14 says, ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Maundy (Holy) Thursday: *Love one another.*

John 13:34-35 says, ³⁴ “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Good Friday: John 18¹⁷ *You aren't one of this man's disciples too, are you? Are you????*

Read John 18 & 19

Holy Saturday: *Love each other deeply*

1 Peter 4:1-11 says,

4 Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin. ²As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. ³For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. ⁴They are surprised that you do not join them in their reckless, wild living, and they heap abuse on you. ⁵But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to human standards in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit. ⁷The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. ⁸Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. ⁹Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. ¹¹If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Easter Sunday!!! *2 So Mary came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple.*

John 20:1-18

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ²So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”

³So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not

go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹ (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

¹¹ Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

¹³ They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." ¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

¹⁵ He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

¹⁷ Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

May we know the joy, hope and peace of the risen Christ as we seek to live life together in the flow of God's love. May the same power that raised Jesus from the dead be at work among us!

**Alleluia, Christ is risen. He is risen indeed, Alleluia
Happy Easter!!**

Bible references taken from the NIV and NRSV