

Bulletin for Sunday

28th June 2020

Dear Friends

Good Morning! This Sunday Pulborough URC should have been celebrating their 175th Church Anniversary with (I had intended) a special service, followed by a lunch at The Crown Inn in Cootham. I trust that this is all simply postponed, but for now I can only hope that you will all have especially tasty lunches today, and wish Pulborough friends a very Happy Church Anniversary!

Hymn: Morning has broken (Rejoice & Sing 45)

Prayer: Generous God, we thank you for this and every morning!
For the sound of birdsong as we wake,
for the fresh morning light, and colours of summer flowers,
for the smell of rain on warm gardens, and honeysuckle.
For the newness and the abundance of each dawn
we thank you.
We sense your generosity, your welcome and your love.
In response, we bring what we can - money, talents and time -
and ask you to bless them, and use them.
In Jesus' name. Amen

followed by The Lord's Prayer

Readings: Jeremiah 28: 5-9 and Matthew 10: 40-42

Reflection:

Prophets are supposed to be a connection between us and God - to bring us God's word, to remind us of God's priorities. Jeremiah was trying to do that, but suffering a backlash and persecution because his message was unpalatable. His rival, Hananiah, spoke much more attractive prophecies, which were welcomed for their positive outlook. Jeremiah could only warn that unless Hananiah's prophecies were true - truly of God - then they were worthless. The connection to God just wasn't there.

Jesus also taught about connections - about how the folk the disciples talked to were connected to them, the disciples; and through them to him, Jesus; and through Jesus to his Father. By welcoming and listening to the disciples, these people were welcoming and connecting to God.

