



Focus on October 2021



The Mulberry Tree by Vincent van Gogh

The **Methodist** Church



One Church. 14 Locations.

WELCOME TO WESLEY CHAPEL

We are pleased that we are now open for Sunday Morning Worship, 10.30am, see p3 for details of our services.

The Nidd Valley Circuit presents a weekly service
Please visit <https://www.facebook.com/NiddValley/> for
Circuit Sunday Service at 10.30am every Sunday

Morning prayer at 8am Monday—Saturday led by one of our Nidd Valley Ministry Team.

All links (and much more) can be accessed via our website
<https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk>

or if you need more information leave a message:
<https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk/contact>

Wesley Chapel Contacts

Ministry Team: Rev. Lesley Taylor, Rev. Trevor Dixon.

Senior Steward: Les Sudron

Church Council Secretary: Jenny Goodwin

Safeguarding Officer: Christine Sudron

Focus Editor: Judith Yeats e-mail judithyeats0@gmail.com

Website: www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk

Wesley Centre Contacts

Wesley Centre Manager: Philippa French (Pippa)
pfrench@wesleycentreharrogate.org.uk

Website: www.wesleycentreharrogate.org.uk

Address

Wesley Centre Harrogate, Oxford Street. Harrogate, HG1 1PP

The deadline for 'Wesley Focus on November' is 25 October.
Please send any notices, news, articles, photographs to Judith Yeats:
01423 506014, judithyeats0@gmail.com. Focus is also on the
website. <https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk/our-focus>

WHAT'S ON AT WESLEY

SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER 10.30am. Chapel Anniversary. Rev. Lesley Taylor.

MONDAY 4 OCTOBER 1pm. Lunchtime Recital. Leonore Piano Trio. Music by Haydn and Dvorak.

SUNDAY 10 OCTOBER 10.30am. Harvest Festival. Ms. Sue Langley.

6pm. Wesley Sunday Share via Zoom. *(Link will be sent out or contact Les or Judith).*

THURSDAY 14 OCTOBER 2pm. Guild and Network joint meeting.

SUNDAY 17 OCTOBER. 10.30am. Morning Worship led by Mr Eric Robertson.

SUNDAY 24 OCTOBER 10.30am. Civic Service led by Rev. Trevor Dixon.

6pm. Wesley Sunday Share via Zoom. *(Link will be sent out or contact Les or Judith).*

SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER 10.30am. Morning Worship, led by Rev. Lesley Taylor.

SUNDAY 7 NOVEMBER 10.30am. Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Lesley Taylor.

Every Tuesday 10.30am Online Tuesday Coffee. *(Link will be sent out, or contact Les or Judith).*

'Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.' 1 Thessalonians 5:11

WESLEY SUNDAY SHARE

A special time of sharing for half an hour, every 2nd and 4th Sunday evening at 6am. Come and join us with your favourite memory, Bible reading, hymn, poem, book, prayer. Or just come and listen, it is a very special half an hour and sets the scene for the week ahead. *Contact Les or Judith for a link.*

WESLEY GUILD

Message to all Guild and Network members from Lynne that due to "Operation Pigeon" there was no meeting in September. The next meeting will be on 14th October at 2pm in the Upper Hall.

TUESDAY COFFEE

Tuesday's 'Zoom coffee' gatherings are always well attended. One week there were 22 of us. We discuss just about every subject under the sun. That particular week we discussed family visits; Lego, the speed of grass growing and Penny's latest happenings at Southlands. Eileen and Ian have started ushering at the theatre and confirmed that there will be a pantomime this year—oh yes there will!

On another occasion we talked in depth about Evensong at Durham, bats falling from the ceiling, visits to cathedrals, the Wesley garden, trees growing in awkward places (like on chimney pots and in cracks between the fence and the garden shed and the need (or otherwise) for a village shop in Killinghall. And then there was the week that we discussed topics which included the television transmitter still being down, knitting socks, playing Sudoku, doing jigsaws, Cliff College choruses, Chronology game, ramble around Grimwith reservoir and Wesley pigeons.

We always think about our friends who are not with us and we get updates from Malcolm about how Helen is doing. Malcolm was full of gratitude to Mike G. who during a recent Sunday's Circuit streamed service had reflected on how 30 years ago Helen had been influential in him deciding to become a local preacher.

Sometimes we talk about football, depending on the weekend's results. There is always lots to discuss, support for those going through difficult times and a lot of fun and banter too. Come and join us. *Contact Les or Judith for a link.*

Hampsthwaite Methodist Church.

3 October 2021

A special plea to join our friends at Hampsthwaite for a Circuit Tea and Thanksgiving Service. This will be the last service at this chapel, and the first time for months we can meet as a Circuit. It will be a very special occasion, and it is important that we support our brothers and sisters who have been so brave making this very hard decision

Starbeck Methodist Church

Concerts 2021-2022

We are looking forward to an enjoyable programme of community music events. Entrance is £8 for evening concerts and £6 for afternoon concerts. Everyone is welcome. Please bring your friends.

Saturday 9 October 2021 7:30pm The Paul Mirfin Band with support act Sarah-Louise Boyle.

Saturday 13 November 2021 7:30pm Tewit Silver Band with musical director Martin Hall Saturday.

Saturday 11 December 2021 7:30pm York City Gospel Choir with musical director Kofi Mensah.

Sunday 16 January 2022 2:30pm Harrogate Male Voice Choir with musical director Richard Kay.

Saturday 12 February 2022 7.30pm Saint John Fisher Catholic High School with Mr Craig Ratcliffe, Head of the Music Department.

Saturday 12 March 2022 7.30pm The Chorus Crew with their captain Don Mason.

Saturday 9 April 2022 7.30pm Tewit Youth Band with musical director Martin Hall.

Extracts From Wesley Weekly Pieces

Pippa sent us this photograph at the beginning of the September



Well, don't look at the woodwork too closely but this is Marcus today painting the handrails!! Aware that we'll have lots of visitors over the next few days coming to the 'Our Gate' performance by Harrogate Theatre, we decided (due to lack of available decorators) to take things into our own hands! Marcus is Wesley's secret muscle-man - mover of chairs, furniture, tip visitor, rubbish shifter, sweeper, gardener and all-round big help to his Mum in David's absence!!

I don't normally brag about my children but I would like folk to know that he's a good (very big!) egg! 'Thank you Marcus, I owe you another McDonalds breakfast. Mum.'

Les writes: Pippa, please do pass on the thanks from all of us at Wesley for the many hours of work Marcus has done over the past months.

Judith has also been boasting about her family. She writes:

Remember a few weeks ago, the Dale Stores Birstwith won the regional competition for best village shop and post office in Yorkshire? As a result, they were entered into the national competition. Well, they've only gone and won it. Countryside Alliance Rural Oscars, Champions of Village Shop and Post Office category (in the WHOLE COUNTRY). Needless to say, they are absolutely thrilled and delighted, and we are very proud of their wonderful achievement.



Anfrea and Matthew—proud Rural Oscar winners

At the end of the Ripley Scarecrow Festival there was a feature called 'Soak the Vicar'. This consisted of bible readings (water themed). Any time the vicar mentioned water the public were invited to soak him with a water pistol. I wonder what Lesley and Trevor think about that!

Local Places of Interest

We are blessed with many local beauty spots and places of interest in our location. Here are some that our church family members have visited this month.

Ian, Eileen and their friend Jean drove through Pateley Bridge to Coldstone Quarry. Ian writes: 'I had no idea there was such a big hole in North Yorkshire! Apparently, the quarry has been operating since 1900 and produces about a million tonnes of limestone a year. It's pretty impressive in a slightly gruesome sort of way!

We walked up to the Coldstones Cut which is an interesting monument (2010) with a great view over the quarry and the surrounding countryside. Then we went for a walk nearby'.

Les agrees that it is a fascinating place which causes very different views from the many eole who visit, as case of beauty of the beast?.



Above. Lovely view just opposite the car park. Shame that the visibility wasn't better. Right: The quarry.



Visit <http://thecoldstonescut.org/> for more information.

As balance bikes go, this was a bit too big for Eileen!!

.....and further afield

Christine and Les had a couple of nights away in the Lake District amid stunny views and glorious sunshine...perfect!



View over Ullswater



A cream tea—of course.



A cruise on the lake.



The view from our hotel garden overlooking Ullswater.



On the way home Christine and Les stopped at Sizergh Castle.

A few weeks ago Maureen offered a 'wonderful' prize to anyone who could guess the location of some pictures she shared with us. Sadly, there was only one person who shared some answers (maybe it was too difficult for most of us?) and so Margaret was presented with a 'wonderful' stick of Bridlington rock!. Take care with your teeth Margaret!



The whole Greenberg family have had some exciting times recently. Maureen shares: We were all in Durham for the weekend supporting our granddaughter Becky, whose church choir was singing Evensong at the cathedral for the week. Whilst the Durham choristers are on holiday, visiting choirs step into their shoes. It's a great opportunity for choirs to experience different settings and to share their music – and for the rest of the family to get together for a fun weekend.'



'This photo (left) is of two of our grandsons playing in the cloister garden – letting off some steam before having to sit very quiet during evensong

We were having lunch at the cathedral sitting in the cloisters when we were joined by a baby bat that had fallen from the roof. This apparently is a regular occurrence and we had to call the bat ambulance to rescue it and then the bat paramedic gave the children a talk about the resident bats. I'm still pondering my response to Harry's question: 'What would you have done if the bat had fallen in your soup Nana?' (see photo next page)

Continued from 10



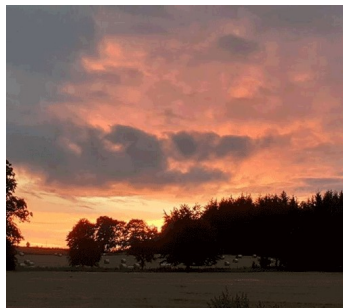
Bat in a box at Durham Cathedral

Inside the cathedral was the tomb of Bede (being lit by disco-type lighting). Have you noticed how new experiences automatically have everyone reaching for their phones?



‘All in all, an amazing weekend. One we will all remember for many different reasons ... oh and we also went rowing on the river and ...we were all allowed to have whatever we wanted from the Premier Inn buffet breakfast, and eat pancakes with maple syrup AND honey, and to eat things in whatever order we wanted and to go back for seconds. **Love Maureen.**

Christine and Les had two nights away in Scotland. En-route they stopped at Lanercost Priory near Hadrian's Wall.



On their first morning in Scotland they were greeted with this wonderful sunset.

Christine had been treated to a helicopter ride over Edinburgh (a birthday present). Les went along as well.



Helicopter ride continued.

Les was pleased to reach safely back on the ground.



Hopetown on banks of Firth of Forth near the bridges. Lots of history and garden walks.

On our garden walk.
Deer in the picture, that
looks over Firth of Forth



Maureen and Mike spent a couple of days in the Lake District. Maureen writes The first photo shows part of the inside of Cartmel Priory, an amazing building and place of pilgrimage for hundreds of years. It currently has an exhibition called 'Face to Face'. Local schools and adult groups have decorated masks to show the many varied emotions and challenges of the last year. I found it to be an inspirational project – some churches have really reached out to their local communities and encouraged creativity and recognised the mental health benefits of sharing our experiences.



Several masks showed two sides of a face. One side showing what is projected to the world as 'I'm OK'. The other side showing the fear/anxiety/pain that is being felt but not shown'.

Family Picture Gallery



Left.. Eileen with, Georgia (6) and Benji (10 months who came to visit in August.. Benji, single-mindedly is focusing on the nearest food source



Above. Georgia demonstrating the splits on the scrambling net in the Fountains Abbey play park. Ian was going to try it - but he thought A&E was probably busy enough without me making things worse. .



Left. Molly shares a picture of Jude, her eldest great grandchild, on his first day at senior school, showing off his new uniform. In Leicestershire they start back a week earlier than everyone else. 'He is loving it!'

Four of Margaret's Great Grandchildren



Elsa and Rowan
gazing out to sea at
Saltburn



Benjamin on his bike.



Izzy, Elsa and Rowan on their tractor.

Family Picture Gallery continued.

Margaret had a birthday in August and the family celebrated by taking her to Harlow Carr for the day and then having a birthday tea back at home



Queen of Hearts says 'hello', she is trying to keep her crown on her head! .



Nearly ready to start eating, just one big blow Great-grandma!



Molly's great granddaughter Mia, who was 4 in August, started school recently. Everything seemed to go well.

Family Picture Gallery continued.

Andrew and Ulrike were delighted to receive many kind messages and cards for their 40th wedding anniversary and would like to say a big thank-you to all. They had a lovely weekend in Ulrike's hometown of Wesel with Christoph, Anne-Laure, Juno, Susanna, Martin and Esther at the end of August. Susanna's husband Mark couldn't be there for the particular weekend but had spent a week with Ulrike, Andrew and Susanna in Wesel at the beginning of August.



Lynne shares this message with us. Joy and I enjoyed a lovely weekend in Derbyshire with Steve and Joanne (Joy's son and daughter in law) who, as always, made us very welcome. This was our first visit to their new home, Lilac Cottage, in Bradley, near Ashbourne. On Saturday morning Joanne took Joy and I into Ashbourne where we indulged in some retail therapy, lunch and afternoon tea. Steve's two daughters, Harriet and Georgina, drove long distances on Saturday evening to join us for dinner and we had a lovely catch up with them and Harriet's puppy, a Labrador called Roo who was very well behaved. She could not be persuaded to pose for a photograph though! *Photograph on p19*



Lynne and Joy on a family weekend in Derbyshire

Lynne continues: Harry and George are both Doctors and, like hundreds of others, have worked extremely hard during the pandemic. On one occasion Harriet had very sadly certified fifteen deaths in one shift! Little wonder she found it difficult to sleep when she got to bed!

Sunday was an unexpectedly glorious day and we sat out in the garden for over eight hours. To justify our existence, we did harvest and de-stone Victoria plums which Joanne later made into very tasty jam. Steve has recently added to his car collection by purchasing a Classic Car, a Nash. He took both Joy and I for a spin in it which we thoroughly enjoyed. We were driven home on Monday with lots of happy memories to treasure and lots of produce out of the garden.



News of Church Family

Our friend Betty Bratley celebrated her birthday on 8th September (She was LXXXIX) and Mary Roberts kindly took me to see her; Betty's family had visited her the day before. We spent a lovely afternoon in the garden of Westfield House at Killinghall. When we got there the residents were enjoying a "sing-along-a-Betty" as they were happily chortling songs from the Sound of Music. Betty said she had enjoyed an afternoon of reminiscing and sends her love to all at Wesley. Mary and I were each given a delicious slice of her birthday cake to bring home



On my return I was delighted to find a letter in the porch from another friend, Rosemary Green. She also sends her warmest wishes to everybody. Rosemary reports that life is getting back to some sort of normality at Trinity Church and she has been grateful to be transported to the services on a Sunday morning. She is also very appreciative of the help and support she receives from Cynthia and Vince, especially with shopping and lifts to various appointments. She looks forward to receiving FOCUS every month and reading all the news about Wesley Chapel and its people.

That's all from me folks. **Lynne (and my big Sis too!)**

Church family news continued.

A message from Anita. 'Thanks to all our Wesley friends who sent cards for Malcolm's 90th birthday. He certainly enjoyed the day itself when, as one can see, four generations gathered to help in the celebrations. The whole weekend was quite hectic and took us at least a week to recover. A good time was had by all'.

***'A good
time was
had by all'***



Puff and no essence... Great Grandad had to be helped blow out his candles by great grandson Oscar!



FOCUS on Pigs

The theme for Ripley's scarecrow week focussed on pigs and the public were invited to come and hunt for Boarglar Bill and his friends. Eileen and Ian joined the hunt and sent in these pictures.



Focus on Pigs continued.

Elsa and Rowen were staying with Les and Christine and on Bank Holiday Monday they went up towards Summerbridge to a lovely farm site that is geared up for children and young at heart. So here come more pigs.



Elsa feeding one of the many piglets that roamed around freely.

Below, Rowan preferred the Shetland Pony.





Many people are still finding enjoyment in doing jigsaw puzzles and many are still being swopped around Wesley members. Christine S finished this one of Alnwick Gardens many weeks ago but has left it on the jigsaw table to look at from time to time. 'I do like reflecting on this and it brings back memories of a lovely day out' says Christine.

Time for a laugh



You would have to be very good friends !!!! (Les)

Margaret read this poem recently and mentioned it to Les, who looked it up on the internet, and included it in our Weekly Pieces.

Hug by Dean Walley

It's wondrous what a hug can do.
A hug can cheer you when you're blue
A hug can say, "I love you so,"
Or, 'I hate to see you go'.

A hug is 'Welcome back again'
And 'Great to see you! Where 'er you been?'
A hug can soothe a small child's pain
And bring a rainbow after rain.

The hug, there's just no doubt about it --
We scarcely could survive without it!
A hug delights and warms and charms;
It must be why God gave us arms

Hugs are great for fathers and mothers,
Sweet for sisters, swell for brothers;
And chances are your favorite aunts
love them more than potted plants.

Kittens crave them, puppies love them,
Heads of states are not above them.
A hug can break the language barrier
And make your travel so much merrier.

No need to fret about your store of 'em;
The more you give, the more there are of 'em.
So stretch those arms without delay
And give someone a *hug* today!

PSALM 23

The Chelsea Flower Show, which usually takes place in May, was held this year in September. The gold medal winner in the Sanctuary Garden section was the Psalm 23 garden, designed by Sarah Eberle for The Bible Society. Sarah has previously won 17 gold medals at Chelsea and Hampton Court flower shows. The garden portrays green pastures, quiet waters and a dark valley to communicate the restorative message of Scripture. In addition to its gold award, the Psalm 23 garden has won Best Construction and Best Sanctuary Garden.

The award-winning garden is set to spearhead a campaign to see the creation of community gardens around the country, as we emerge from the pandemic. The door is now wide open for people across the country to create biblical gardens of their own as a blessing to their communities.

Bible Society has published an easy-to-use guide on how to create such a community garden and an accompanying video, and there are special resources for schools too. Paul Williams of the Bible Society said: 'I hope the gold medal enables us to inspire more people to have a go at interpreting the psalm in this way so that their local communities can engage with the psalm through the garden.'

For more information visit <http://www.psalms23garden.co.uk/>

The Bible Society is bringing out a book entitled *Sarah Eberle's Psalm 23 Garden*, with design tips on creating a calm, green space, with lovely photographs of the prize winning garden.

After the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, the Psalm 23 Garden will find a permanent home at Winchester Hospice, which is set to open later this year.

The coronavirus and Psalm 23

From <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/psalm-23/garden-latest/the-coronavirus-and-psalm-23/>

One of the great things about Psalm 23 is the way it captures not just the times of blessing we go through – those green pastures and quiet waters – but the times of pain.

During the last few months, many of us have felt that we're going through a particularly dark valley – perhaps, for some of us, even 'a valley as dark as death'. The coronavirus has had a devastating effect on us – not just directly in terms of death and illness, but indirectly in how it's affected people's jobs and ways of life. There's plenty of pain behind us, but there's more to come.

In other words, we aren't out of that dark Covid-19 valley yet. But Psalm 23 speaks to experiences like ours. It talks about going 'through' the valley: we will come out of the other side. It says, 'I will fear no evil', because God is with us; no matter what, we're never alone. And the psalm offers a hope for a better future, too. It speaks of hospitality, of a table spread in the presence of enemies – and one of the heartening things we've all experienced during the last months is the way people have joined together in the face of the coronavirus enemy.

Psalm 23 is a psalm for our times. It rejoices in the good things we enjoy, and is honest about the bad things that frighten or bewilder us. Most of all, it offers us hope for the future, and of a home with God.

Inspired by the Psalm 23 garden, Chelsea Pension, Roy Palmer wrote a poem and presented it to the designer Sarah Eberle.

At the Chelsea Flower Show, lies a garden, Psalm 23.
A place for solace and thinking, a place especially for me.
Today they say, "The word of the Lord has little sway".
But the crowds I witness here those words betray.
This garden is created with so much love in mind.
Love from the Lord above, love of a different kind.
The Lord is my Shepherd, here these words ring true.
The green pastures, depicted by this wondrous view.
Here on earth, it is a pleasure to see
That time spent here will be happy and free.
The plants, trees and water make God's own earth.
The wonders of nature which together create rebirth
My beloved wife and son lie in a green burial site.
A place like this, which the sense delight.
I wish she were here this garden to see.
But together in God's love, she waits for me.

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/psalm-23/garden-latest/chelsea-pensioner-celebrates-psalm-23/>



It is often heard said in our churches, 'why do we not have more young people?'. Well this article I found on the BBC website might give food for thought.

Young people in the UK are twice as likely as older people to pray regularly, a new survey has found.

Some 51% of 18 to 34-year-olds polled by Savanta ComRes said they pray at least once a month, compared with 24% of those aged 55 and over.

It also found 49% of the younger age group attend a place of worship every month, compared with 16% of over-55s.

The associate director of Savanta said the numbers could reflect the move to online worship during the pandemic.

Chris Hopkins added that there were 'a few theories' as to why young people made up such a large proportion of the religious landscape.

'Firstly, as the demography of the UK changes, minority faiths do tend to have a larger proportion of practising young people, and therefore as the population of these groups increases within the UK, so will the prayer habits of the population at large,' he said.

He explained it was important to 'factor in the impact the pandemic has had on the ability to engage with one's faith' with virtual prayers and services being held online.

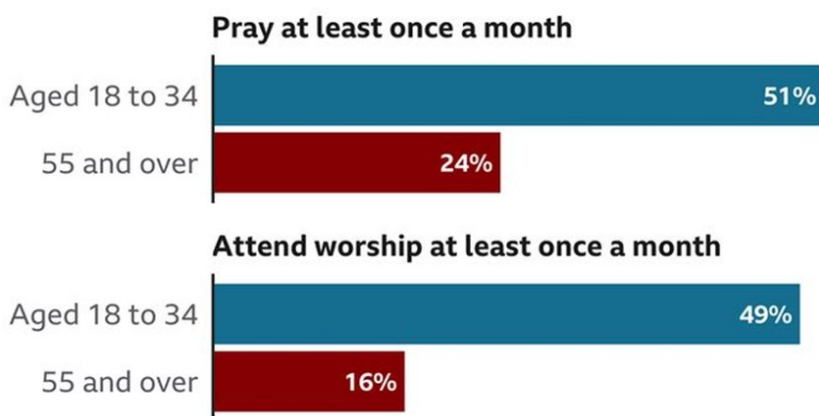
'It is possible that the pandemic opened up more avenues to prayer to young people, and this is reflected in the findings,' he said.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-58681075>

See graph on page 30.

How religious are young people in the UK?

Attitudes to prayer and worship among younger and older age groups



Research conducted August 2021, 2075 people surveyed.

Source: Savanta ComRes

BBC

Celebrating Autumn

Winnie the Pooh. It's the first day of autumn! A time of hot chocolatey mornings, and toasty marshmallow evenings, and, best of all, leaping into leaves!. *A A Milne.*

Vincent Van Gogh. As long as autumn lasts, I shall not have hands, canvas and colours enough to paint the beautiful things I see.

Virginia Woolf. And all the lives we ever lived and all the lives to be are full of trees and changing leaves...

F. Scott Fitzgerald. Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall.

Emily Brontë. Every leaf speaks bliss to me, fluttering from the autumn tree.

Prayer Corner

Prayer is a gift from God that enables us to be aware of the presence of God in our lives and in the world. It is also a means of expressing what we believe about God and can prompt us to act to change the world as we respond to God's love.

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/>

Please remember in your prayers those of our church family who are not well and those who are unable to worship with us at this time.

Be a bright flame before us, O God, a guiding star above us, a smooth path below us and a loving shepherd behind us, each day and each night, now and for ever. Amen. *Columba of Iona (521-597)*

Eternal God, 'your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven'"

We pray for a fresh vision of the life of heaven
that renews our passion to see your kingdom here on earth.
May we be captivated anew by heaven's breathtaking beauty:
beauty revealed in glorious worship;
worship flowing from a great multitude;
a multitude united in celebration of rich diversity;
a diversity that embraces all nations, tribes, people and tongues.*
And so then may our lives re-shape this world.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Inspired by Revelation 7:9-12

Leslie Newton, Yorkshire North and East District Chair

For the fruits of all creation,
thanks be to God;
for the gifts of every nation,
thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.

*Fred Pratt Green
Singing the Faith 124 v1*



A bed of flowers. Harlow Carr Gardens (photo by Les and Christine)



Reflected. Fountains Abbey (Photo by Ian)