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Weekly Letter – 2 November 2025

Luke 19:1-10

The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost

There's the story of a small boy looking at all the Lego sets in the toy department of a big store. Over the public address system came an announcement saying that a child matching his description was lost. He turned to the lady standing a little way down the aisle and said, 'Oh no, I'm lost again!'

The boy didn't feel lost because he was where he wanted to be, but his parents were frantic with worry. That can be one of the consequences of describing other people as 'lost' – it can be awkward if they don't feel lost. Yet churches talk about people as lost, because Jesus talks about his mission being to the 'lost sheep' of the House of Israel (Matt 10:6 and 15:24) and the parables of the lost sheep and coin say there is great rejoicing in heaven over one sinner that repents (Luke 15:7 and 10). I can remember sitting with a friend at university whilst a member of the Christian Union tried to persuade him that he was a sinner, and he replied, 'Look, I'm not that bad really.' I hope we can find a way of sharing the good news that shows that Jesus is a way to new life that doesn't involve persuading people first that they have a problem to which Jesus is the answer.

At the same time, many of us can think of people who we might say have 'lost their way,' and some of us know what it feels like to be 'lost'. It's then good news that God doesn't give up, and that God's love is shown by coming in Jesus, to seek and to save. Pause to pray for someone who may feel a little lost. Add a prayer of thanks that God finds us and brings us safely home.

Simon

Sunday Morning Worship in Christ Well, and on Zoom at 10.30 am will be led by Rev Simon Walkling. We will celebrate Communion. Bible Readings: Luke 19:1-10; Psalm 32: 1-7.

Cycle of Prayer in the Region – we will pray for Christ Well

Tuesday, 4th November - Tea and Chat – 2-4pm – Making poppies

TUESDAY, 11TH NOVEMBER – CHURCH MEETING – 7pm in Lounge

Zacchaeus and me (Lectionary Readings: Habakkuk 1.1-4, 2.1-4: Psalm 119.137-144: Isaiah 1.10-18: Psalm 32.1-7: Thessalonians 1.1-4, 11-12: Luke 19.1-10)

Like Zacchaeus, I am trying to see who you are, Lord.
Help me – I am too short. I fall short – my busyness
and my anxieties get in the way of see you, Lord. Help me find a way to see you clearly,
like Zacchaeus did from the sycamore tree.
You called Zacchaeus, you gave him value, he was joyful;
how full his heart was! He was captivated by you, Lord.
He was never the same again.
Lord, I want to feel that exhilarating joy.
Help me answer your call to follow you,
to be caught up in the joy of know you.
May I be such a radiator of joy I have within me
that I will be shining light for you.

Sheila Kavanagh (URC Prayer Handbook 2025)



SWANSEA FOODBANK

CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2025

No one should go hungry this Christmas.



Together, we can make sure everyone in Swansea has a meal — and hope — this Christmas.
#SwanseaFoodbank

WHAT WE NEED:

- Tinned meats, puddings and custard
- UHT milk & juice
- Biscuits, chocolate and festive treats
- Toiletries and household essentials

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- ✓ Drop off donations at your nearest collection point
- ✓ Donate online to support our emergency food parcels
- ✓ Share this post to spread the word!

 **Swansea Foodbank**
Banc Bwyd Abertawe



THIS CHRISTMAS YOUR DONATION CAN HELP A LOCAL FAMILY IN NEED.

EVERY POUND MAKES A DIFFERENCE.



 **Swansea Foodbank**
Banc Bwyd Abertawe
Gyda'n gilydd gyda Trussell

HELP US REACH OUR £12,000 CHRISTMAS APPEAL TARGET!



Every donation helps feed families in Swansea this Christmas.

 **Swansea Foodbank**
Banc Bwyd Abertawe
Gyda'n gilydd gyda Trussell