

Email: <u>manseltonurc@gmail.com</u>.
Tel no. 01792 415222

Weekly Letter – 14 September 2025





Luke 15:1-10

Isaiah 32:14-18

#### The Found Sheep

We could call the parables in this week's passage 'the lost sheep' and 'the lost coin'. The parable of the Prodigal Son follows on from them and we could call that 'the lost son'. Or we could call it the parable of the two brothers, or the Loving Father (or as a friend rethought it as the parable of 'Missing Mam'). What we call things can begin to shape our thoughts about them.

So how about calling the parables in Luke 15:1-10 'the found sheep' and 'the found coin'? Would that help us to focus on the shepherd and the woman calling their friends together saying, 'Rejoice with me'?

The punch line to each story is that there is more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents. We can make heaven happy by turning back to God, but we can also share in that joy by rejoicing when things go right. Paul said that love does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth (1 Cor 13:6)

When we consider climate change and our development as an Eco Church, it is easy to focus on the shortcomings of the community of nations or individual failings. Instead let's recognise each recycling bag collected, each agreement reached and every good thing in creation. Let's rejoice with friends and neighbours in discovering that God is still at work.

Simon

Sunday Morning Worship in Christ Well, and on Zoom at 10.30 am will be led by Rev Simon Walkling Bible Readings: Luke 15:1-10 & Psalm 51.

Cycle of Prayer in the Region - Temple, Gowerton

Prayers for every household – Manselton Road 1-47 (odd numbers).

#### CHURCH MEETING - TUESDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7 PM IN LOUNGE.



Reminder for those who have signed up: Christian Aid's anniversary special service take place in Tabernacle Church on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 6.30-7.30 pm with refreshments from 5.30 pm. (Tabernacle Church, The Hayes, Cardiff, CF10 1AJ). If you still want to register to go, you can do so at https://www.christianaid.org.uk/events/christian-aid-80<sup>th</sup>-anniversary-service-wales



#### FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT: 22nd SEPTEMBER-5th OCTOBER

There are ideas about how to 'Do It Fair' on <a href="https://www.fairtrade.net/uk-en/get-involved/campaign-with-us/current-campaigns/fairtrade-fortnight.html">https://www.fairtrade.net/uk-en/get-involved/campaign-with-us/current-campaigns/fairtrade-fortnight.html</a>

#### THE SELFLESS LOVE OF GOD

(Lectionary Readings: Jeremiah 4.11-12, 22-28 and Psalm 14: Exodus 32.7-14 and Psalm 51.1-10: 1 Timothy 1.12-17: Luke 15.1-10)

Heavenly Father,

We stand in awe of your selfless love, a love that chases us with the zeal of a relentless storm, like the shepherd who leaves the ninety-nine to find the one. In your infinite mercy, you never tire of seeking our souls, drawing us into the sanctuary of Your loving embrace.

Good shepherd, your selfless love illuminates our steps, guiding us through the darkest valleys and leading us towards peace and rest.

We pray for compassion and courage to welcome those who feel lost and marginalised.

Lord, would you please help us share your gospel, so that our lives reflect the joy that fills the heavens when one lost soul finds their way home.

We pray never to forget your ultimate sacrifice on the cross, a testament to Your unyielding quest to reconcile us back to You.

You are the God of mercy, the Redeemer of the lost.

This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Joseph Amoah

(URC Prayer Handbook 2025)

### The United Reformed Church National Synod of Wales invites you to A More Able Church Webinar on the theme of: Autism

## Wednesday 24th September 2025 7.00 pm gathering for a 7.30 pm start, on Zoom

This session will be led by Rachel Hazlewood. Rachel is a late diagnosed autistic woman, a member of Beulah URC, Rhiwbina in north Cardiff and works for the National Neurodivergence Team. She is committed to working towards a more inclusive Wales and says that by better understanding each other's differences we help improve everyone's lives and create a happier, more cohesive society.

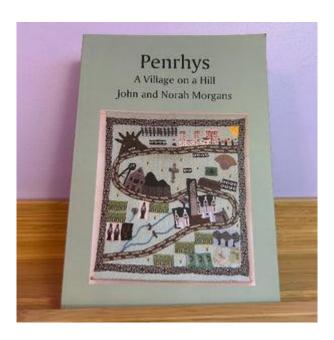


In this session we will discover what autism is - and isn't, as well as exploring the importance of identity and community and the role we can all play in building a more inclusive society.

The Webinar is open to all – so please do come along and invite others.

Please contact the Training and Development Officer for further details and to register for the Zoom link tdourcwales@gmail.com. We look forward to meeting you.

# Penrhys – A village on a Hill Wednesday 1st October at 2.00 pm at Christ Well



You are invited to listen to John Morgans talk about his new book - Penrhys - A Village on a Hill. It records how God encouraged the creation of Llanfair, a church community to come into being in 1992. In its struggle to become a village, Llanfair Penrhys revealed vision, courage and determination. It discovered core values enabling it to become the heart of the community. Copies of the book will be available at £10.

