



Sunday 24th May 2020

Online Service at 4pm

(Sunday School at 3.30pm)

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WELCOME (Andrew S)

"But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ."
Ephesians 2:13 (ESV)

SONG: Church of God (Sam and All)

CHILDREN'S TALK (Niamh)

CONFESSION (All)

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
We have sinned against you
And against our fellow men,
In thought and word and deed,
In the evil we have done
And in the good we have not done,
Through ignorance, through weakness,
Through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
Forgive us all that is past;
And grant that we may serve you in newness of life
To the glory of your name. Amen.

Common Worship, © The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, 2000-2006

NOTICES (Andrew S)

SMALL GROUPS (All)

CONGREGATIONAL READING (All)

Leader: Remember that you were at that time separated from Christ,

All: Alienated from the commonwealth of Israel

Leader: And strangers to the covenants of promise,

All: Having no hope and without God in the world.

Leader: But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off

All: Have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Leader: For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one

All: And has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility.

(Ephesians 2:12-14)

READING: Ruth 2 (Betty)

SERMON (Andrew L)

PRAYERS (Laura)

SONG: My dwelling place (Sam and All)

BLESSING (Andrew S)

GOODBYE IN SMALL GROUPS (All)

OPTIONAL Q&A

Next Sunday 31st May:

God's kindness that enables us to break with our past life – Ruth 3

God's kindness for all who take refuge in him

Ruth 2



2 Now

Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a worthy man of the

clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. ² And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favour." And she said to her, "Go, my daughter." ³ So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech. ⁴ And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem. And he said to the reapers, "The LORD be with you!" And they answered, "The LORD bless you." ⁵ Then Boaz said to his young man who was in charge of the reapers, "Whose young woman is this?" ⁶ And the servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, "She is the young Moabite woman, who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab. ⁷ She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.' So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest."

⁸ Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Now, listen, my daughter, do not go to

glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. ⁹ Let your eyes be on the field that they are reaping, and go after them. Have I not charged the young men not to touch you? And when you are thirsty, go to the vessels and drink what the young men have drawn." ¹⁰ Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found favour in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?" ¹¹ But Boaz answered her, "All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. ¹² The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!" ¹³ Then she said, "I have found favour in your eyes, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, though I am not one of your servants."

¹⁴ And at mealtime Boaz said to her, "Come here and eat some bread and dip your morsel in the wine." So she sat beside the reapers, and he passed to her roasted grain. And she ate until she was satisfied, and she had some left over. ¹⁵ When she rose to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, saying, "Let her

glean even among the sheaves, and do not reproach her. ¹⁶ And also pull out some from the bundles for her and leave it for her to glean, and do not rebuke her."

¹⁷ So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley. ¹⁸ And she took it up and went into the city. Her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. She also brought out and gave her what food she had left over after being satisfied. ¹⁹ And her mother-in-law said to her, "Where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice of you." So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, "The man's name with whom I worked today is Boaz." ²⁰ And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "May he be blessed by the LORD, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!" Naomi also said to her, "The man is a close relative of ours, one of our redeemers." ²¹ And Ruth the Moabite said, "Besides, he said to me, 'You shall keep close by my young men until they have finished all my harvest.'" ²² And Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, "It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, lest in another field you be assaulted." ²³ So she kept close to the young women of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat harvests. And she lived with her mother-in-law.

Does anything I do really matter?

1. The Lord welcomes the outsider who takes refuge under his wings
2. He works through the kindness of his people
3. But ultimately we need a Redeemer

COFFEE QUESTIONS

- Ruth is amazed that she should receive a welcome. In what ways have we allowed a sense of entitlement to diminish the wonder of the Lord's welcome of us? What truths from the gospel might we need to keep reminding ourselves of?
- Do we ever question whether what we do really matters? How does it help knowing that the Lord chooses to advance his purposes through the kindness of his people?
- How does Naomi's excitement about the possibility of finding a Redeemer who will commit to caring for her help us value our great Redeemer?

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