



COMMUNITY FORMATION
MAY-JULY 2023

May

9.30am and 11.15am

6.30pm

Community Formation

7th

Acts 1: 1-11
Jerusalem

Salvation
Exodus 6:1-12

14th

Acts 4: 32-37 - Jerusalem

Passover
Exodus 12

21st

Acts 9: 1-19 - Damascus

Salvation: Songs of Moses and Miriam
Exodus 15

28th

Acts 2: 1-21

Simple act of worship at St Barnabas
Teesside unity service, Stockton Parish Church

Pentecost

June

How Should we live

4th

Isaiah 40:12-17, 27-end;
2 Corinthians 13:11-13;
Matthew 28:16-20

Daily bread - Relying on God
Exodus 16

Trinity

11th

Acts 11: 19-30
Antioch

The ten commandments and the Law
Exodus 20

June

How Should we live

18th

Acts 15: 1-21
Jerusalem

Pure and Holy
Exodus 22 and 23

25th

Acts 16: 11-40
Philippi

Sacrifices and offerings
(Leviticus 4)

July

2nd

Acts 17: 16-31
Athens

Distinctive
Balaam and Balak
Numbers 22: 21-34

9th

Acts 19: 1-7, 23-41
Ephesus

Festivals - a life shaped by God's story
Leviticus

16th

Acts 27: 27-44
Shipwreck on Malta

Without grumbling
Deuteronomy 10:12-22
Service on the beach at Saltburn

23rd

Acts 28: 11-31
Rome

Choose who you will follow
Deuteronomy 30

Sermon Programme May—July 2023

It is a commonplace to talk of faith as a ‘private’, ‘individual’ matter. But this has nothing to do with the New Testament – or scripture as a whole. COVID enforced isolation on a society which was already deeply individualist – and in which many are horribly lonely.

The good news is that Christian faith has community at its heart. We can’t do faith on our own. We can’t be saved on our own. But whilst we know we need others, we also find it hard to live with others. And in the coming months, we’ll dig into the many lessons scripture has for how we should live as a church community.

We’ve been following the gospel of Luke in the morning. After Easter, we stay for a short while with Luke, as the gospel ends. Then, on 7th May, we start the sequel to Luke – the book of Acts. This is the travel guide of the scriptures, a whistle-stop journey from Jerusalem to Rome. But at every stop, the aim is to form new

communities of Christians. Here we can learn discover the blessing of community and let go of the modern heresy of individualism.

We’ll follow Acts from Sunday 7th May to the end of the school term in the mornings. In the evenings, our 6.30pm worship will follow the story of the Israelites under Moses – and how God forms them into a people after his own heart – often despite their opposition! Here are lessons a-plenty for how we live as a community in our own day.

