

## **Apart but Together Worship**

### **Hornsea URC Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021- Lent in plain sight : SHOES**



Welcome.

Today is a communion service so if you would like to, please have some bread and a drink ready.

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> in our lent series, Lent in plain sight, and today we are looking at Shoes!

I hope you have your walking shoes on for our first hymn.

**HYMN : Walk in the light – [CLICK HERE TO WATCH LISTEN](#)**

Our Opening prayers today have been recorded by Hallam and Jemima

**[CLICK HERE TO WATCH/LISTEN](#)**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name;  
Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done;  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those who trespass  
against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
For ever and ever.  
Amen.

## Shoes through my life!

We probably all started with a pair something like these.



What about these? I definitely had a pair of these for school - pumps or plimsolls depending on where you come from!



T bar sandals – I remember a pair in white that had to be cleaned with tennis shoe cleaner and left to dry



Platforms! Who remembers these? Old enough to choose my own shoes now. I had a pair, and it didn't matter that they were ugly because my trousers were so wide they covered the shoes completely!!



Grown up shoes! Don't know how we ever walked in these!



These days I buy shoes for comfort not looks!



These are the ones I have worn most in the last year!



Do you have favourite shoes?



I think it depends on our age; on what stage we are at in our lives.

Our choices change as we go through life whether its shoes, clothes, education. or our faith. We need to be aware of what to hold onto and what to let go of and when to do it.

Favourite old shoes that we have grown out of can hamper our journey by hurting our feet and making walking difficult

Similarly shoes which are too big can cause us to stumble.



The challenge is knowing the right time to move on.

Time to get our walking shoes on again as we sing.

**HYMN : I want to walk with Jesus Christ – [CLICK HERE TO WATCH/LISTEN](#)**

Slide 10: Some shoes can make us feel different can't they?



New football boots can turn every little boy or girl into the next David Beckham.

Some jobs need special shoes – steel toe caps for industry, hard tipped shoes for ballet, sturdy boots for walking.

But what shoes do we need to wear to follow Jesus?

**Reading** : Mark 6 6:13 (take nothing for the journey)

### **Jesus Sends Out the Twelve Disciples**

*Then Jesus went to the villages around there, teaching the people. <sup>7</sup> He called the twelve disciples together and sent them out two by two. He gave them authority over the evil spirits <sup>8</sup> and ordered them, "Don't take anything with you on the trip except a walking stick—no bread, no beggar's bag, no money in your pockets. <sup>9</sup> Wear sandals, but don't carry an extra shirt." <sup>10</sup> He also told them, "Wherever you are welcomed, stay in the same house until you leave that place. <sup>11</sup> If you come to a town where people do not welcome you or will not listen to you, leave it and shake the dust off your feet. That will be a warning to them!"*

*<sup>12</sup> So they went out and preached that people should turn away from their sins. <sup>13</sup> They drove out many demons, and rubbed olive oil on many sick people and healed them.*

In this reading Jesus is sending the disciples out in twos and telling them not to take anything extra with them just wear sandals but no extra shirt. I think we would find it hard to manage with just one set of clothes and one pair of shoes.

Perhaps it is telling us not to get bogged down in possessions. Always worrying about having and wearing the right clothes and shoes so that we 'fit in' could distract us from the important things in life.

If we spend all our time cleaning and decorating our homes but forget to welcome people in to eat with us, what good will that do?

**Reading :** Ephesians 9 10-17 The whole armour of God

### **The Whole Armour of God**

*<sup>10</sup> Finally, build up your strength in union with the Lord and by means of his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on all the armour that God gives you, so that you will be able to stand up against the Devil's evil tricks. <sup>12</sup> For we are not fighting against human beings but against the wicked spiritual forces in the heavenly world, the rulers, authorities, and cosmic powers of this dark age. <sup>13</sup> So put on God's armour now! Then when the evil day comes, you will be able to resist the enemy's attacks; and after fighting to the end, you will still hold your ground.*

*<sup>14</sup> So stand ready, with truth as a belt tight around your waist, with righteousness as your breastplate, <sup>15</sup> and as your shoes the readiness to announce the Good News of peace.*

*<sup>16</sup> At all times carry faith as a shield; for with it you will be able to put out all the burning arrows shot by the Evil One. <sup>17</sup> And accept salvation as a helmet, and the word of God as the sword which the Spirit gives you.*

### Shoes of **proclamation**



Proclamation, the dictionary says is.

“a public official announcement dealing with a matter of great importance”.

and “a clear declaration of something”

So, does this mean we have to wear shoes that click clack as we walk so everyone can hear us coming?

I don't think so. But we do have an important message to share.

We are called to 'put on the armour of God' – to be strong in our faith and in the Word of God and to be ready for what the world throws at us each day.

On our feet we are called to wear 'whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel'

These shoes are made for preaching, but not just with words. Our lives should show the message of the Gospel in the way we live. A gospel of love and caring.

These shoes may take us to places we are uncomfortable with, to the world of refugees, prisoners, the poor and oppressed.

But this is where Jesus was to be found and we are called to be His hands and feet in this world, to bear the light of Christ to those most in need.

Our feet will be directed by what is in our hearts.

If we are grounded in Christ our shoes will walk His way.

What shoes will you wear today?

Time to get our shoes of proclamation on for our next hymn God's spirit is in my heart

**HYMN : God's spirit is in my heart – [CLICK HERE TO WATCH/LISTEN](#)**

### **Communion**

As we prepare to share this meal together we cannot physically gather round the table. But even though we are separated by distance we are bound together as the body of Christ, and not just with each other but with all Christians across the world. All part of God's family. Many will be celebrating this meal today, in different places and in different ways, but its not where or how we do it that is important but more why we do it

**[CLICK HERE TO WATCH/LISTEN to COMMUNION](#)**

Time to change to our dancing shoes for our last hymn as we sing.

**HYMN: Teach me to dance – [CLICK HERE TO WATCH/LISTEN](#)**

### **Closing prayer:**

Whatever shoes you wear this week

Dancing shoes, skipping shoes, hopping shoes

Shoes for school, for work, or for caring

May they take you down the paths the Lord has planned for you

And may your hearts be full of love as you step out in faith. Amen.