

2nd Sunday after Trinity

MIDSUMMER'S DAY

*This is the day; this is the day. that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice. and be glad in it, and be glad in it.*



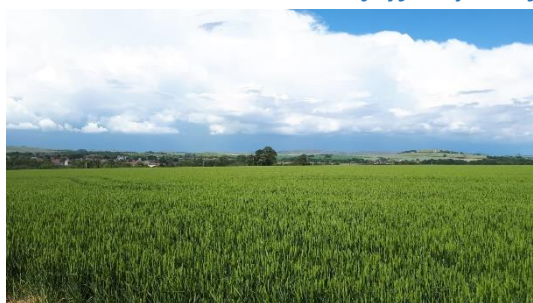
No, the photo isn't upside down but my reflections this week are in a puddle (not muddle!), which I had to ford this morning in Green Lane! It's Friday as I am writing this. It was still pouring with rain when I woke up, but when it stopped mid- morning, I felt I must get out, particularly as I hadn't been out at all on Thursday. It was only a short walk keeping to the byways but enough time to sort out

some thoughts.

As I passed the wheat fields the wind was strong and passing over the wheat in great green waves and *'even the wind and waves obey Him'* were the words that came to mind. One day this week I saw the farmer out in the field here at Nine Hills. He was pulling up the wild oats among the wheat by hand. He told me that the spray that was used is now banned and to go and pull out by hand is now the only solution. Oddly it reminded me of the Good Shepherd looking after his sheep -except he needed to get rid of the oats! Perhaps sorting the wheat from the tares would be a better analogy.

It's been a week of contrasts: joy and some sadness, as it has been one of glorious sunshine and pouring rain. This was the week of my aunt's funeral; she would have been 101 next week. Sad but in so many ways a release. She is now at rest, at peace after a difficult two years. Her funeral was quiet and peaceful. She was a quiet lady, but she had strong Christian faith. I am sure though she would have been pleased to know that the occasion made it possible for my close family to meet here together in Devizes – made possible by the relaxation of lockdown rules and of course helped by some lovely sunny dry weather on Tuesday. Jean loved being part of my family; she was always so interested in everything we did.

*For the joy of human love. Brother, sister, parent, child
Friends on earth and friends above. For all gentle thoughts and mild
For all gentle thoughts and mild. Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise*



Please note the social distancing!



The sunshine meant we could have lunch and tea in the garden. When we got back from Semington we changed and I introduced them to my walk around Nine Hills. It did us all good. In the afternoon light, Andrea spotted a second white horse. From the highpoint on the path by One Tree we could see the

Alton Barnes horse as well as the Devizes horse. I don't think there are many locations where you can view two white horses.

*We'll meet again, don't know where, don't know when,
But I know we'll meet again some sunny day.
Keep smiling through, just like you always do,
'Till the blue skies drive the dark clouds far away.*

