



### Reflection #6 - Way Maker

To be honest the past few weeks have been very challenging, not because of anything to do with either church, but with trying to move house amidst a lockdown. We have had issues with buildings work, phone and internet provision and changes to the way we can be moved. Some days I have felt like banging my head against a brick wall. Yet, throughout the many frustrations that we have faced, and still are facing, I trust that God is within it all. We will move, we will eventually get our phone bill sorted out and have a house that is a home. We hopefully will have a welcome service, and a belated leaving service too. Why do I believe that? Because I think God does make a way.

In Morning Prayers we have recently read through Exodus and are now in the early chapters of Joshua. Have you ever noticed that God removes the waters at the both the beginning (Exo 14) and the end (Josh 3) of the Israelites journey through the Wilderness? God proves time and time again that he is a Way Maker throughout scripture - when the disciples thought Jesus had left them alone after His ascension, God provided the Holy Spirit. Of course, that doesn't mean there won't be times when we feel scared, fed-up, or even confused. Perhaps sometimes, like the Israelites in the Wilderness, we wonder whether life was not better as it was before. Yet, I think, that we learn through the pages of scripture and through our life experience, that when things are most challenging that is when we most have to trust in God to make the way.

When we are able to meet properly again as churches - a joyous day! - it will be interesting to see where God is leading us. We have our new partnership between St Barnabas and St Paul's, that has been drawn together through the wilderness of lockdown and before that through the wilderness on an interregnum. I'm excited to see what our Way Maker God is going to achieve through this new mission initiative. We are encouraging members of each congregation to join with our PCCs to pray for Vision for this Mission on two Thursday evenings over the next couple of months - 25 June and 23 July. These prayer meetings will be an opportunity to pray for the areas in which we live and worship, but also to look at how we can engage with the Central Development. Following the meeting on 25 June we would encourage any words from God to be fed back to Paul or the Wardens to take further.

God is a Way Maker, a miracle worker, a light in the darkness, that is who he is. He will show us direction for our partnership, he will bring us out of lockdown, and he will get us moved into the Rectory!

You may find the links to 2 songs below helpful...

<https://youtu.be/XCpbeVFgs4E> Way Maker Song  
<https://youtu.be/RsMAXhc0QTs> God Will Make a Way

### **Prayer**

Faithful God

Thank you that you are the Way Maker throughout history.  
Help me to be patient and trust you in the challenges I face.  
Help me to know that you will bring me through each one  
As my loving heavenly Father.

**Amen**