

The Good Samaritan

This was written for a service in Moss Side, Manchester focusing on the story of the Good Samaritan as the unlikely hero through whom God acts. Who are the unlikely and everyday heroes around us who might just convey God's love in unexpected ways?

God who does not walk by
But stops and gets involved in a strangers story:

Sometimes priests and ministers get it wrong!
Sometimes Levites and teachers make mistakes!
Sometimes fear gets in the way
And we worry what others might think
We are tied by cultural expectations
And bound by rules and conventions
Sometimes we do not see the blindingly obvious
Or we are just so busy that we race on by.

God who does not walk by
But stops and gets involved in a strangers story:

Forgive us, and help us to live in the present moment
To understand that it is the person before us that is really important
To see God in the ordinary of everyday life
To have the courage to be the unsung hero.

God who does not walk by
But stops and gets involved in a strangers story:

Sometimes it is the Samaritans who get it right
Sometimes it is the stranger among us who shows God's love
The asylum seeker who brings biscuits to share at the BBQ
The Muslim who teaches us something new about our own faith
The economic migrant who asks how our church community is doing
The single mum who volunteers to help make coffee and toast
The retired grandfather who helps a class with their 2nd world war project
The people from the care home who listen to us sing.

God who does not walk by
But stops and gets involved in a strangers story:

Encourage us and urge us on to live each moment to the full
To celebrate that it is the person before us that is really important
To name God in the ordinary of everyday life
To have the confidence to reach our potential and shine.

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