



CHEAP STREET CHURCH

To know the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit and with Jesus as our teacher to show and share our faith.

Minister:

The Revd Duncan Goldie 01935 812916

Church Secretary:

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NEWSLETTER

17th September 2020

While Duncan has been in the Alps and Sue is in deepest Dorset, some of us haven't been very far. My excitement last week was a much-needed haircut, the first since January, and a flu jab. While some attended the first Cheap Street Sunday worship since March, others of us stayed at home and worshipped online. I have a variety of fellowships I join with. Do send us details of worship you've found helpful and we'll include them in future newsletters. **George Faris**

Sunday Worship in the Hall

It was lovely to be able to join together in the Hall for our short service with Duncan last Sunday, and I'm looking forward to next Sunday and then to Janet Le Moignan leading worship on September 27th. Many thanks to George Faris for putting together the Risk Assessment and to Janet for organising the practical details.

Because of social distancing and the need to leave an adequate aisle, we were only able to fit 23 chairs into the Hall, so do make sure that you let the Councillor on duty know you are coming through your Pastoral Visitor or by telephoning George (details at bottom of this newsletter). **Christine Rogers**

Duncan's Thought for the Day

Psalm 121:1

I lift up my eyes to the **hills**-- where **does** my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. Indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.



Having recently been to Berchtesgaden and seen the Alps close up, I know mountains are impressive and awe-inspiring. Relative to our lifetime there is a sense of permanence in terms of our changing world; over millions of years they are formed and eroded away. The alpine mountains in this picture were once at the bottom of an ancient ocean. It is only God that time does not ultimately remove.

In the bible, mountains are places of solitude, places where people meet with God, places to which people run to escape from problems and places that allow people to gain a new perspective on the challenges they face. We all need those meeting places with God, which in prayer take us out of our normal routines where we look up to God and find a fresh perspective and strength to meet life's challenges, whether it is a retreat, a quiet day or a trip to the hills.

Hymn: *Singing the Faith* 631 I lift my eyes up to the mountains (click for YouTube version).

Fellowship of Prayer

Whenever and wherever we pray in the silence of our hearts, we are part of a rich and powerful fellowship, which serves to sustain everyone in our Church Family. Anyone can join the prayer group by just praying.

We pray particularly for Sheila Green and her family. We continue to pray for John Hunt and his family; Carol Hooper and her family; Janet Baker; Martin Heal; Phyllis Batchelor; Duncan's mother; Kathy Crew; Clive and Jill Turner, Ellie and Sophie; Janet Dolling and her family; Judith Hayward and her family; Eileen Higgins; Alex Palmer; Peter and Marjorie Kett; Christina Le Moignan.

The Prayer Ring is available for an urgent need or situation.

Call any of these numbers and the circle of prayer will begin:

Eirwen Cox 01935 815960, Penny Gardner 01935 389153, Janet Le Moignan 01935 389662.

Duncan's Message

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 105:1-6 & 37-45, Exodus 16:2-15, Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16.

The generosity of God is one of the themes that is present in all our readings for this week. In Psalm 105 it is there as the Psalmist recalls the generosity of God to the people of Israel who are initially saved from famine and then many years later are brought out of slavery in Egypt. God provides what they were unable to do for themselves. The reading from Exodus describes an act of God's generosity to Israel when they are in the desert and no one including Moses and Aaron can provide the food they need to live and go on their journey to the land God has promised to them. It is an act of generosity that will more than provide for all they need; what they gather is not dependent on how long they gather but will require an act of trust in God, as they are not to take more than they need and not to take enough for the next few days but to trust that God will also provide on the following days.

Paul in his letter to the Philippians is torn between going to be with Jesus and continuing his mission to bring Jesus into the lives of the Philippians and others. He is in prison at this time and does not know whether he will be executed or eventually released. For Paul his ministry was a response to God's generosity to him, a generosity that meant he would spend eternity with Jesus.

The story that Jesus tells in Matthew is probably not a good model for conducting industrial relations with a workforce in the long term. It certainly is not about everyone getting what they have earned, rather it is about all receiving what they need regardless of the amount of time or effort they put in. It is again about God's generosity whether or not it is merited.

Our life of faith is our free response to God's generosity in sending Jesus to be our crucified and risen Saviour in whatever circumstances we find ourselves.

Hymn *Singing The Faith* 51: Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father ([click for You Tube version](#)).

Prayers for the Persecuted Church

Mali

The violence and hostility experienced by Christians continue to rise, especially targeting those who openly share their faith. Many Christian women and girls are subjected to sexual abuse, forced into under-age marriage, and are denied access to modern education. Christian missionaries are at risk of abduction and some are held hostage. Let us pray for protection for Christian women and girls; for the release of Christian missionaries being held hostage, and for safety for Open Doors partners supporting believers in Mali. Amen

Refugee Appeal

SHARES (Sherborne Area Refugee Support) is having a collection for refugees displaced by the fire at Moira Camp on Lesbos. The people there have lost what few possessions they had, including valuable papers to prove their asylum claims. They are sleeping in the open air with little access to food, water and hygiene facilities or medical care.

We are collecting hygiene items - nappies, sanitary pads, shower gel, soap, roll-on deodorant and shampoo - at Cheap Street Church every morning from 10.30 - 12.00 from Monday 21st - Friday 25th September. If you can't drop off, please phone us on 01935 432945 and we will collect. Many thanks! **Cath Adam**

The Class of Longburton

It has been confirmed by the Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit that the class of Longburton is now formally part of Cheap Street Church.

We are very pleased to officially welcome you all.

Every blessing,

Revd Duncan Goldie. Minister

Sue Way. Secretary

At our church meeting on 12th March the Circuit Superintendent explained what this means:

- Longburton's members become members of Cheap Street.
- Our treasurer takes responsibility for its finances (currently in good order).
- Members from Longburton will participate in Cheap Street's structures, i.e. providing a councillor, a pastoral visitor and a member on Finance and Property.
- Duncan becomes Longburton's minister with overall pastoral responsibility.

Church Directory

Now that we are open more often, I shall be producing hard copies of the Church Directory for distribution. Please could you let me know if there have been any changes to your details during the last six months by sending an email to chrisrogers@uwclub.net or telephoning 01935-815216. Many thanks. **Christine Rogers**

Other ways of worshipping on Sunday

Radio 4: 8.10 am – *Where shall we put our trust?* In a world where many are fearful, Father Brian D'Arcy asks where we can put our trust.

Methodist resources: [click here](#). URC resources: [click here](#).

URC: [daily devotions and a Sunday service \(click here to subscribe\)](#).

Sherborne Abbey

The Abbey has parish worship at 9.30 am on Sunday and is open for private prayer on Thursday between 11 am and 1 pm.

Contributions to Future Newsletters

Please send contributions by midday Wednesday to:

Penny Gardner pennylgardner@gmail.com 01935 389153 and

George Faris gfaris48@gmail.com 01935 420258.