



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:

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NEWSLETTER

17th February 2021

From the Church Secretary

Just a brief reminder: We are holding our Church AGM on Thursday, 4th March 2021 at 7pm via Zoom.

Cheap Street Worship



ORDER OF ZOOM SERVICE– 3.00 pm Sunday 21st February 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Christine Rogers - leading worship *Janet Le Moignan - Councillor on duty*

Call to Worship. Psalm 25, verses 4-7

- Music** Singing the Faith 134: “Christ, whose glory fills the sky”.
- Prayers** Adoration and Confession
The Lord’s Prayer
- Readings** Genesis 9: 8–17: The rainbow as a sign of God’s Covenant
Mark 1: 9-15: Jesus is baptized and sent into the wilderness
- Sermon** What do the readings/sermon say to you?
- Music.** Singing the Faith 238: “Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us”
- Prayers** Intercessions
- Music** Singing the Faith 519: “Father, I place into your hands the things that I
can’t do”
- Blessing**

The joining instructions for this Sunday’s service (and subsequent Sundays) are in this week’s email. Please contact Penny Gardener or Ruth Rogerson (details at the end of the newsletter) to be added to the email distribution list and for help accessing Zoom.

Duncan's Message

Lectionary Readings for Sunday 21st February 2021 Lent 1.

Psalm 25:1-10 & 20, Genesis 9:8-17, 1 Peter 3:18-21, Mark 1:9-15.

As we begin Lent, the theme of temptation and the choices we are invited to make come to the fore, as we remember that Jesus took time out before he embarked on the mission his Heavenly Father had sent him into the world to do. After his baptism in the Jordan by John, Jesus knew that now was the time to begin, but how he was to do it and be true to his Heavenly Father's will was not so clear. The choices Jesus would make would determine whether or not he would fulfil his Father's will to bring God's love and forgiveness into the lives of everyone who allows Jesus into their lives.

In our Psalm, the psalmist knows his past is far from perfect, even if not any worse than anyone else's, and that he faces an uncertain future, but is seeking God's guidance, forgiveness and protection for his future. In our current circumstances, with the Covid lockdown, we all face an uncertain future, with the loss of jobs and business, new variants of the virus, and no certainty that holidays will be possible this year. In all these circumstances, it is important that we seek God's guidance in the choices we make. In Genesis, with the end of the flood God sees the opportunity to do things differently when dealing with our wrong choices, which will ultimately be dealt with through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus. Something that Peter reminds of when he reminds us that through Jesus and our baptism we have the opportunity to make our choice in accordance with God's will.

Hymn Singing The Faith 471. Lord, I come to you,

Pastoral News

Barbara Porter has left Yeovil hospital and moved to Fern Brook Lodge Care Home in Gillingham for recuperation. Barbara has settled in very happily and is being very well looked after. Hopefully this is the final stage on the way to her recovery.

We send our love and prayers to Barbara and Dennis from all at Cheap Street Church.

We have received news this week that The Rev. Tom Carmichael is very poorly in The Royal Albert Infirmary in Wigan. Tom was our minister from August 2014 to July 2016, when he had to retire early because of ill health.

We send love and prayers to Tom and Marian, their son Aaron and grandson Byron from all at Cheap Street Church.

Birthdays:

Saturday, 20th February Colleen Farquharson

Happy Birthday, Colleen!



Love and prayers to you all and Stay Safe. *Eirwen Cox*

Prayers for the persecuted church

Niger - Islamic extremism is on the rise in Niger, and churches are afraid. The overwhelming Muslim majority of the country are pushing for Sharia (Islamic law) to be adopted, and the threat of violence from militant groups means that church worship has to be conducted with caution. Open Doors partners strengthen Christians in Niger through persecution survival training, leadership and discipleship training, and economic empowerment projects. Let us pray that God will frustrate the plans of Islamic extremists; for courage and unity for the church across Niger, and that believers in Niger will have opportunities to share the good news of Jesus. Amen

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 hold in prayer Myra Heard at Eastbury House, Barbara and Dennis Porter; Eileen Higgins's son Robert and his wife Dawn; Clive and Jill Turner and Ellie and Sophie; Yve and Ken Ackroyd and all the family; Janet Baker; Phyllis Batchelor; Duncan's mother; Eileen Higgins; Alex Palmer; Peter and Marjorie Kett.

We continue to remember the families of those who have died recently: Derek Hayward, Ron Dolling, Charles Pennington, Gill Hunt, John Hooper, Hilda Clarke, John Green, Graham Penlington and Brian Crew.

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

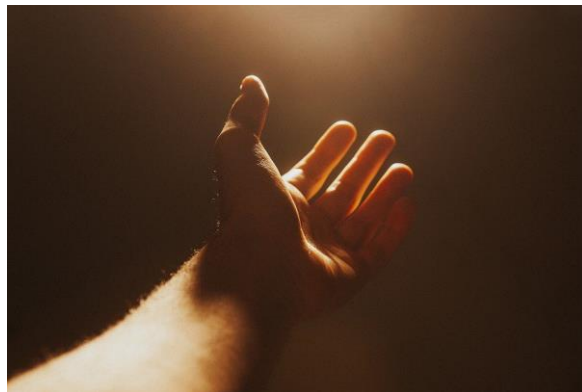
Call any of these numbers and the circle of prayer will begin:

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

Message from Annette: I have been so very thankful to everyone for their prayers while my brother Winston was ill and also for all the kind messages and cards following his death from Covid.
Annette

After the devastating news that 100,000 people have died in the UK after contracting Covid-19, the Archbishop of York and the Archbishop of Canterbury have invited the nation to join them in prayer every day at 6.00pm during the month of February. Everybody can join in.

Your prayer is important!



The title page of the Cheapstreeter was about J. S. Bach, so I thought I might include a link to his music in the newsletter. Raymond Wood and his friend Margaret Phillips have kindly suggested this Chorale Partita: "Sei gegrüsst, Jesu gütig" BWV 768: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=seFBz-Cxkxw>

Thought for the Day

Mark 1:12-13.

LENT 2021 LOCKDOWN.

The traditional thing to ask someone at the beginning of Lent is what are you giving up for Lent; it is hard to do that this year in a time that we have all had to give up so much which we would normally do in the last twelve months. For the most part we are looking forward to beginning to do again much of what we have had to give up.

As we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter, we remember the time that Jesus spent alone in the wilderness as he prepared himself for his preaching ministry and how he would reveal who he truly was as God's Son to us. From the accounts of Jesus' temptations we know that Jesus had some big decisions to make, as he decided the way that his heavenly Father wanted him to take, a way that would ultimately lead on to his death on the cross but also to his resurrection and ascension.

While Jesus spent time away from the normal demands of life it was not a time of doing nothing but a time of engaging in prayer and bringing the choices he had to his heavenly Father. In terms of prayer, it was a time of heightened activity, something for lesser periods of time he would repeat throughout his ministry.

This year Lent is more an opportunity to take the time to do something to prepare ourselves for Easter, whether that is online or on our own. Including taking the time to pray, or read the bible, especially the books we rarely look into, as preparation for Easter and life after Covid Lockdown.

Hymn STF.455. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart

Duncan

Cheap Street Zoom Coffee Morning

The joining instructions for our Coffee Morning on Thursday, 18th February at 10.30am are in this week's email.

A poem for the week



Snowdrops by Michael Aitken

In windswept woods or gardens bare
In companies of purest white,
You'll find them meekly growing there,
These harbingers of spring's delight
With faces fixed towards the earth,
Which, scoured by winter, gave them birth.

Their heads they don't presume to raise,
So steadfast their humility,
But open wide their mouths in praise
Before their time has come to die
To show that they are well aware
God loves to see them growing there.

[Message from Cath Adam](#)

Tears in the eyes of the senior nurses receiving gifts in ITU. Thank you all so much.



[Something to make you smile](#)

A few summers ago, the Queen was staying at Balmoral and was out walking in the Scottish countryside, dressed in casual clothes. She met an American couple and they chatted about the weather and the views. The Americans asked the elderly lady if she had a house around here. "Yes", the Queen replied. Then they wanted to know whether she had ever met the Queen. The Queen turned to her bodyguard and said: "No, I haven't, but he has."

[Worship Resources](#)

[Radio 4 Sunday Worship at 8.10am](#): Lent 1 – Jesus and the Father: United. With Father Dermot Preston of St. Aloysius' RC Church in Glasgow, and spirituality guide, Mary O'Duffin. Readings: John 12, Matthew 4: 1-11.

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

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

[Contributions to future newsletters](#)

Please send contributions by midday Wednesday to:
Penny Gardner pennylgardner@gmail.com 01935 389153 and
Ruth Rogerson rogersonruth@gmail.com 01935 813498.