



## 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.

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**Minister:**

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## NEWSLETTER

**17th March 2021**

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### Cheap Street Zoom Coffee Morning

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

### Cheap Street Worship

#### **ORDER OF ZOOM SERVICE– 3.00 pm Sunday 21st March 2021**

#### **FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT *Rev Clare Downing leading worship with guest speaker Peter Pay***

We have a special guest speaker at our Zoom service on Sunday at 3pm. He is Peter Pay who is co-leader of the United Reformed Church alongside the Rev Clare Downing who came to preach to us not so long ago before lockdown.

Peter will be joining us from his home in Salisbury where he is an elder of the URC. And look at the theme of the service he has been led to prepare! Could this be God's encouragement to us for our Pod project?

#### **Theme: 'Sowing the seed'**

Introduction

Call to Worship

Hymn: Sing praise to the Lord

Prayers of praise and thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Reading: Jeremiah 31. 31-34

Reflection 1

Prayer of confession and assurance of pardon

Hymn: Now the green blade rises

Reading: John 12. 20-33

Reflection 2

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn: God is working His purpose out

Blessing

## Duncan's Message

Lectionary Readings for Sunday 21st March 2021 Lent 5.

Psalm 51:1-12, Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 5:5-10, John 12:20-33.

The passage from Jeremiah speaks of a future new normal for the people of Israel in their relationship with God. That not only will they know the law that God has given them in order to live lives at peace with God and each other, but that through the wishes of their hearts they will live it out, without having to constantly look it up. It is the fulfilment of a new heart being placed within us that Jesus' death and resurrection makes possible for us.

In the past week we have had the tragic murder of Sarah Everard and a serving police officer arrested and charged with her murder. If eventually found guilty of this crime, then this is a person who more than most should have known that they should not have committed the crime they carried out for whatever reasons. Unfortunately his heart has not caused him to act in the right way. This has also raised the question about behaviour that does not treat people with that they deserve, whether that is sexual harassment or racist abuse and discrimination in all its forms. Rules and education can help people to better understand it but it requires an attitude of the heart that wishes to change for behaviour to change. Jesus' death and resurrection makes that change possible and a hope for a new normal into a living reality.

Hymn Singing The Faith 520. Give to me, Lord, a thankful heart [click here](#)

## Pastoral News

I found out this morning that Margaret Field recently received dental treatment which resulted in a tooth extraction and several stitches. It made drinking and eating difficult, but Margaret assures me that she is feeling much better although the stitches will be in for a few weeks yet.

Take care Margaret, with love and prayers from our Cheap Street Church Family.

Welcome home Barbara from everyone at Cheap Street Church.

We give thanks to God, for all who have been involved in your treatment, care and recovery.

We send our love and best wishes to you and Dennis.

Celebrations.

Thursday 11th March, Pat and Martin Heal celebrated their 54th Wedding Anniversary and on

Tuesday 23rd March Molly and Mike Hooper celebrate their 53rd Wedding Anniversary.

Congratulations from us all at Cheap Street Church.

Thursday 18th March, Happy Birthday to Janet English and Bryan McCleery,

With love and best wishes from us all at Cheap Street.

*Eirwen Cox*

## Prayers for the persecuted church

**Pakistan** - Be careful what you say in Pakistan. The country's notoriously harsh blasphemy laws could see you in court for 'insulting Islam', facing a possible death sentence. And that's even if you haven't said or done anything. These laws are often used to target Christians for unrelated disputes. All Christians are viewed as second-class citizens in Pakistan and given 'dishonourable' jobs. Believers from a Muslim background are particularly vulnerable to persecution - both from their families and from those in power. It may seem almost impossible to follow Jesus in Pakistan - but with God, all things are possible. He is keeping believers strong and faithful and sure of their identity in Christ. Let us pray for Pakistani Christians to have courage to speak about their faith; for protection over their churches, especially around Christian festivals such as Christmas and Easter, and for God's strength for Christian girls who have been abducted and forced to convert and marry. 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 Tom and Marian Carmichael, 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.*



## Thought for the Day

Mark 1:12-13.

### **HAND-WASHING.**

Although hand-washing seems to have part of Jewish life so as to be physically and ritually clean, its use in Leviticus 15, is more about the preventing transmitting of infection than just a religious cleanliness. Some of the procedures such as washing oneself and one's clothes are very similar to what our health workers do when they get home from shift, to prevent their families being infected with Covid 19. Hand - washing has become a part of our daily ritual in times of the current Covid pandemic, with us not only hand washing before meals but before we enter shops, and buildings including places of worship. In one respect we have always spiritually washed ourselves in prayer before worship, something that we continue in worship through our prayers of confession and forgiveness. It is important that we cleanse ourselves of more than being contaminated by Coronavirus.

In Mark 7 Jesus' disciples have drawn criticism for not doing the normal hand washing before a meal, Jesus' response is to tell people that it is not what goes into us that makes us unclean but what comes out of our hearts that can make us unclean or contaminated.

In Matthew 27:24 we have the famous hand-washing by Pilate, when he gives into the crowd's demand to have Jesus crucified. Pilate is symbolically in a way the crowd would understand trying to remove any responsibility for Jesus death from himself, but it is ultimately Pilate as the Roman Governor, acting on behalf of the Roman Emperor who will give the order that will mean Jesus will be crucified. In a similar way the orders of the military leaders in Myanmar that are resulting in the deaths of those protesting against them are their responsibility, despite their efforts to move the blame to others.

In our lives our hand-washing needs to be about seeking to protect others and ourselves from what would infect us, and not evading our responsibility to do the right thing which God has placed in our hearts.

Hymn STF 424: God forgave my sin in Jesus' name [click here](#)

*Duncan Goldie*

## Easter Egg Appeal



After reading in our weekly Newsletter about how tirelessly the staff at The Yeatman Hospital have worked during the last twelve months, I thought how great it would be if as a church we could do something to show them our appreciation. It was then that Easter Eggs came to mind.

I have spoken to Linsley Withers, Secretary of The Friends of The Yeatman, and she thinks the Easter Egg is a great idea. The Friends will be delighted if we join in with them to bring joy, and to say thank you to all the staff at Easter.

If you would like to provide an egg, the ideal size would be a Medium egg in a box. They are available at all supermarkets, prices varying between £1-25 and £2. depending on store offers.

Lindsey also asked, please could we sellotape a short message to the side of the box. Thanking you all in anticipation.

Jenn and I have permission to open the church to receive your eggs.

The Church will be open next week between 10am-12 noon

FRIDAY. 26th MARCH.

SATURDAY. 27th MARCH.

If you live in Sherborne and have a problem getting to the church, or if you have any other query, just ring me. Tel. No. 815960

Thank you. *Eirwen*

### **POD Volunteers needed!**

As you may know, we are planning to open "The Pod", our church and community outreach project, from our shop on Cheap Street, in April.

We do have quite a few people in place to join the rota, but we will be looking for more. If you feel you would like to join us, being in the POD for a couple of hours a week, or just now and then, please let me know ASAP. Or you could just ring me to find out more. I look forward to hearing from you!

*Lynn Heaton 01963 251747*

### **[Worship Resources](#)**

**Radio 4 Sunday Worship at 8.10am**: Lent 5 – **Lost Years**: A moment of remembrance led by the Archbishop of York marks the loss of over 125 000 lives as the nation prepares to mark the anniversary of lockdown. Leader: Debbie Thrower. [click here](#)

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

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

## A poem for the week



*From Margaret Field*

### **Hope 1**

by  
Emily Dickinson

Hope is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul,  
And sings the tune without the words,  
And never stops at all,

And sweetest in the gale is heard;  
And sore must be the storm  
That could abash the little bird  
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chillest land,  
And on the strangest sea;  
Yet, never in extremity,  
It asked a crumb of me.

## Contributions to future newsletters

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