



# St Margaret's Church

Together we aim to: Worship God, Proclaim Jesus, Grow in the Spirit and Serve the World

## In Contact

15th May 2022

### 1 Peter 1. 3-5



### Resurrection - A Living Hope

What do we hope for? Certainly peace for the Ukraine, but are there other, more personal hopes? Hopes for this country? Hopes for our families? Hopes for ourselves? Hopes for our church?

As Christians, we have a unique hope. Most Sundays, in one way or another, we declare our belief in Jesus being raised from the dead; that He is the resurrection and the life. This week brings us to the end of our series of looking at the Resurrection this Easter and we move to focus on the promise of the coming Spirit celebrated at Pentecost. But before we leave this topic, we focus on the hope we have because of the Risen Lord.

The obvious hope we have involves our understanding of what happens next, when this life comes to an end. Because Jesus is the resurrection and the life, we believe that He, not death, has the final word. He, who is the firstfruits from among the dead, can bring us new life when we die. We will be like Him. We will be the same but different. We will be given new bodies that cannot perish and will be free for the aches, pains and hardships most of us face. This is a great hope.

However, in our passage for today (1 Peter 1. 3-9) we are told that this is no ordinary hope - it is a living hope. It lives because Jesus lives, having been raised from the dead. It is a living hope for us who are living today. In a similar passage in Romans 5, St Paul tells us that this is a hope that does not disappoint (5.5). It comes with God's love and the promised Spirit dwelling in us. So even if for a while we suffer all sorts of trials, we have a hope that this will grow our faith and a belief that the living God is with us through all we face. And even in the face of difficulties, we can experience an *"indescribable and glorious joy"* (1 Peter 1. 8) because of our hope in the living Lord. This truly is our living hope.

But there is, as ever with God, more. This living hope comes with power. Paul prays for the church in Ephesians 1.19-20 that they might know the power of God in their lives. He reminds them that: *"That power is the same as the mighty strength God exerted when he raised Christ from the dead..."* Our living hope is that the same power that raised Jesus is at work in our lives now.

Our living hope in Jesus gives us strength to live for today. Yes! We hope for what happens after this life, but we live each day in the power of the living hope, knowing that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is at work in our lives. Alleluia and praise God for our living hope in Jesus!



## Bible Verse for 2022:

**For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.**

Ephesians 2.8

### **This Week Sunday 15th May :**

**Family Communion 10.30am:** Matt will be preaching from 1 Peter 1: 3-5 on the theme of 'Living Hope'.

### **Next Week Sunday 22nd May:**

**Holy Communion 10.30am:** We will be returning to our Romans sermon series looking at Romans 8: 1-17 'Life in the Spirit'.

**Common Worship Communion 3.00pm:** This is the first of our new afternoon services. This will be a shorter quieter service in modern English with no hymns.

### **Jubilee cream tea:**

June 5th 3-5pm Jubilee Cream Tea, Traditional games, short outdoor service. Please see Matt or Steph if you can help. Scone bakers needed too!

### **Social Media**

If you have a flair for social media and would like to help us to better project our image to the community, please see Matt.

### **May 15th to 21st** Please Pray for:

- ◆ People living in Shawlea Avenue, Woodlea Avenue, Sunnylea Avenue & Briarlea Gardens.
- ◆ Nothing to stop Alpha course starting in one wing of HMP M/c on Wednesday.
- ◆ Wedding of James Flood and Sarah Mortique in church on Saturday.
- ◆ Two 3pm communions each month to be helpful to those who are cautious or enjoy a traditional service.
- ◆ Youth leaders as they grow to understand the needs of each of our young people.
- ◆ True religious freedom in India so that Christians can worship without any fear.
- ◆ Peart's new home in Santa Cruz to be a place of safety, welcome & hospitality.
- ◆ TearFund asks for prayer for local church leaders around the world.
- ◆ For our own opportunities for mission.
- ◆ Pray for the new PCC that they might lead us forward in Christ.

### **Food bank:**

Cooking Oil is restricted to buy at the moment so we have been asked if we could add a VEGETABLE OIL (not Olive Oil) to our shopping bags. 1 Litre or less in size- Aldi currently £1.29 for 1 litre.

*If you are visiting St Margaret's for the first time we hope you will enjoy worshipping with us today.*

*For more information please visit our website: [www.stmargaretsburnage.org.uk](http://www.stmargaretsburnage.org.uk)*

*Come and join us for tea or coffee after the service.*



**UHT Semi Skimmed Milk    Tinned Fruit**  
**Tinned Cold Meat        UHT Fruit Juice**