



St Margaret's Church

Together we aim to:

Worship God, Proclaim Jesus,

Grow in the Spirit and Serve the World

In Contact

20th June 2021

Ephesians 3: 14-21 Are we well rooted (grounded) in our Father's love?



Rooted and grounded in love

Very often, we hear others talk about the love of God and we are reminded of this love whenever we engage in Christian conversations or whenever we go on outreach and evangelism programs.

But how well are we rooted in this love?

Indeed, God's love has already been made available to us. Our response to accept His love, enables us to become rooted in Him. John tells us that, God loves the world; hence He gave His Son Jesus Christ. If we accept

God's love, we become connected and grow into His likeness, just as the roots of a tree connect with soil and water for its source of nutrients for growth.

The Psalmist reminds us that, if we are rooted in God's love, we become *"like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper"*.

Moreover, being rooted in God's love enables us to be fastened to the solid rock; just as the wise man who built his house on a rock. So that when the rain falls, the floods come and the winds blow against the house, it will not collapse and fall, because it has been built on rock. The challenges and difficulties of this world will always be present. Jesus told his disciples that they will face persecution and all sorts of troubles in this world. But they should take courage in Him for He has conquered the world. Let your love for God be well rooted in, and firmly anchored to Him, remembering that His love for us is wider than any ocean, deeper than the depth below and higher than the heights above.

When we are rooted in God's love, we will produce fruits from His love.

On this Father's Day, may the world see in us the Father's true love. A love which is patient and kind, a love which is not envious or boastful, arrogant, or rude.

The Father's love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful.

The Father's love does not rejoice in wrongdoing. By contrast, the Father's love rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things and readily forgives all sins and wrongdoings. The Father's love does not keep records of wrongdoings. God says as far as the East is from the West, so have I removed your transgressions and I will not remember them anymore.

Paul draws our attention to seeing the love of God in four dimensions:

"I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

May our understanding of our Heavenly Father enable us to comprehend the breadth, length, height and depth of God's amazing love. Amen.



Bible Verse for 2021:

I am about to do something new; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness, rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 43: 19



Daily Hope is a free phone line which offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

OPT-IN:

Please contact Matt 432 1844 or the office 432 4606 if you still wish to receive hard copies of In-Contact and Worship Resources after today.

Delivering to Streets prior to prayer:

This coming week we will be delivering prayer request letters to the homes of:

Barnfield Road, Oakland Avenue, and Carrgreen Close.

Next Week Sunday 27th June:

We will be re-starting our 3.00pm Communion service.

Looking Ahead:

Taking us into Summer we have several mini sermon series to look forward to.

Three are on the theme of **'It's Good News'**, then we have two with Olympic themes:

'Run the Race' and **'More than Gold'**, and taking us to September there are four sermons on the theme of **'Mission Possible.'**

June 20th to 26th Pray for:

- ♦ People living in Moorcroft Drive, Moorcroft Walk, Whitehurst Rd & Mauldeth Rd (at Green End).
- ♦ Matt's final supervision of Duke on Monday.
- ♦ Matt as chair of Burnage Foodbank Trustees meeting on Wednesday.
- ♦ More volunteers to distribute leaflets to streets we will be praying for.
- ♦ God to open new paths for the Pearts' ministry in Santa Cruz.
- ♦ Everyone to be kept safe and sensible as lockdown eases.
- ♦ Matt leading funeral of Anne Moore (sister of Beryl Jones from Hodgson Court) on Wednesday
- ♦ Callum and Sophie getting married in August (Banns being published).

Television & Radio this Sunday:

BBC 2 - 13.15pm: Songs of Praise. To celebrate Father's Day, Aled Jones meets inspirational dads, including award-winning rap artist and author Guvna B.

BBC Radio 4 - 8.10am: In the year celebrating 1,500 years since the birth of St Columba, John Bell and Christine Reid of the Iona Community explore the imagery of Psalm 23 to reflect on how Scotland's Christianity flourished from the seeds sown by Columba, and its significance over the centuries and to this day.

Help is available if you need it: **Call 0800 234 6123**

Monday to Friday: 9am to 5pm & Saturday: 10am to 2pm