

**ST JAMES' METHODIST & UNITED REFORMED CHURCH WOOLTON L25 7RJ**

Web address: <http://stjameswoolton.org>

**MINISTER:** Revd. Peter Hughes [peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk](mailto:peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk)  
0151 364 0134

Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.

**NEWSLETTER 16<sup>th</sup> May – 2021**



**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Lord of Hosts, purify our hearts that the King of Glory may come in, even your Son, Jesus our Redeemer; for he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



Eternal God, you have given all authority in heaven and on earth to your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Grant that we may never lose the vision of your kingdom but serve you with hope and joy; through him who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER**

As I prepare to set out on my Sabbatical journey (most of it not too far from home!) I would like to wish God's blessing on you all.

I know that you will be well looked after in my absence, by our Steward Elders, Pastoral Visitors and Circuit Staff and each other as brothers and sisters in Christ.

As I walk along the towpaths, through wild Welsh countryside and visit the Keswick Convention I will think of you all and pray for you. I am very grateful to the Methodist Church and to all of you for the gift of this time to read, reflect and walk. Thank you to everyone who has been involved in helping me plan and in agreeing to cover for me during the next few months.

I pray that God will keep us all safe as we work through what we trust will be the final chapter of the Corona virus pandemic and as God leads us to a new chapter in our life together.

See you soon, God Bless, Peter.

**UPCOMING PREACHERS**

**Sunday May 16<sup>th</sup>**

Revd. Peter Hughes (**St James'**) & Revd. Peter Hughes (**Telephone**)

This service will include a seated, distanced Communion. Anyone wanting to receive the Communion after the service, please contact, either Irene Elliott or Revd. Peter Hughes.

**Sunday May 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Michaela Doherty (**St James'**) & Liz Hudson (**Telephone**)

## **WORSHIPPING AT ST. JAMES'**

There are now 3 ways in which you can enjoy our Sunday morning services.

- By booking a place and attending St James'
- Via telephone
- Via Zoom

All details and information are below.

**Please use the Zoom link below**

**Joining from 10.15 for a 10.30 am start – Preacher: Revd. Peter Hughes**

Either click on this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5913455610?pwd=R3RFV1RWU2NpKzJ1cTM1VFJ2STk4UT09>

**Meeting ID: 591 345 5610**

**Passcode: 6WbLRw**

We hope to see you there.

If you want to listen in to the Service on Sunday, dial the above number, then PIN and listen in. You can chat up to 10.30, but when the service starts everyone will be “muted” to avoid feedback/noise.

**Also from St. James Church:- Invitation to Telephone Worship  
(And every Sunday until the end of June)**

This Sunday our preacher will be Revd. Peter Hughes.

To join us for a short (15-20 minutes) Act of Worship :

Between 2.20pm and 2.30pm on Sunday:

From your normal “landline” telephone: Dial: 0333-006-7775

On being asked, enter the following number, or “Pin”: 08 39 09 01

You will be able to chat with everyone else who joins until the service starts.

This Sunday’s Act of Worship, or short service, will comprise:

### **Order of Worship:**

- Welcome and notices:
- Opening prayer (Host)
- Bible reading (Peter or Geraldine Bounds) Acts 1 verses 1 to 11
- Lord’s Prayer (Host)
- Talk or “mini-sermon” (Rev Peter Hughes)
- Prayers (Dave Dickson)
- Grace and dismissal. (Host)

COST: - The above number costs the same to dial as ordinary UK numbers – if you have “free minutes” from your telephone supplier then there will be no cost.

God Bless

Graham Martin

Communications officer (and local preacher) St. James Church

[Call me on 0151-222-5832 or 07712-525239 if you have any questions]

**Please read again all the information below so that we are all aware how we can behave safely and protect each other. This may seem a lot to remember but like everything else we have had to do over the last year, we will soon get used to it!**

### **Service Dates and times**

We plan to hold our services every Sunday at 10.30am (doors open from 10am).

### **Bookings**

Once again, you will need to book in advance to attend a Service. This is because the capacity of our Church has been much reduced by the need to observe social distance.

**You will need to book in each week. Bookings can be made by phone, text or email.**

**Please contact Jayne McLaren on 07859 062 692 (jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk) from 4pm on the Sunday afternoon for the following Sunday's Service.**

Places will be given on a **first come first served basis**. If we can't book you in for the coming Sunday, we will put you on the list for the following Sunday.

If you wish to sit as part of a family group, please tell us at the time of booking so that we can arrange seats together for you.

If you book and then find that you can't come to a Service, please let us know as it will create space for others to come.

**Please don't "turn up"** at Church if you haven't booked for that Service as it will be frustrating for you to have to go home.

It is essential that you do not come to Church if you are showing symptoms of Covid 19 or have recently come into contact with someone who is suspected of or confirmed to be infected. For all of us, including those who show no symptoms, getting a test (if available) in the week before coming to Church will help us to know we are safe when we have contact with others. Please do come when it is safe for you to do so. If you are in a vulnerable group, please think carefully about whether it is safe for you to attend. We have prepared the Church by cleaning and other measures.

### **Clothes to suit the Temperature**

You may wish to wrap up well to come to Church. The heating will be on and is now working on full power, but we need to ensure good air circulation by keeping some doors open. Please do not close any doors that the stewards have left open. Hopefully, the weather will be much warmer in the coming weeks than it was back in December!

**Please don't bring unnecessary bags or other items as they could potentially carry and transmit the virus**

### **Lifts to Church**

If you normally give a lift to someone or get picked up by someone to come to Church, please be aware that this is an informal, private arrangement between friends. Lifts are not arranged by the Church and are not offered on behalf of the Church. Please check the current Government guidance before giving or accepting a lift and ensure that any sharing of transport is carried out in a Covid 19 secure way

### **Face Coverings Required**

For now we are still required to wear a face covering at Church, as we are in shops and other enclosed spaces.

You will notice that those on duty will be wearing face coverings for your protection. Children under 11 are not required to wear face coverings. Some adults may also be exempt.

## **Arriving at Church**

The doors will open 30 minutes before the Service begins. Please do not arrive before then. When you arrive at Church you will be greeted by a Steward and be expected to clean your hands before entering. If there is a queue to enter or to use the sanitiser, please observe safe social distancing in the queue.

You may use the main entrance or the ramp entrance. If you are able to, please use whichever entrance is less busy at the time you arrive.

## **Track and Trace**

We will keep a record of who attends each service to help track and trace contacts in case anyone attending Church tests positive at a later date.

## **Social Distancing**

Please enter the worship area and find a seat as quickly as possible, do not gather in groups for conversation. Some chairs will be reserved for those who are coming in families or household groups.

**Please DO NOT move any seats as this will potentially compromise the way we have arranged them to allow social distancing.**

Throughout your time in Church social distancing of 2 metres will be in place, keep a safe distance, just as you would in any public place at the moment. Please don't put others in an awkward situation by going over to their seats and chatting to them.

## **Differences to Notice**

In order to minimise the risk of transmission, our Services will be much shorter than previously and will not include singing.

If you have brought your offering with you, please place it on a plate near the entrance as you arrive or leave. There will be no offering during the service.

We will not be using the Prayers of Intercession book; if you have a prayer request, please let us know by contacting a Steward Elder during the week.

At the end of the Service you will be encouraged to leave promptly rather than linger and chat, there will be no refreshments. All of this goes against what we are used to but it is to enable us to safely share in worship.

## **Children, Families & Households**

We are looking forward to welcoming children, young people and families back to Church. Unfortunately, we won't be able to hold separate Junior Church, at least for now.

We encourage children to bring their own drawing and writing materials (including pen and paper), please don't bring toys. We request parents to help children in practicing social distancing, which we realise may be demanding! Families and people from the same household or "support bubble" will be able to sit together and we will provide you with the right number of seats together for your group as long as you tell us at the time of booking.

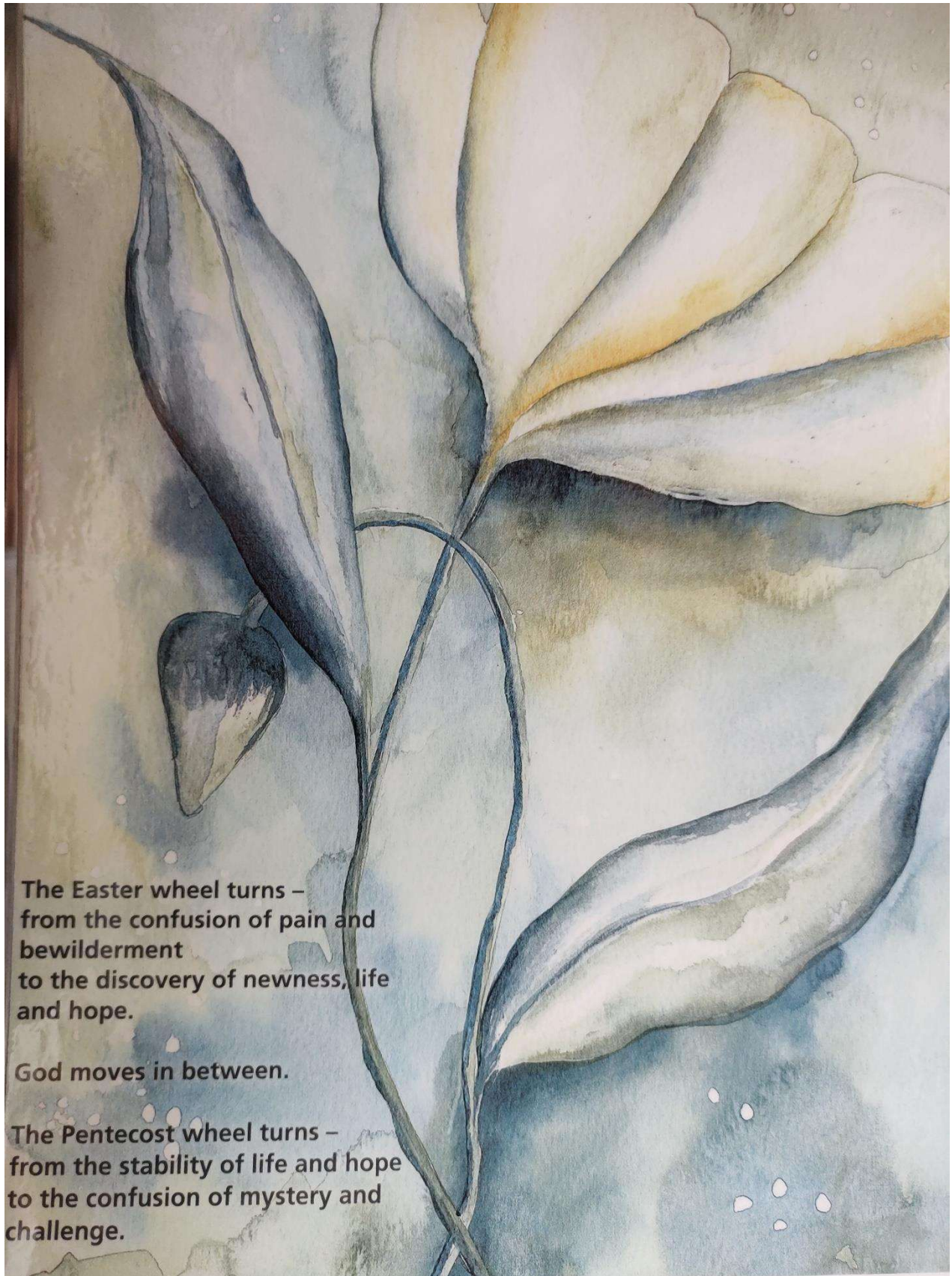
## **Go Safely**

As you leave Church you will be offered hand sanitiser again so that your hands are clean as you return home.



## **Picture from our Church Railings.**

Our picture this week reminds us that following Ascension Day last Thursday we are coming to the end of the Easter Season and approaching Pentecost. Just as Easter brought us new life and hope, so the coming of the Holy Spirit, which we celebrate at Pentecost, brings us "the confusion of mystery and challenge". This may sound less comforting but it is exciting. As God the Spirit moves between us, we don't know where he may lead us, but it will be towards the fulfilment of God's kingdom in our lives and our world.



**The Easter wheel turns –  
from the confusion of pain and  
bewilderment  
to the discovery of newness, life  
and hope.**

**God moves in between.**

**The Pentecost wheel turns –  
from the stability of life and hope  
to the confusion of mystery and  
challenge.**



Thy Kingdom Come:

The season of Thy Kingdom Come continues until next Sunday Pentecost.

There are two open air services to celebrate Thy Kingdom Come, at St Mary's at 12noon on Saturdays 15th & 22nd May.

If you are able to, come to St James' and read the posters about thy Kingdom Come which are on the Church Railings.

One way of sharing in Thy Kingdom Come is to pray for five friends to come to know God, using these simple words: "Lord, I pray that you will lead .... to you, Amen"

During this time, our prayers are focused on God's Kingdom in the hearts of people, in the life of the Church and in the whole world. The phrase "Thy Kingdom Come" is taken from the Lord's Prayer ("Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven"). In using these words we are asking that God's good purposes and plans are fulfilled in our world, just as they are in heaven. These plans include an end to conflict, war, injustice, hunger and oppression. Through prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit we can work for these things to become a reality in our world.

You can join in with Thy Kingdom Come by visiting the website

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/> or by simply spending a few moments in prayer each day during the eleven days. One idea is praying for five friends, using this simple prayer; "Lord, I pray that you will lead ... to you, Amen"





## ***SPRINGWATCH with St. James'***

Ducks spotted in Netherton. Thanks again to Revd. Peter Hughes for this stunning photo.



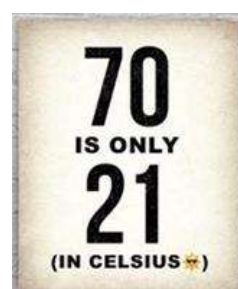
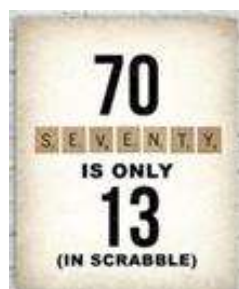
### ***Birthdays.***

For those who are celebrating a birthday this week, wishing you a wonderful time ahead.

Happy, happy birthday,  
That's my birthday wish for you,  
I hope your day brings you joy,  
Whatever you plan to do.  
Live each moment to the fullest,  
Every single moment is dear,  
This is the time to remember,  
You only get one birthday a year.



Happy birthday to **Graham Martin**, who will be 70 on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May.





### ***Date for your diary –***

Christian Aid week is the 10th-16th May, the focus this year is on the climate crisis. We will not be doing house to house collections. We will be collecting using an e-envelope which will be forwarded to you via email. Individuals will be taking part in the 300,000 steps challenge (anyone interested is welcome to take part).

### **Christian Aid Quiz**

The St James and St Peter's Christian Aid Quiz is on Zoom on Sunday 23rd May at 7pm, and we'd love you to join us! The quiz is free to join, suitable for children and adults, and is open to households of all shapes and sizes.

To register for the quiz, please email Laura Jones on [laura@jones.mn](mailto:laura@jones.mn) by Saturday 22nd May - you'll then receive specific joining instructions and more details about the evening.

We look forward to seeing you on 23rd May!

Help St James' raise £500

<https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/st-james-church-woolton?channel=email>

Many thanks, Jane and Tony.

### **BEFRIENDERS**

As we are coming out of the restrictions, there is a real need for more volunteer Befrienders. We are looking forward to anyone willing to join. All the training, induction, ongoing support will be provided by the charity.

Visit our website : [www.wooltoncommunitylife.org.uk](http://www.wooltoncommunitylife.org.uk)

Thank you, George

Chair of Trustees, Woolton Community Life.

### ***Message from Lilian and John Jeffers.***

We would like to thank all our church family for all the cards, calls, messages and prayers for John,

we're so pleased to say he is doing well. Thank you 🙏

### **PRAYERS NEEDED**

Dear Lord, it is my will to surrender to you everything that I am and everything that I'm striving to be.

I open the deepest recesses of my heart and invite Your Holy Spirit to dwell inside of me.

I offer you my life, heart, mind, body, soul, and spirit.

I surrender to you my past, present, and future problems.

I ask You to take hold over every aspect of my life.

I surrender to You all my hurt, pain, worry, doubt, fear, and anxiety, and I ask You to wash me clean.

I release everything into Your compassionate care.

Please speak to me clearly, Lord.

Open my ears to hear Your voice.

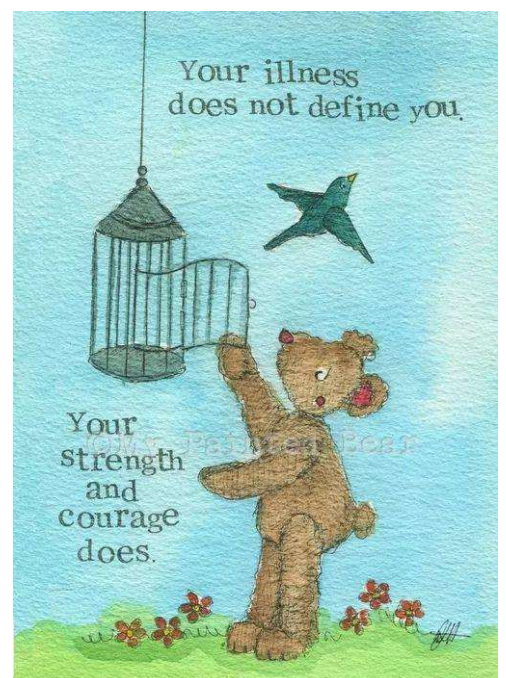
Open my heart to commune with You more deeply.

I want to feel Your loving embrace.

Open the doors that need to be opened and close the doors that need to be closed.

Please set my feet upon the straight and narrow road that leads to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

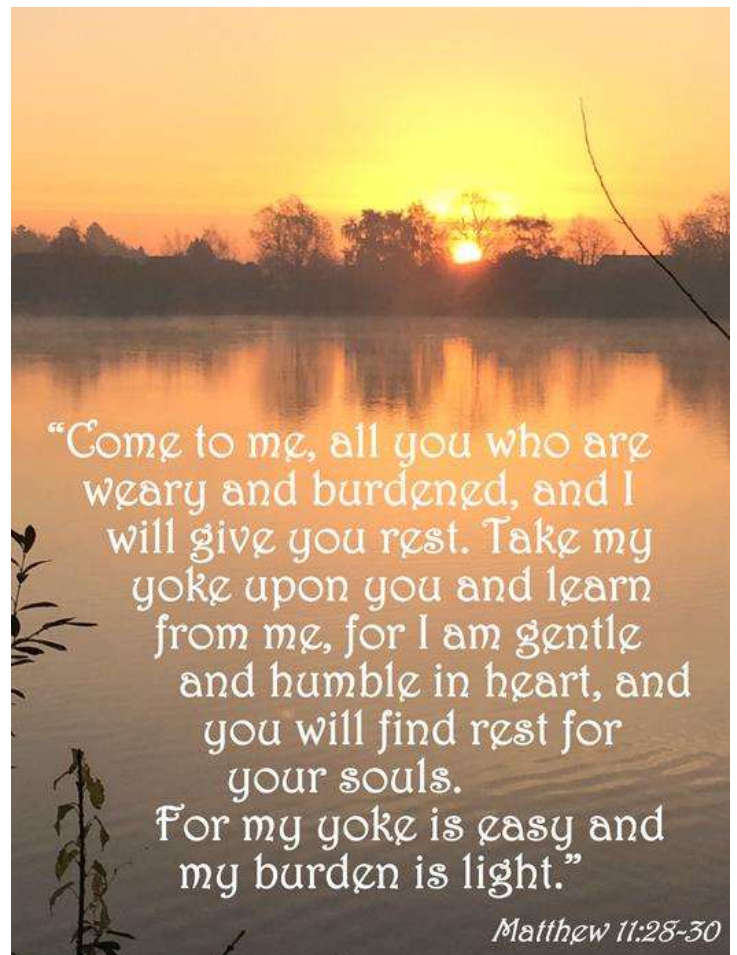
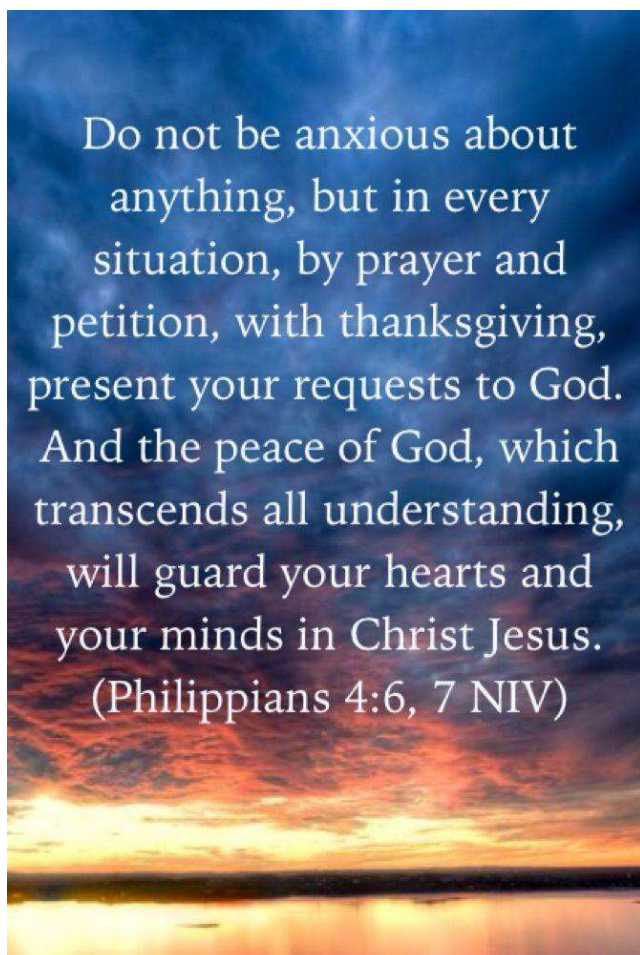




## ***Mental Awareness***

If you have any spare time, why not give a friend a call and ask them if they're ok. Don't forget to ask them twice. It is so important to talk but more importantly listen. It is easy to reply that we're fine.

Speaking as someone who has suffered with mental health problems, I found it really helpful to talk to someone and ask for help. The help, helped.

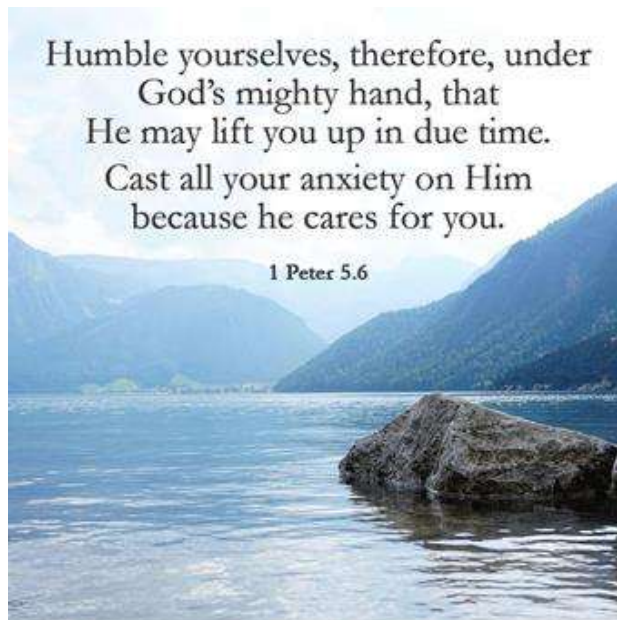


## Challenge yourself with a Bible Trivia Quiz!

- In Genesis, the father of Lamech was?
- Who was Joseph's youngest brother?
- David had a daughter named what?
- Who denied Jesus three times?
- Who was Jacob's brother?
- Who in the New Testament got shipwrecked on one of his missionaries?
- John the Baptist's father was?
- Who was Abraham's second wife?
- Which of the apostles of Christ was a tax collector prior to being called by Jesus?
- The shortest verse in the Holy Book is?
- In the Bible, the City of David is called?
- Which prophet in the Bible is famous for turning his rod into a bronze snake?
- What is the name of the wood Noah used in building his ark?
- Around what sea did Jesus call His first apostles?
- After Jesus fasted in the desert, what was His first temptation in the wilderness?
- In what river did John the Baptist conduct his baptisms?
- What is the name of the temple that Samson tore down on the Philistines?

Humble yourselves, therefore, under  
God's mighty hand, that  
He may lift you up in due time.  
Cast all your anxiety on Him  
because he cares for you.

1 Peter 5.6





## Farewell

Please can we say farewell to Nigel, Tracy and Matthew Keenan. They are moving back to Derry, Northern Ireland in the next few weeks. We will miss you, stay safe and keep in touch.  
All your friends at St. James, Woolton

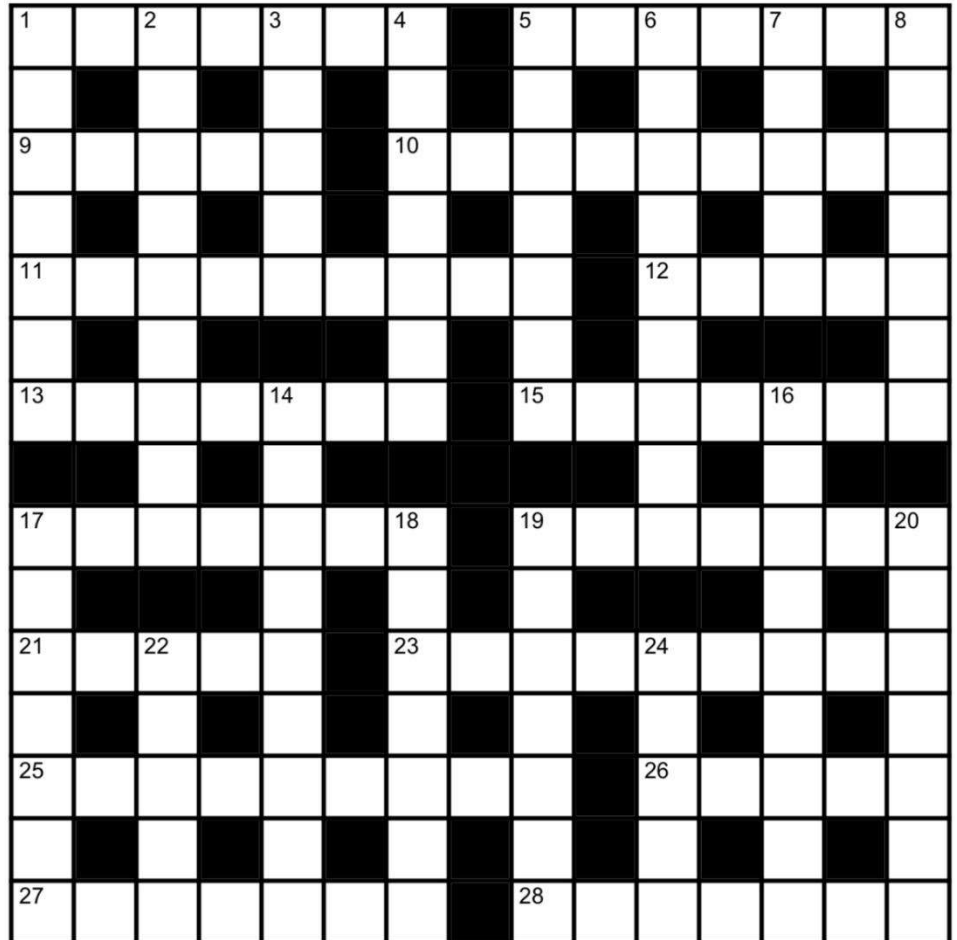
### THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

#### Across

- 1 Purifies (7)
- 5 Tainted (7)
- 9 Forbidden objects of worship (5)
- 10 Abundant (9)
- 11 Wife of David (9)
- 12 Lift up (5)
- 13 Grapple (7)
- 15 Lack of rain (7)
- 17 Sennacherib's realm (7)
- 19 Domain (7)
- 21 Biblical clothing (5)
- 23 Supplant (9)
- 25 Announced (9)
- 26 Tamar's brother (5)
- 27 Person seeking redress for wrong (7)
- 28 Decorates (7)

#### Down

- 1 Colourful arc seen after the flood (7)
- 2 Forehead ornaments (9)



by Philologus

© BiblePuzzles.org.uk

3 Bird homes (5)

4 Greatest in status (7)

5 Servant (7)

6 Time of day (9)

7 Ruth's mother in law (5)

8 Lineage (7)

14 Separating wheat from chaff (9)

16 Legion's people (9)

17 King who was almost persuaded to be a Christian (7)

18 One more (7)

19 Pummelled bread (7)

20 Grass clippings (7)

22 Holy book (5)

24 Barter (5)

## LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS



Across: 1 Hushed, 4 Assigned, 9 Lands, 10 Chaldeans, 11 Nets, 12 Roof, 13 Leave, 15 Saffron, 16 Idea, 19 Deaf, 20 Escaped, 23 Lured, 24 Hail, 25 Fool, 27 Shepherds, 28 Shine, 29 Trespass, 30 Hungry.

Down: 1 Holiness, 2 Sanctify, 3 East, 5 Sea of Tiberias, 6 Indulgence, 7 Naaman, 8 Dishes, 10 Crown of thorns, 14 Friendship, 17 Opposing, 18 Adultery, 21 Closet, 22 Greece, 26 Esau.

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.org.uk

## NEWSLETTER NOTICES NEXT WEEK



If you would like to share anything with your Church family in this newsletter including any birthdays, celebrations, or anyone to include in our prayers, please let me know.

Please send any messages to Jayne McLaren at

[jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk)

