

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

MINISTER: Revd. Peter Hughes 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 – 14th November 2021

This Week's Collect

Eternal God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in justice and peace your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to be the light of the world. Free us from all that darkens and ensnares us, and bring us to eternal light and joy; through the power of him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

UPCOMING PREACHERS

Sunday November 14th Graham Martin (St James') Liz Hudson (phone)
Parade service

Sunday November 21st Revd. David Frudd (St James') Revd. John Lansley (phone)

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Hello Everyone,

I hope you are staying safe and well. This weekend our Circuit Stewards and representatives of each Church are meeting with a potential new Methodist Circuit Superintendent Minister to serve with us from September next year. This is an important appointment as we look for someone to lead us through the next period of our Circuit as we continue to emerge from the pandemic and look to the future.

Please pray for wisdom and guidance for all involved. We continue to pray for our world leaders as they discuss issues affecting the future of our world's environment.

God Bless Peter

Pictures from Peter's Sabbathical

Today's pictures are from the 4th day of my walk in Wales. I walked from Devil's Bridge to Pontrhydygroes, which was once an important centre for mining in mid Wales.

On the way I passed through an arch built to commemorate King George 3rd, enjoyed a time of quiet in a beautiful Church yard and walked through the grounds of the Hafod Estate. As I waited for my lift back, I sat and ate my lunch at the Miner's Arms in Pontrhydygroes. You will be pleased to know that I sat outside and only drank fruit juice!



WORSHIP 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 – Graham Martin

Either click on this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/5913455610?pwd=aVdZcFpaZVVaMDdsZ1BiR3lhRE1yQTo9>

Meeting ID: 591 345 5610

Passcode: 12466

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 November)**

This Sunday our preacher will be Liz Hudson

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:

The Host for this service is Graham Martin

- **Welcome and notices:**
- **Opening prayer (Host)**
- **Bible reading** (Roy/Lynne Barker. John 15 v9-15)
- **Lord’s Prayer** (Host)
- **Talk or “mini-sermon”** (Liz Hudson)
- **Prayers** (Lynne Barker)
- **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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT ALL THESE EVENTS

Please put them in your diary and come and join the fun and fellowship.

Saturday 20th November –Autumn Fayre and Gift Day (see below)

Saturday December 11th – Roy Barker and Friends Christmas Sing-along; time tbc.

St James Autumn Fayre and Gift Day on Saturday 20th November 2021

This will be a slightly smaller event than our normal Christmas Fair but we hope it will be a time for fellowship and we will still have all your favourites including

- A guest appearance from **Father Christmas in his Grotto** plus the chance to have a photo taken with him
- **Plant stall** – Do you have any house plants, garden plants or shrubs either cuttings or mature plants, potted bulbs like hyacinth or crocus that you are able to donate to sell at the fayre?
- **Fancy goods and gifts** – do you have any new or “as new” unwanted gifts or items that we can sell at the fayre?
- **Home-made cakes, biscuits, sweets and preserves** – have you been busy making, jams, marmalade or chutneys and could spare a few jars for us to sell at the fayre? Home-made cakes and biscuits will be able to be delivered the evening before or on the morning.
- **Fund raising mugs to order** – more details to follow
- **Raffles**
- **Light refreshments**
- **Colouring activities and competition for the children**

If you have any items that we can sell please contact Wendy Doig, Liz Hudson or Pam Bellis and we can arrange collection if needed or Roy and Lynne Barker have kindly offered their porch as a drop off point for any items at 88 Vale Road. Also offers of help in setting up or helping on the day, even for a short while, would be much appreciated.

We realise that not everyone will feel they are in a position to come on the day, so if you would prefer to donate either by cash, cheque, or bank transfer, this would also be gratefully received, if you need further details, please speak to the Treasurer Steve Elliott.

Thank You for your help and support.

Winter Fayre - Saturday 20th November 10:00am - 1:00pm

Help setting up from 2pm Friday - if you can help with setting up tables, chairs etc, the hall will be open from 2pm, please come along

Gifts of items for the stalls - please drop off any items for the stalls at the church hall any time from 2pm on Friday 19th. If you need any items collecting from you, please contact Wendy Doig, Liz Hudson or Pam Bellis

Christmas baubles

We asked for your help a few weeks ago to knit, crochet or sew Christmas baubles for this year's planned Christmas experience. As we continue our planning it would be helpful to know how many have been made or are in the process of being made so far, so if you get a spare minute, perhaps you could let me know? There is no panic, and plenty of time left to carry on making them too!

Thank you to everyone who has been busy making Christmas baubles. Would you please bring them to church by 28th November or if you need them picking up, please give me a call and I will arrange that for you.

Thanks Pam Bellis

Christmas Services

Advent Sunday: November 28th, 2021 – dedication of donations in lieu of toys and gifts for our Christmas Charities at 10.30 a.m.

Sunday, December 12th, 2021, CHRISTINGLE SERVICE, (all age worship) at 10.30 a.m.

Sunday December 19th Morning Service with
Holy Communion at 10.30am AND
Carols by Candlelight at 4pm

Friday December 24th, 2021, Christmas Eve
Communion at 11.30 pm

All the above services will be led by Revd Peter
Hughes

Christmas Day - Morning Worship led by Andrew
Gillespie at 10 a.m.

NO SERVICE on Sunday December 26th, 2021.



TOYS AND GIFTS FOR OUR CHRISTMAS CHARITIES

On checking with the Charities, we traditionally support at this time of year, e.g., Centre 56, the Women's Refuge and the Action For Children Day Centre, they have respectfully suggested that they would find **cash donations** more practical than actual toys, sweets etc at this time. This helps us a little too, as we are not asking people to go to the shops specially for this purpose.

So, as last year, we will gratefully receive financial gifts either in the gift boxes available at church, OR through the bank (referencing your payment 'Gift Service') OR direct to our Treasurer, Steve Elliott via the Church Hall letter box or 84 Woolacombe Rd, (again marking any cheques 'Gift Service' on the back).

Because the charities will need to do their own shopping and gift wrapping, the dedication of the donations will be made earlier than the usual, at the service on Advent Sunday Morning (November 28th, 2021).

They will be passed on immediately after that to give the organisations time to make their own preparations and distribution before they close for the Christmas holiday.

Many thanks for your help and support to spread love and caring over the Christmas period.

St James' Christmas Card

We are going to send a St James Christmas card to all our members and friends of the church again this year. If you would like to send a greeting, please either speak to me in person, email me at pambellis@hotmail.com or give me a call on 0151 356 7510 to give me your greeting and who it is from. If you wish to make a charitable donation in lieu of sending cards we will be donating to Christian Aid.

Thanks, Pam Bellis

CAN YOU HELP?

- Are you good with numbers? St. James is looking for someone to take over the role of church treasurer.
- We are also looking for someone to oversee the property management side of the connected Manse.
- Are you happy to do a reading or prayers of Intercession in a service?
- We have spaces in the Sunday morning service and on the Sunday afternoon telephone worship.

If you can or know someone who can help us, please phone Jayne McLaren on 07859062692 or speak to a Steward Elder. Thank you.



Dear Friend,

We have decided to open the café area of Strawberry Field in Woolton on Christmas Day this year and offer a free Christmas Afternoon Tea for people who are socially isolated in Woolton/Gateacre.

Numbers will be limited and by referral. If transport is needed, we will endeavour to provide support with this from volunteers who we would ensure have a clear DBS.

If you have people, you think would benefit from being with others on Christmas Day please complete and return the one-page form attached or give me a call for more information. The exact timings of the day are to be confirmed.

Many thanks

Louise

07446365006

Strawberry Field

Beaconsfield Road

L25 6EJ

Fundraising Mug Design Challenge

The Scout Sections would like to help raise some much-needed monies by sponsoring a commemorative mug. We are asking for design ideas. We suggest they will be along similar lines to the ones we made last year to celebrate that we didn't stop scouting. It will be based on a white "builders" mug. Bold simple, primary coloured (no photos) designs work best.

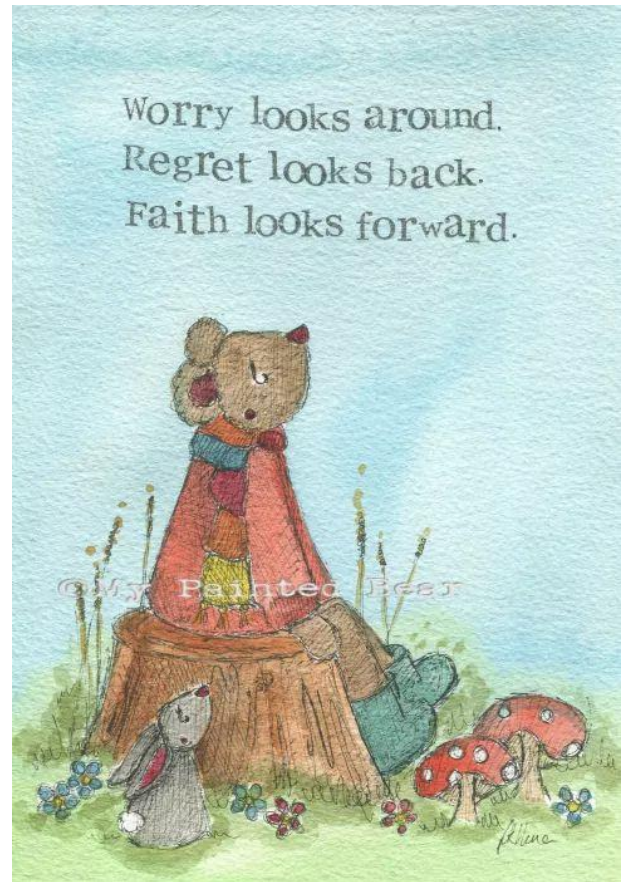
Design area can be up to 70mm high and 90mm long – different design elements on each side. We have kit necessary to transfer the design onto the mugs, plus we will provide them free for sale by Church friends at £5 each. We will make batches of 20 to gauge interest and not have too much stock.

Please let us have your ideas sent either to me thehowards@talk21.com or ben.elman@meinbox.com. Somehow, we will find someone to select the best and hopefully we will have mugs available before the Christmas Fair.

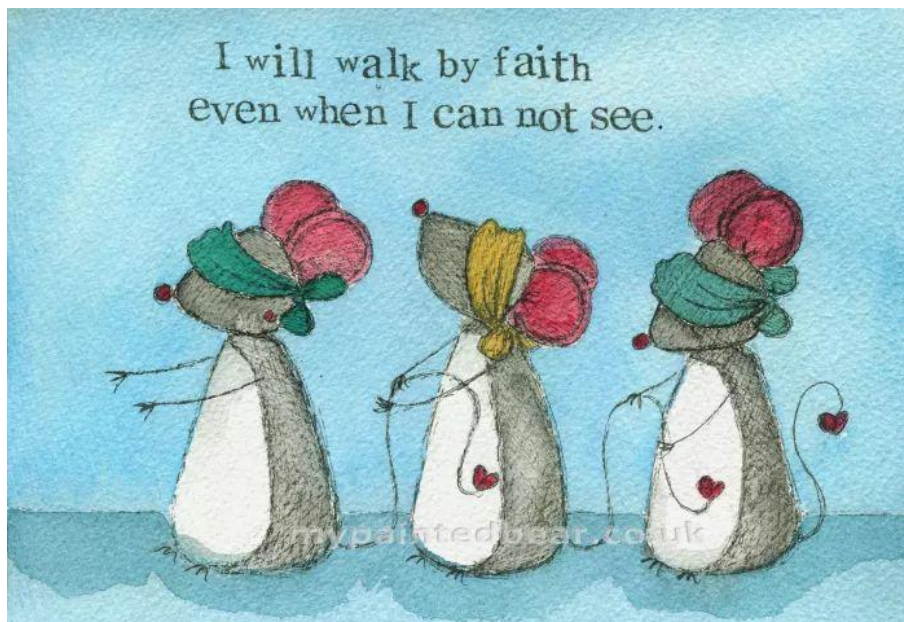
Colin/Skip.

PRAYERS

Dear God,
We confess our need for you today.
We need your healing and your grace.
We need hope restored.
We need to be reminded that you work on behalf of those you love, constantly, powerfully, completely.
Forgive us for trying to fix our situations all on our own.
Forgive us for running all different directions and spinning our wheels to find help when true help and healing must be found first in You.
Forgive us for forgetting how much we need you, above everyone and everything else.
We come to you and bring you the places we are hurting.
You see where no one else is able to fully see or understand.
You know the pain we've carried.
The burdens.
The cares.
You know where we need to be set free.
We ask for your healing and grace to cover every broken place.
Every wound.
Every heartache.
Thank you that you are Able to do far more than we could ever imagine.
Thank you for your Mighty Power that acts on behalf of your children.
We reach out to you and know that you are restoring and redeeming every place of difficulty, every battle, for your greater glory.
Thank you that you will never waste our pain and suffering.
We love you.
We need you today.
In **Jesus'** Name, Amen.



We continue to pray for those who need our prayers at this time due to ill health, struggling with mental health and all difficult situations.



Birthday Wishes



A happy 93rd birthday to Ron Swindells who celebrates his birthday this Thursday.

Everyone at St James' wishes him a happy birthday to someone who is forever young!

He looks really chuffed with himself!

90th Birthday Celebrations

Gordon Salmon will be 90 on Monday 15th November. When you look back over 90 years, we hope that your memories are warm ones. When you celebrate today, we hope that your heart is filled with love and joy. When you look forward to the future, we hope that all your dreams and wishes come true. May you have a happy and healthy 90th birthday!

Everyone at St James' hopes you enjoy many more beautiful days ahead of you.

Special Achievement



Last week Eva Stanford represented her school, Booker Avenue, in a LSSP girls' football tournament and her team were crowned joint champions!

Congratulations to Eva and her team



Congratulations to Irene and Steve Elliott and Pete, Shona and Lyra on the birth of gorgeous Ralphie on Thursday 12th November. He weighed in at 6lb 9.5oz. **God bless**



Opening Prayer

Holy God,
We gather with people in every time and place to worship you.
Grant us the assurance that you are with us and join us all together by your Spirit.
Amen.

Hymn:

StF 117 “Sing praise to God who reigns above” [selected verses] *Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here*

[Sing praise to God who reigns above \(StF 117\) \(methodist.org.uk\)](http://methodist.org.uk)

Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation;
with healing balm my soul he fills,
and every faithless murmur stills:
to God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty power has made
that will he ever cherish,
and will, unfailing, soon and late,
with loving-kindness nourish;
and where he rules in kingly might
there all is just and all is right:
to God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away,
but, through all grief distressing,
an ever-present help and stay,
our peace, and joy, and blessing;
as with a mother's tender hand,
he leads his own, his chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!

O you who name Christ's holy name,
give God all praise and glory:
O you who own his power, proclaim
aloud the wondrous story.
Cast each false idol from its throne:
the Lord is God, and he alone:
to God all praise and glory!



Johann Jakob Schuetz (1640-1690), Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897) and Honor Mary Thwaites (1914-1993)

Let us join with one heart and mind to give God praise and glory.

Let us pray

To the God-in-community, we praise you. We are held in your palm and connected within your great company.

To the God of undiminished light, we praise you that in the depths of our night, you are light.

To the God of infinite love, we praise you that all love is sourced in your fathomless depth.

To you, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, we offer our praise to your glory.

Amen.

Today's Reading from the Hebrew Bible: Micah 4:1-8

Today's Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12

Time to Reflect

I wonder what emotions Remembrance Sunday stirs in you. Perhaps pride of the service and sacrifice of a family member. Grief for a life cut short and opportunities missed. Lament that we perpetuate war as a way of trying to solve conflict even though we often commit ourselves to "never again."

Our readings today remind us that God dreams of a day when guns of killing will be refashioned into tools to tend the earth and Jesus had a word of blessing for the peacemakers who will be the children of God.

Images that suggest that war is not God's ideal but a symbol of how our stubbornness and pride, our pursuit of power takes us away from God's ideals. But more than that, they are images of a hope that can be realised when we commit to live in peace and always pursue peace.

What are the metaphorical, or literal, weapons you can re-fashion into gardening tools? Only when we do that is there is a chance of "never again."

Take a time to sit quietly

A time of prayer

For our prayers, we invite you to read quietly the words of Marjorie Dobson's hymn: By a monument of marble (StF 131)

By a monument of marble,
or a simple wooden cross,
here we gather to remember
sacrifice and tragic loss.
Blood-red poppy petals flutter,
each a symbol for a life,
drifting in a crimson curtain,
shadow of our constant strife.

Hold a silence to remember all who have died because of war

Solemn silence now surrounds us
as we stand in memory.
Why must factions stir up conflict?
This eternal mystery
troubles hearts and stirs the conscience,
urges us to think again;
face the curse of confrontation,
yet reduce this searing pain.

For the sound of war still thunders through our planet, on this day.

Every hour new victims suffer,
even as we meet to pray.

God, we need your help and guidance
in our constant search for peace.

Move us on to new solutions
as we pray that wars may cease.

Marjorie Dobson (b. 1940)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn: Listen to Beauty for brokenness

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8utbDFP9AE>

or sing a verse of a hymn that comes to mind

Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair,
Lord, in your suffering world this is our prayer.
Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset, your kingdom increase!
Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills,
work for all people, trade for their skills;
land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak,
voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion we pray:
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain;
come, change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear,
cities for sanctuary, freedoms to share.
Peace to the killing-fields, scorched earth to green,
Christ for the bitterness,
his cross for the pain.

Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams
plundered and poisoned — our future, our dreams.
Lord, end our madness,
carelessness, greed; make us content with
the things that we need.

Refrain

Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame
until your justice burns brightly again.
until the nations learn of your ways,
seek your salvation and bring you, their praise.

Refrain

Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)



A prayer of blessing

May the peace-pursuing God be gracious to us and bless us and make God's face to shine upon us.
Amen.

Micah 4:1-8

Peace and Security through Obedience

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised up above the hills.

Peoples shall stream to it, and many nations shall come and say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between many peoples and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken.

For all the peoples walk, each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever. Restoration Promised after Exile.

On that day, says the Lord, I will assemble the lame and gather those who have been driven away, and those whom I have afflicted. The lame I will make the remnant, and those who were cast off, a strong nation; and the Lord will reign over them in Mount Zion now and for evermore.

And you, O tower of the flock, hill of daughter Zion, to you it shall come, the former dominion shall come, the sovereignty of daughter Jerusalem.

Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.'

PROGRAMMES YOU MAY ENJOY – Sunday 14th November

6:00 – 9:30 a.m. Radio Merseyside: Daybreak

Helen Jones brings you the Sunday magazine reflecting Merseyside's worlds of faith.

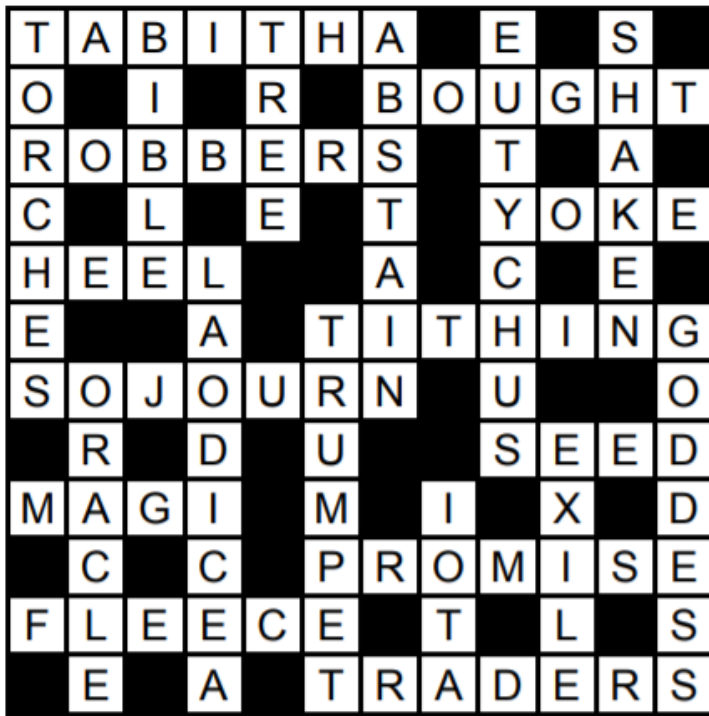
8.10 a.m. Radio 4: Sunday Worship. Remembering Well

Rev Dr Rosa Hunt (Co-principal, Cardiff Baptist College) and Rev Jamie Washam (Pastor, First Baptist Church in America, Rhode Island) lead a transatlantic service of remembrance.

13.15 BBC 1 Songs of Praise: Remembrance Sunday

On Remembrance Sunday, Sean Fletcher meets Christian veterans at Imperial War Museum North in Manchester, and Pam Rhodes marks 100 years of the Royal British Legion and its poppy appeal.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS



Across: 1 Tabitha, 7 Bought, 8 Robbers, 9 Yoke, 10 Heel, 12 Tithing, 14 Sojourn, 16 Seed, 18 Magi, 20 Promise, 21 Fleece, 22 Traders.

Down: 1 Torches, 2 Bible, 3 Tree, 4 Abstain, 5 Eutychus, 6 Shaken, 11 Laodicea, 12 Trumpet, 13 Goddess, 15 Oracle, 17 Exile, 19 Iota.

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.com

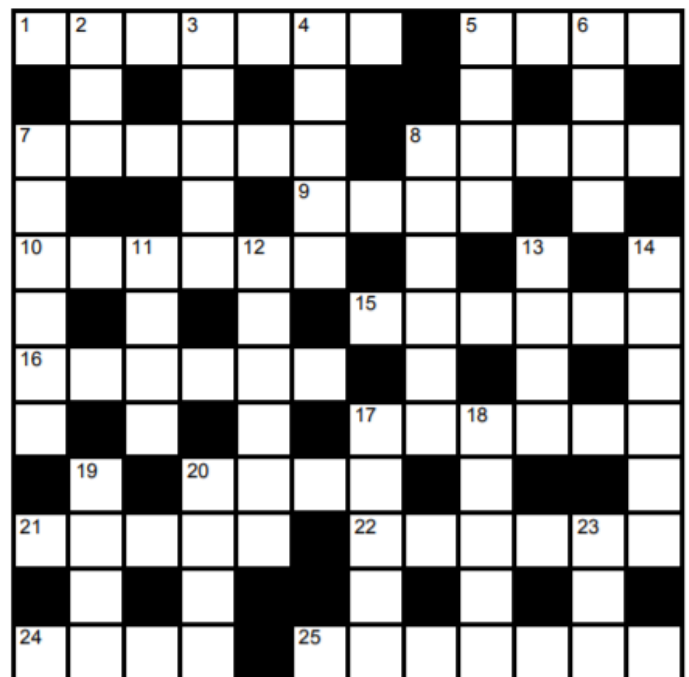
THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Haman's end (7)
- 5 Cereal grain (4)
- 7 Messiah (6)
- 8 Grind (5)
- 9 Priest who returned from Babylon with Zerubbabel (4)
- 10 Roman ruler (6)
- 15 Like a lamb (6)
- 16 Parable feature (6)
- 17 Don't cast them before swine (6)
- 20 Insects (4)
- 21 Number of years Aeneas was bedridden (5)
- 22 Capital of 8 down (6)
- 24 Flavoursome plant (4)
- 25 Mark (7)

Down

- 2 Tree, mentioned only in Isaiah (3)
- 3 They may be girded (5)
- 4 Purified by Elisha (5)
- 5 Nathanael's home (4)
- 6 Flower of Sharon (4)
- 7 Foul weeds (6)
- 8 Origin of Timothy's father (6)
- 11 Christ's yoke is this (4)
- 12 Sanctify with oil (6)
- 13 Celestial body (4)
- 14 Biblical divisions (6)
- 17 One of David's hymns (5)
- 18 Loathe (5)
- 19 Spouse (4)
- 20 Defeated Benhadad (4)
- 23 Joshua's father (3)



by Philologus

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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