

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

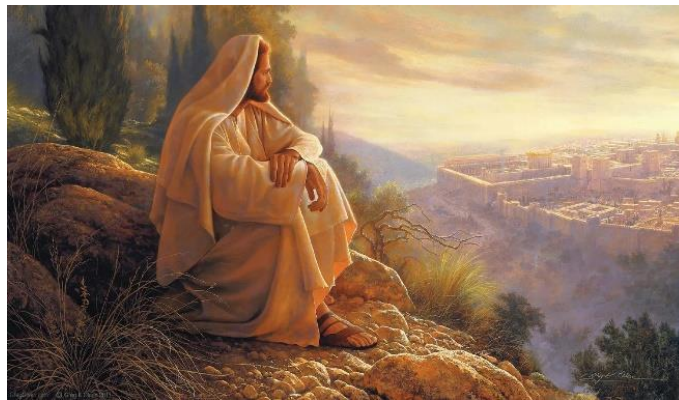
MINISTER: Revd. Peter Hughes peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk
0151 364 0134

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

NEWSLETTER – 13th March 2022

This Week's Collect

Jesus' Sorrow for Jerusalem



Christ, Son of the living God, who for a season laid aside the divine glory and learned obedience through suffering: teach us in all our afflictions to raise our eyes to the place of your mercy and to find in you our peace and deliverance. We make our prayer in your name. **Amen.**

Second Sunday in Lent

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Minister's Message

*Dear Friends,
I know that you, like me, will have been deeply shocked by the scenes from Ukraine this week.*

We pray for peace in Ukraine and for God's protection of all those fleeing for their lives.

The only light in this dark situation is the love and hospitality shown by those countries welcoming refugees so warmly.

We pray that our own Government may be moved to show similar generosity of spirit.



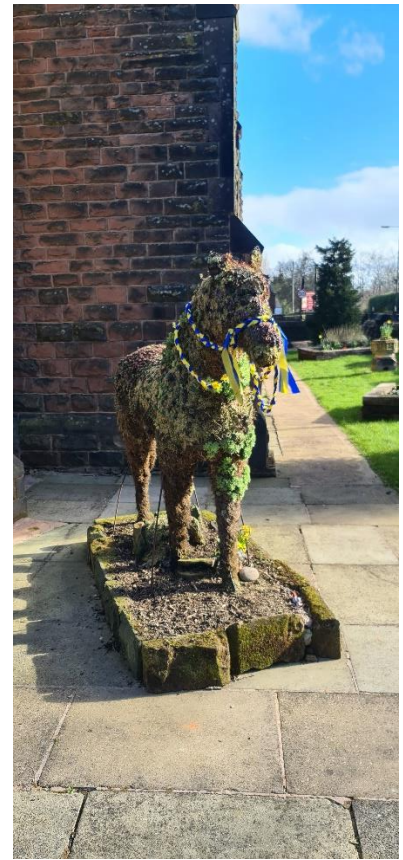
UPCOMING PREACHERS

Sunday 6th March **Revd. Peter Hughes** (St James') **Revd. John Lansley** (phone)



Prayers for Ukraine

The whole world's attention has been focused on the harrowing situation that is taking place in the Ukraine. At St. James' our thoughts and prayers are with all of the victims. Jimmy is shown here showing his support for all Ukrainians.



Prayer for peace in Ukraine

Holy and Gracious God

We pray for the people of Ukraine and the people of Russia, for their countries and their leaders.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.

We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace for Ukraine.

And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.

Lord have mercy.

Amen



Pictures from Peter

The week before last I was blessed by the opportunity to have a week away, staying at Portinscale, near Keswick. We had plenty of wet days but also some lovely sunny ones. On those days it felt like spring was in the air. The photos show views looking down the Honister Pass, of Grisedale Pike with snow on the top and of Bassenthwaite Lake.



WORSHIP AT ST. JAMES'

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

- By 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 – Revd. Peter Hughes

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.

This Sunday our preacher will be Revd. John Lansley.

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 Pam Bellis

Order of Worship:

- **Welcome and notices:**
- **Opening prayer** (Host)
- **Bible reading** (Chris Bennett: Mark 2: 13-20)
- **Lord’s Prayer** (Host)
- **Talk or “mini-sermon”** (Rev John Lansley)
- **Prayers** (Liz Hudson)
- **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

Wednesday 9th March to 6th April 7.30pm Lent Groups

Sunday 13th March 10.30am Morning Worship

Monday 14th March to 4th April 2.30pm Lent Groups
(Every Monday during Lent at 2.30pm in Church)

Tuesday 15th March 1.30 - 2.30pm
Church Open for Prayer, especially prayers for peace

Sunday 20th March 10.30am Morning Worship

Monday 21st March 7.30pm Worship Consultation Meeting

Everyone is invited to join this meeting which is to share ideas for worship at St James'.

This is an open group, not a committee, and we would value the input of all.

We will meet in Church to look ahead at forthcoming Services and to develop the worship life of our Church.

Sunday 27th March 10.30am Morning Worship Mothering Sunday

Thursday 31st March 7.30pm Property & Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday 7th April 7.30pm Mission Action Group Meeting (open to all)



The Samaritans challenge

I'm taking on The Samaritans challenge for March to walk 10,000 steps a day and raise money for them. This March, I will be walking 10,000 steps a day to raise money for The Samaritans. It would be great if you could sponsor me. Every little counts, however small. If not, a word of support will keep me on track. A sponsor form/online details will be available soon. Many thanks for your anticipated support.

Pam Alexander



Church Flowers

We have recently resumed our beautiful flower displays in Church each week.

If you would like to donate money for flowers on a particular Sunday - perhaps in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a happy event - please speak to Jonquil Dickson who can add you to the calendar for the months ahead.

Also, if you would simply like to donate for flowers so that we can make sure all Sundays are covered, please speak to Jonquil. At present, we have many dates available, especially **Easter Sunday**.

We will then deliver those flowers to people after the Service. If you know someone who you feel would be blessed by receiving flowers from Church please speak to Jonquil or a steward.

We will also need some more volunteers to take flowers out to people.



The flowers looking resplendent this week. A huge thank you to Jonquil for all her hard work.
Praise be to God.

Flower provider and delivery in March

Sunday date	Flower provider	Flower delivery
13th March		
20th March		
27th March	<i>Pam Draper</i>	<i>Wendy Doig</i>
3rd April		

Springtime at St. James'

The Hope of Spring

God, thank you for Spring and the hope of warmer, longer, brighter days.
Thank you for the coming of growth and life and birth.
Thank you that things are coming awake in the world.
This is what our calendar says, and we do see some signs that it is real.
But we also still struggle with the residual layover of winter.
Now we ask that you bring into reality all that belongs in this season.
Your word says that we will have provision, and hope, and joy, and
health and loving relationships here and now in this life.
We ask that what belongs in this season would become actual in our
practical lives.
We hope in you and in your promises. We hope in your gift of Spring.



LENT 2022

Each week we will be sharing a poems, prayers and Bible Verses with you. Treat this as a Sabbath Day – read them slowly, soaking in the words and asking God to speak to you through them.

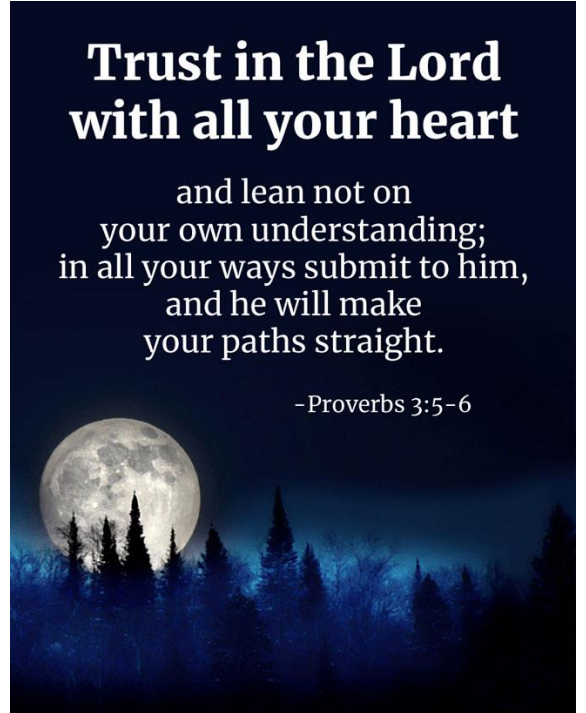
Sunday 13th March **The Path**

*'You can step away from the treadmill now.
We both know how tired you have become;
we both know how the noise has been driving
you mad.
I won't blame you for getting on in the first place.
We were all lied to. We were all told that it led
somewhere.
Look how many increase the speed hoping to get
there faster; see how inevitably they fall.
I am glad to have reached you.
Come away now. Come out into the sun,
into the wind and the rain. Here is a path.
I cannot tell you how long it is, or the wonders,
the tragedies
you will find around its sharp corners.
I can tell you that it will end in your death –
of course! And why would we forget?
The ground is solid, but softer than you might
think.
You can sit down anywhere and admire the view.
You are encouraged to make a habit of rest.
At many points it will branch off
and you won't know which path to take.
But take note of this:
in all places it is wider than one set of shoulders.*

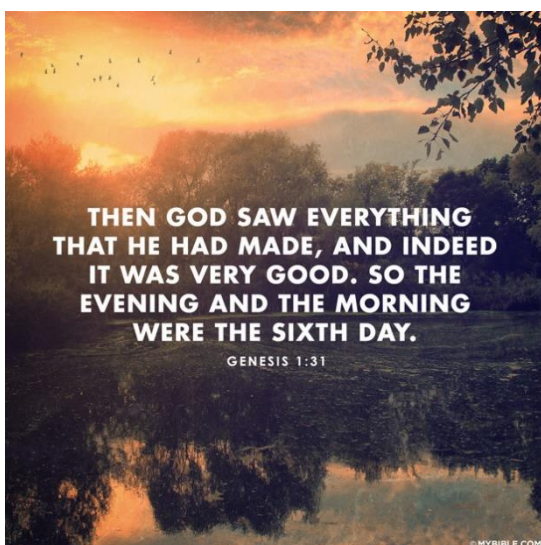
Trust in the Lord with all your heart

and lean not on
your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make
your paths straight.

- Proverbs 3:5-6



Monday 14th March **This good world**



THEN GOD SAW EVERYTHING
THAT HE HAD MADE, AND INDEED
IT WAS VERY GOOD. SO THE
EVENING AND THE MORNING
WERE THE SIXTH DAY.

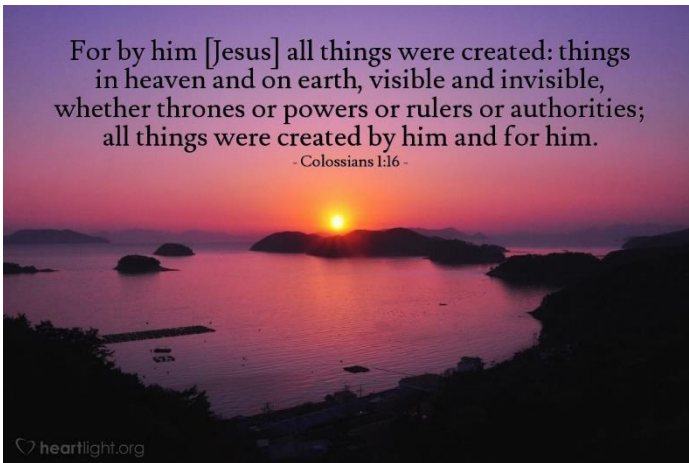
GENESIS 1:31

Give your attention to the created order. Look at the trees, really look at them. Take a flower and allow its beauty and symmetry to sink deep into your mind and heart. Listen to the birds – they are messengers of God.

Watch the little creatures that creep upon the earth. These are humble acts, to be sure, but sometimes God reaches us profoundly in these simple ways if we will quiet ourselves to listen.



Tuesday 15th March **The immeasurable**



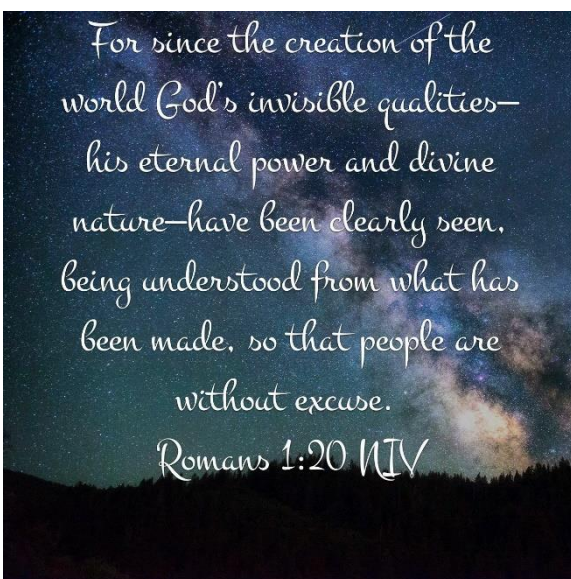
God of wonder, show me new ways that I can get lost in you through your creation. Open my eyes, my ears and my heart to the wonder around me. Help me to stop, to be still, and to stare at the beauty around me. Amen.

Wednesday 16th March **Love in action**



Lord, show us what it means to act justly, love mercy and to walk humbly with you when it comes to tackling the climate crisis. Reveal to me how I can help my church stand with those in need. Amen.

Thursday 17th March **Alive with Christ**



God of the trees, may this Lent be one in which we consider all of your creation, and how your creation constantly declares your glory and reminds us that we are created to serve others... without excuse. Amen.



Friday 18th March **Alive with Christ**



Before your meals today, thank God. Lift up every part of it and the journey of how it made its way to you.

Pray for a fair wage and working conditions for the farmers and workers involved.

Oh Lord, how many are your works! In wisdom you've made them all; the earth is full of your riches. - Psalm 104: 24

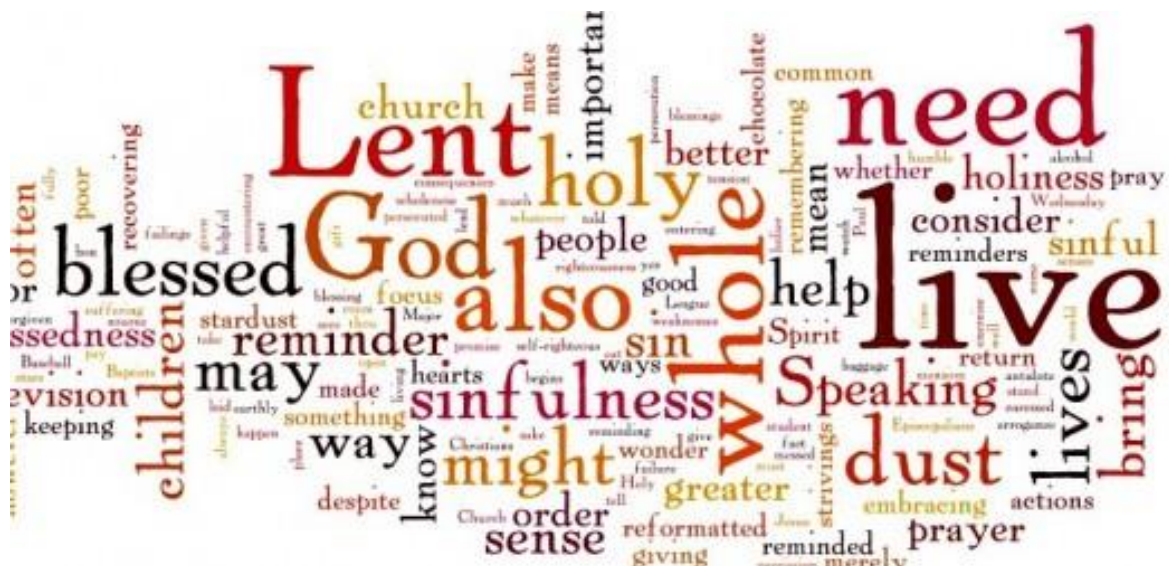
Saturday 19th March **Grief and hope**



*Don't be afraid,
my people. Be glad
now and rejoice,
for the LORD has
done great things.*

- Joel 2:21 NLT -

Creator God, bless the tears we shed for the resources we have squandered. Bless the sigh we breathe out for the atmosphere. Bless the head we hang for the creatures lost and exploited. Bless the hands we wring for the things we have broken and wasted. Bless us as we lament. Cradle us as we regret. Restore us as we start afresh. Amen.



Opening Prayer

Loving God, we come into your presence. Still our hearts and minds from all that would distract us. In stillness and quiet let us know your presence with us as we prepare ourselves to worship you. Amen.

Hymn: 357 Jesus the name

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZSeAYKG-8Ko>

Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here

Jesus -- the name high over all, in hell, or earth, or sky!
Angels revere, and nations fall, and devils fear and fly.

Jesus -- the name to sinners dear, the name to sinners given!
It scatters all their guilty fear, it turns their hell to heaven.

Jesus -- the prisoner's fetters breaks, and bruises Satan's head;
power into strengthless souls it speaks, and life into the dead.

O that the world might taste and see the riches of his grace!
The arms of love that compass me would all the earth embrace.

His only righteousness I show, his saving grace proclaim;
'tis all my business here below to cry: 'Behold the Lamb!'

Happy if with my latest breath I might but gasp his name;
preach him to all, and cry in death: 'Behold, behold the Lamb!'
Charles Wesley (1707-1788)



Let us pray together

Today we come to worship you all creating God. Be with us now as we come to you in prayer. We thank you for your presence with us in the week that has passed and we are sorry for the times when we have not heard you speaking to us. We thank you for the gifts we have received from you so many and bounteous that we cannot name them all. We are sorry for the times when we have not acknowledged your generosity to us. We offer you the week ahead with all that is holds may we be more aware or you speaking to us and be aware of all your wonderful gifts that you bless us with each day. May we more closely follow the path you would have us follow. In Jesus name we pray. **Amen.**

Today's Gospel Reading: Luke 13 31-35

Time to Reflect

Today's reading starts with something we are not used too, the Pharisees warning Jesus about the danger to himself. We are so used to reading about the pharisees arguing or disapproving of Jesus actions it is not often that they are protective of him, perhaps something we wish that they were. Does Jesus take any notice of the warning – no he rejects their message, and showing no fear sends a powerful message back to Herod by calling him a 'fox'. The use of fox was symbolic of three things – foxes are cunning animals; they kill for pleasure and most inflammatory they are worthless and insignificant creatures. Jesus calling Herod a fox is certainly not a way of calming the situation.

Jesus intends to continue his work for three days before he turns his attention to Jerusalem. Again, he turns to animal imagery this time a hen gathering her brood under her wings. It's been shown that during a farmyard fire some animals once they realise, they cannot escape, they turn their attention to protecting their young – hens being one such animal. Hens that have burnt to death have been found with their young alive and well under their wings. They have given their lives to protect their youngsters. Jerusalem is a city where there is harm and destruction and Jesus wants to be like those hens and gather and protect, however the people are scattering in different directions and take no notice of the impending danger or the warnings of the one who could save them.

Jesus' destiny is to go to Jerusalem, risking the threats of the foxes and adopting the role of the hen gathering together those in danger to himself. Whether they will accept his offer is another matter. Rejecting him they also rejected God's offer of love. Jesus reaches out but he will not force himself on Jerusalem.

For us God offers us his love and protection but will not force himself on us. He offers us his kingdom, but we have the choice to accept or reject his offer.

Take a time to sit quietly

A time of prayer

Using the image of gathering under the protective wings we bring before God those who we wish to prayer for at this time- they may include the ill and bereaved, the homeless, those who are afraid.... Offer them all to God's loving protection.

Loving God as we have brought before you in pray those people, places and situations that we are aware of we ask you will gather all under your protection. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father

Hymn: Listen to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gownwFF6DGo>

A prayer of blessing

We have come together in to worship you in song, words, and prayers. Now as we go our separate ways may we know your constant presence with us whatever the week ahead might hold for us.

And the blessing of God, Father Son and Holy Spirit be with us and remain with us for evermore.

Amen

Luke 13 31-35

The Lament over Jerusalem

31 At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." 32 He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me,[a] 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. 33 Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' 34 Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 35 See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when[b] you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"



PRAYERS

Heavenly Lord, we stand today in Your grace and everlasting mercy. It is only by Your solid will that we're here today to have this prayer and by Your grace, we come knocking with the rest of mind that you'll answer us.

Oh Lord, we pray in the stead of the sick and dying, that You be with them for all eternity.

Turn Your sight, not from their souls, and take their hands in Yours as a father would, his sons and daughters.

God, in Your abode, nurture their souls for all eternity and be with all their goals in life.

We thank You for safeguarding them in this world and continuing to do so in the next. Thank You for listening to our prayer.

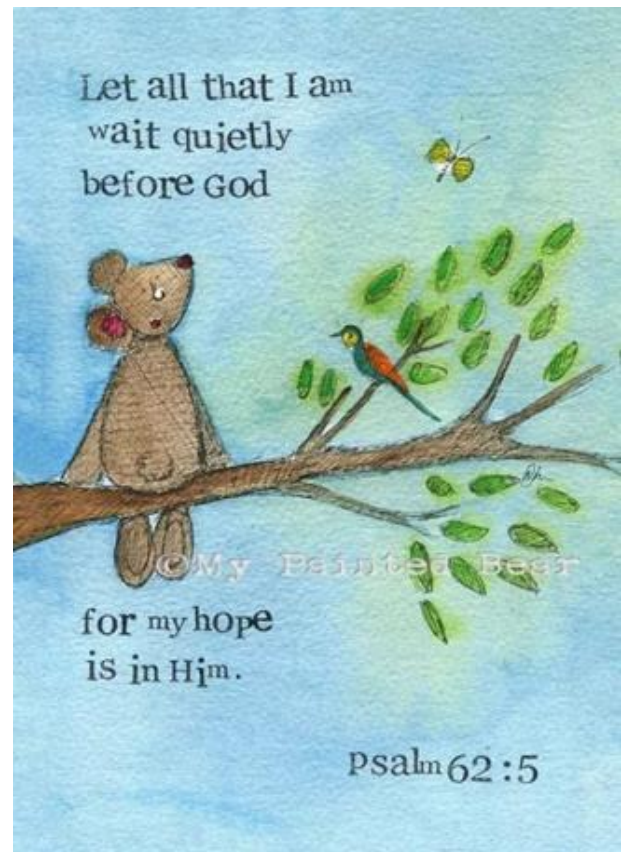
Amen.

We continue to remember those at St. James who need our prayers this week, praying for our family and friends, those close to our hearts, for those known to us and for those only you know of.

For those waiting to undergo surgery and for those recovering.

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 and their loved ones who are sometimes overlooked but need our prayers too.

We also pray for **Ken Kitchen, John and Sylvia Pagan, Ian Taylor, Arthur Evans, Helen and Fred Stanford, Pat Fagan, Pam Draper, Ron Swindells and Mike Hughes.**



LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

R	E	B	E	C	C	A		G	L	O	R	I	E	S
E		A		A		T		I		C		S		I
M	Y	T	H	S		O	F	F	I	C	I	A	L	S
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L		E		N		N		E		F		R		E
E	N	R	A	G	E	D				D	R	E	S	S

Across: 1 Rebecca, 5 Glories, 9 Myths, 10 Officials, 11 Disasters, 12 Sacar, 13 Hell, 15 Ethiopia, 18 Laughter, 19 Ship, 22 Aloft, 24 Breakfast, 26 Difficult, 27 Ivory, 28 Enraged, 29 Dressed.

Down: 1 Remedy, 2 Bathsheba, 3 Casks, 4 Atonement, 5 Gifts, 6 Occasions, 7 Isaac, 8 Sisera, 14 Lightning, 16 Harvested, 17 Imitators, 20 Saddle, 21 Stayed, 23 Offer, 24 Bound, 25 Knife.

THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

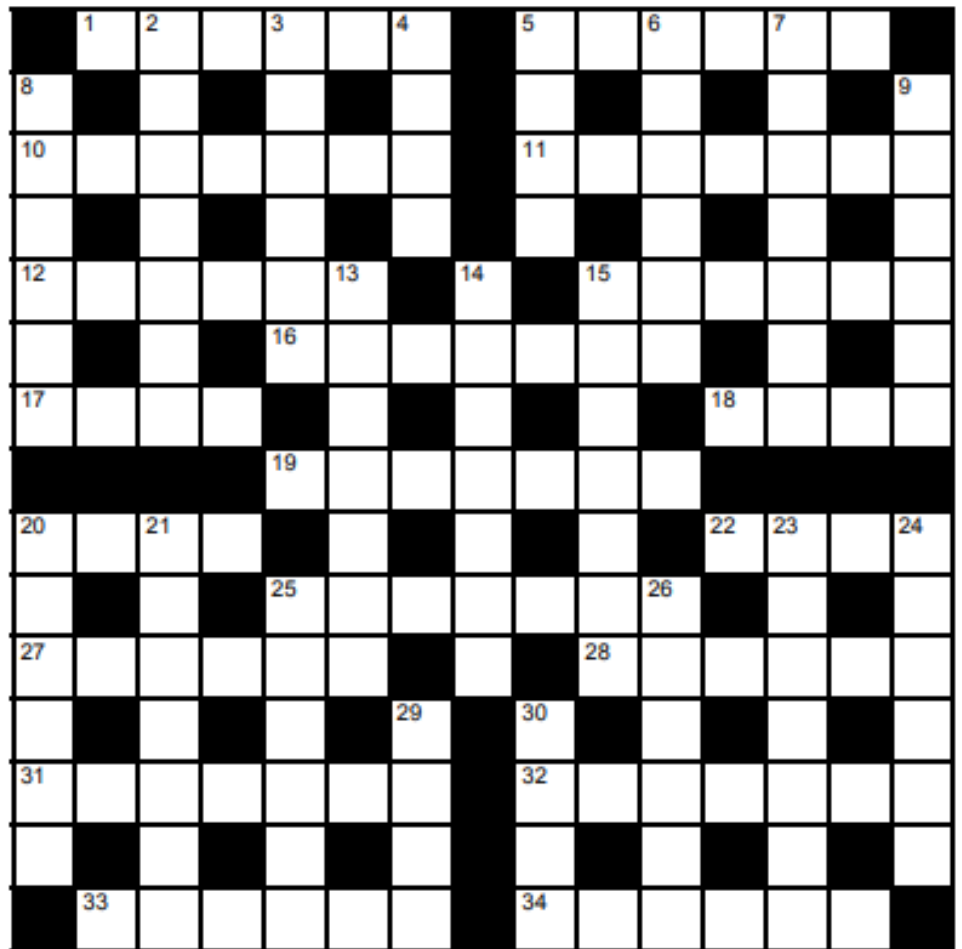
Across

- 1 A nation referred to in the O.T. and the N.T. (6)
- 5 Teacher; leader (6)
- 10 Letter (7)
- 11 Blood was painted on these (7)
- 12 "Out of the _____ came something sweet" (6)
- 15 Where was Jacob? (6)
- 16 Made unholy (7)
- 17 Ezekiel lay on this for three years (4)
- 18 Very old (4)
- 19 Sure (7)
- 20 Ethiopia (4)
- 22 Remaining (4)
- 25 Naaman's maid, for example (7)

- 27 Seraiah's father (6)
- 28 Land (6)
- 31 Hold inside (7)
- 32 The teaching place of the Ethiopian eunuch (7)
- 33 Jews are renowned for celebrating these (6)
- 34 A child of Caleb & Maachah (6)

Down

- 2 The lame man was too slow to reach this type of water (7)
- 3 To wait on, or be present (6)



by Philologus


© BiblePuzzles.org.uk

- 4 Untruths (4)
- 5 The Promised Land was said to be flowing with this (4)
- 6 We have all done this (6)
- 7 Late in the day (7)
- 8 Animals (6)
- 9 A Philistine city (6)
- 13 Sisera, for example (7)
- 14 A nation in the O.T. neighbouring Israel (7)
- 15 Anyone who comes to God must do this (7)
- 20 Together with 'time' this happens to all (6)

- 21 Did Nadab and Abihu have a match for this? (7)
- 23 Self scrutiny before communion (7)
- 24 Half the time of Jesus' fasting (6)
- 25 Lebanese trees (6)
- 26 Provided by God when we are tempted (6)
- 29 Far extremes of the earth (4)
- 30 Luke Part II ? (4)

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.



PROGRAMMES YOU MAY ENJOY – Sunday 13th March

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 – Second Sunday of Lent

A service from Down Cathedral, Downpatrick for the second Sunday in Lent on the theme “I was thirsty”.

13.15 BBC 1 Songs of Praise: Leicestershire

The Revd. Kate Bottley meets the monks at Mount St Bernard's Abbey and samples their renowned Trappist beer. Yolanda Brown visits the world's oldest bell foundry.

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



Jesus