

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 – 6th February 2022

This Week's Collect

Jesus Calls His First Disciples



Loving God, the light of the minds that know you, the life of the souls that love you, and the strength of the wills that serve you: help us so to know you that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may truly serve you, whom to serve is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

God our Father, whose Word has come among us: may the light of faith, kindled in our hearts, shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Minister's Message

I hope you have all had a good week. I am sure many of you, like me, are concerned about the news of energy price rises alongside other things which will contribute to the increased cost of living. To many of us this may be just an annoyance, possibly we will have to reconsider our spending priorities, even cut back on a few luxuries. To some it will be much more serious than this, with people facing a choice between heating and eating. I feel very frustrated that this should happen in what is one of the richest countries in the world. How can we allow a situation where some people can't afford to feed their families and keep them warm. This is not just a political or even moral issue but a spiritual one.

God calls on his people to "loose the chains of injustice....to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter, when you see the naked, to clothe them" (Isaiah 58 verses 6 & 7). What can we as individuals and as a Church do to make a change? I don't know the answers but I do believe that we have to do something.

God Bless, Peter

UPCOMING PREACHERS

Sunday 6th February **Andrew Gillespie** (St James') **Jayne McLaren** (phone)

Pictures from Peter

Last week I walked from Hapton to Nelson, on the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. Some people regard Nelson as a rather run-down place, but I really love it! I hope you enjoy the photographs I took.

There is a joint Methodist and Roman Catholic Church, several beautiful mosques and some very friendly people. There are also some interesting mill buildings and quiet countryside close by. I always look forward to walking this stretch of the Canal and I wasn't disappointed on this occasion.

At the end of my walk a friendly Lollipop lady saw me safely across the road. I must be looking either very old or very young!



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 – Andrew Gillespie

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 February)**

This Sunday our preacher will be Jayne McLaren

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**
- **Bible reading**
- **Lord’s Prayer**
- **Talk or “mini-sermon”**
- **Prayers**
- **Grace and dismissal.**



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.

Opening Prayer

Loving God as we gather to worship draw us closer to you. Make us open to receive the message that you have for us. Amen.

Hymn: StF 666 Master speak thy servant heareth

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

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

Master, speak! Thy servant heareth, waiting for thy gracious word, longing for thy voice that cheereth; Master, let it now be heard.

I am listening, Lord, for thee; what hast thou to say to me?

Speak to me by name, O Master, let me know it is to me; speak, that I may follow faster,
with a step more firm and free,
where the Shepherd leads the flock in the shadow of the rock.

Master, speak! Though least and lowest, let me not unheard depart;
Master, speak! For O thou knowest all the yearning of my heart,
knowest all its truest need; speak, and make me blest indeed.

Master, speak:and make me ready, when thy voice is truly heard, with obedience glad and steady
still to follow every word.

I am listening, Lord, for thee; Master, speak! O speak to me!

Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879)

Let us pray together

Loving God you are always with us.

We praise you for all that you have done for us and all that you do for us each and every day which isn't always obvious to us but we continue to put our trust in you. We offer you our praise and our worship.

We are sorry for the times we have let you down. For the times that we have gone our own way instead of responding to your call. Help us to be the people that you have called us to be. We go forward knowing that you through Jesus tell us that we are forgiven.

Guide, strengthen and equip us for the tasks to which you have called us. Help us to continue to answer your call wherever it may lead us. We ask these and all our prayers in the name of Jesus.

Amen.



Today's Gospel Reading: Luke 5:1-11

Today's Reading from the Old Testament Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13)

Time to Reflect

Each and every one of us is called by God. Sometimes he can call us to a specific individual task which can also be rather challenging. It can take us completely out of our comfort zone. One thing that we are all called to do however is to share the good news with all we meet. Although in the circumstances that we have found ourselves in these last two years it can be quite a challenge to do just that. But it is important that we do so. That we give people the hope and the light that they need right now. Hope and light they can find in Jesus.

Our reading from Luke today talks about the calling of the first disciples. They had no idea what would happen when they were first called by Jesus but they took a risk, a chance. They left everything else behind to follow him. They weren't the people that you would have expected Jesus to pick to follow him and to help him in his mission. But they were the people that would change the world. Jesus equipped them to carry out the tasks that he had called them to just as he equips us all to enable us to do the same. You may be thinking what can I do? He won't call me. I can't do this or I can't do that. But actually, you are wrong. For he calls and equips every one of us because he knows what we can and can't do and enables us to fulfil his calling on our lives. We just need to listen and to trust. Then to go out and do what he asks us to do knowing that he goes with us and will never leave us. I am a Brownie leader and whenever one of the girls says to me I can't do this my reply to them is something along the lines of "can't" is not a word in the Brownie Guide dictionary. Yes, you can do it. So just as you may think I can't do what God is asking me to do actually you can because he will equip and support you so that you can carry it out. For nothing is impossible with God.

So, what is God calling you to do? Have you answered that call? If not then why not? Trust in him, continue to follow him and answer his call knowing that he is with you every step of the way. God calls each and every one of us to change the World in some way. So let us do just that. Let's change the world together bringing hope and light to all we meet.

Take a time to sit quietly A time of prayer

Loving and gracious God we come before you to pray for our world. A world in which there is so much suffering and pain, violence and hurt. We often wonder how we can change things in the world. Help us to make a difference that the world may be a better place for all.

We come to you to pray for the church. We are still in the midst of a pandemic and people need hope more than ever. Help us to share that much-needed hope with others. We ask too for your guidance as we continue to respond to the pandemic. Help your church to share your gospel with the world.

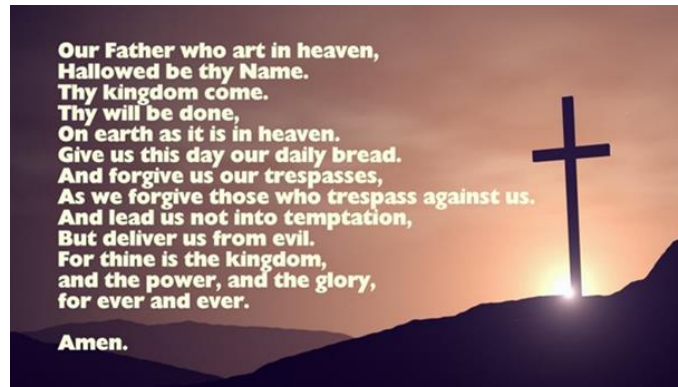
We come before you to pray for those going through a difficult time at the moment. We bring the names of those we know who need our prayers lifting them up to you. We think of those in hospital, those for whom it is a difficult time at the moment. Be with all who need our prayers right now those we know and those we don't know. May they know your love.

We place into your loving arms those whom we have lost knowing that you welcome them home. May they now be at peace. Comfort the bereaved and may they know your peace, love and strength as they face the days ahead without those whom they have lost.

We pray for ourselves Lord. You call us each and every day to serve you. Equip us for the tasks to which you call us. Help us to fulfil our calling and bring about your kingdom. You know the challenges that each and every one of us face. We ask that you guide us through each and every challenge that we face. As we enter into a new week, we go knowing that you are with us every step of the way. We ask these and all our prayers in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father



Hymn: Listen to StF 660 Called by Christ

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5fIoN6umzc> or sing a verse of a hymn that comes to mind

Called by Christ to be disciples every day in every place,
we are not to hide as hermits but to spread the way of grace;
citizens of heaven's kingdom, though this world is where we live,
as we serve a faithful Master, faithful service may we give.

Richly varied are our pathways, many callings we pursue:
may we use our gifts and talents always, Lord, to honour you.
so in government or commerce, college, hospice, farm or home,
whether volunteers or earning, may we see your kingdom come.

Hard decisions may confront us, urging us to compromise.
still obedience is our watchword -- make us strong and make us wise!
Secular is turned to sacred, made a precious offering,
as our daily lives are fashioned in submission to our King.
Martin Leckebusch (b. 1962)

A prayer of blessing

Lord we are called by you to be your disciples and to share your gospel with others. Wherever we go this week and whatever challenges we may face may we know that you are with us. Help us to continue to faithfully answer your call now and every day. **Amen.**

Luke 5:1-11

- 1 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God.
- 2 He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets.
- 3 He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.
- 4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."
- 5 Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."
- 6 When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.
- 7 So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.
- 8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!"
- 9 For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken,
- 10 and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.
- Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people."
- 11 So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Wednesday House group will meet in church this Wednesday 9th February at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Thanksgiving for the Life of Gordon Salmon

Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Gordon Salmon to be held on Wednesday February 23rd, 2022, at 2.30 pm. Invitation to everyone who knew Gordon and remembers him with love and affection.

If you would like to attend this service and/or the refreshments in the church hall afterwards, please let Wendy or one of the Stewards know as soon as you can, to help with seating and catering arrangements. Please do not contact Christine or the family direct.

PRAYERS

God be with my friend today.
Their sickness is greater than they feel like
they can handle, and their hope seems
non-existent.
They feel powerless, God, but You are ever
powerful.
I pray that You give them comfort and
strength in the knowledge that while they are
weak, You are strong.
There is nothing too big for You to handle.
You are all the hope they need.
Thank You for being mighty and ever-
present.
Amen.



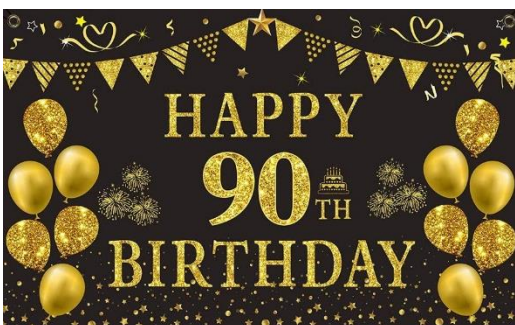
We continue to pray for those who need our prayers at this time due to ill health, struggling with mental health and all difficult situations.

We continue to pray for Christine Salmon and her family, Margaret Peacop and her family Ken Kitchen, John and Sylvia Pagan, Mike Hughes, The family of Marion Harvey and Arthur Evans.

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.

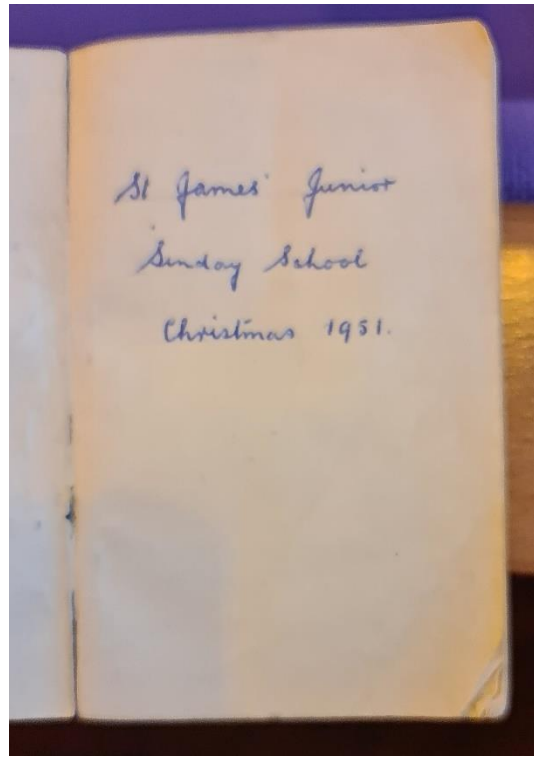
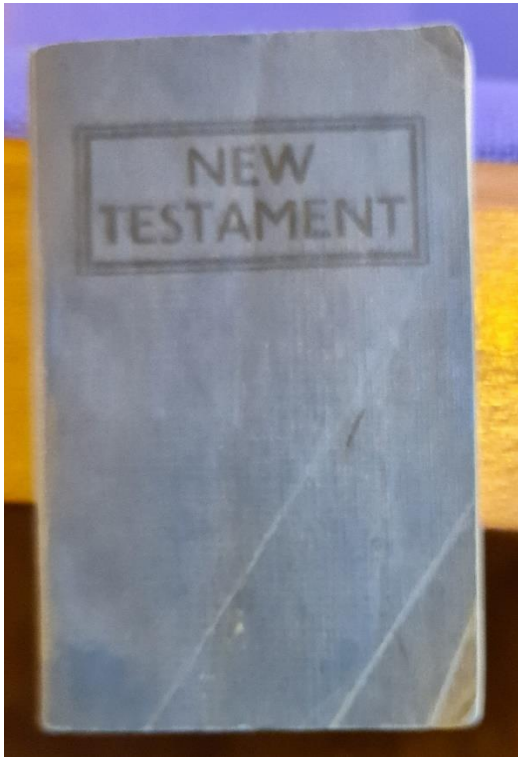


A happy birthday to Victor Weaver who is going to be 90 this Sunday. With love and best wishes from your St. James' Family.

A very happy birthday to our very own Revd. Peter Hughes (who's not quite 90!) who also celebrates his special day this Sunday. With love and best wishes from your St. James' Family.

St. JAMES'

Last week, we celebrated The Covenant in church and Lilian Jeffers brought in her Bible from her time at St. James' Sunday school. It is a well-worn Bible that has given much happiness and comfort to her the last 71 years.



For sin shall not have
dominion over you

GRACE
Romans 6:14

you are not under
the law, but under grace.

Knowing-Jesus.com

Our very first service in 1866, saw the Minister deliver the sermon, including Romans 6:14.

This got me thinking about what your favourite verses from The Bible are. If you would like to share these, I would be extremely grateful.

If anyone has anything else that they would like to share about their time at St. James', please email us, so that we can share with the rest of St. James'.

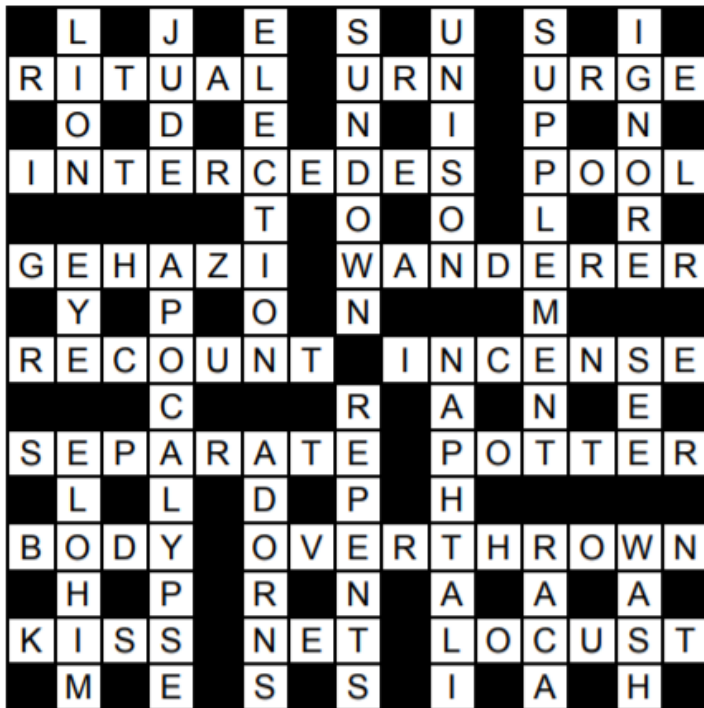
THE LORD
bless you & keep you;

THE LORD
make His face shine upon
you & be gracious to you;

THE LORD
lift up His countenance upon
you & give you peace.

(NUMBERS 26)

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

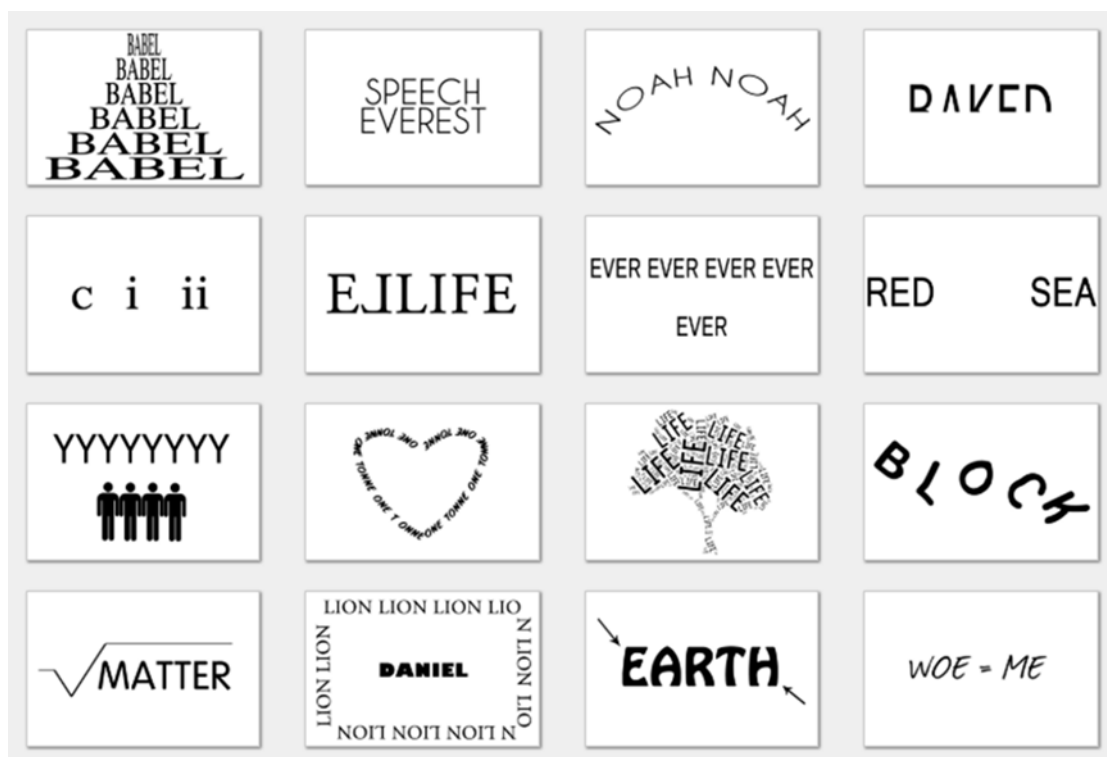


Across: 8 Ritual, 9 Urn, 10 Urge,
11 Intercedes, 12 Pool, 13 Gehazi,
16 Wanderer, 17 Recount, 18 Incense,
22 Separate, 25 Potter, 26 Body,
27 Overthrown, 30 Kiss, 31 Net,
32 Locust.

Down: 1 Lion, 2 Jude, 3 Election,
4 Sundown, 5 Unison, 6 Supplement,
7 Ignore, 14 Eye, 15 Apocalypse,
19 Naphtali, 20 See, 21 Repents,
23 Elohim, 24 Adorns, 28 Raca,
29 Wash.

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.org.uk

ST JAMES' DINGBATS – Last week's answers (working across)



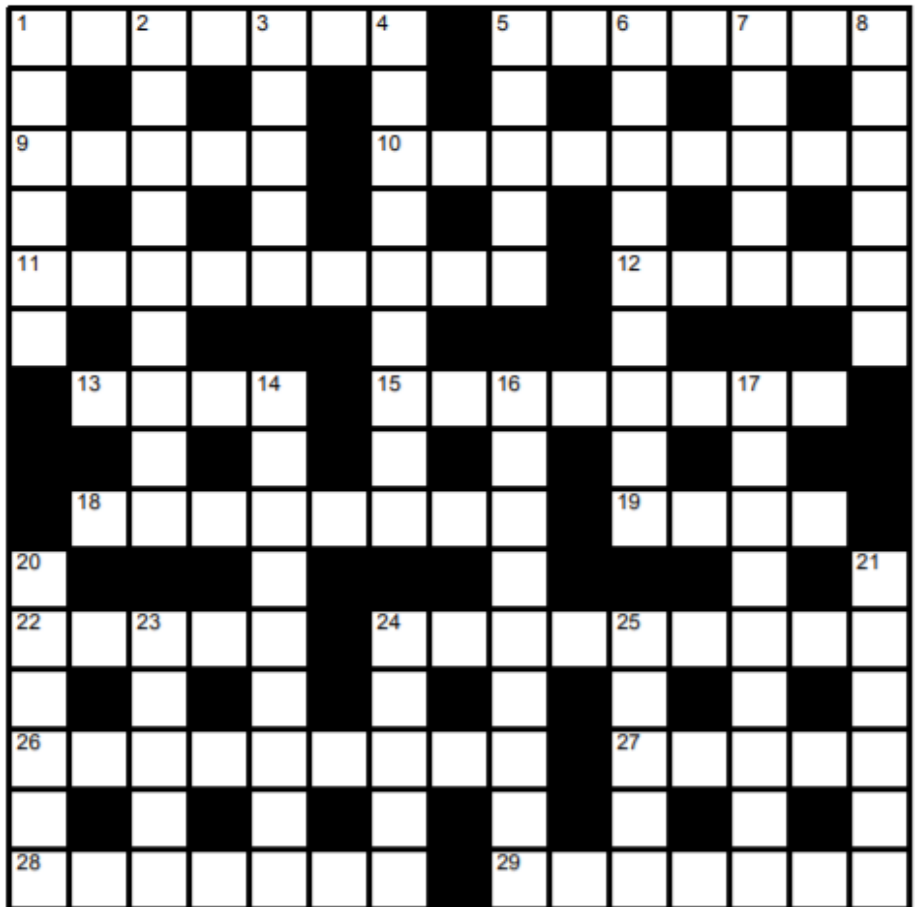
1. Tower of Babel
2. Sermon on the Mount
3. Noah's Ark
4. Half baked
5. See eye to eye
6. Eternal life
7. Forever and ever
8. Parting of the Red Sea

9. Wise men
10. Heavy heart
11. The Tree of Life
12. Stumbling block
13. The root of the matter
14. Daniel in the lion's den
15. The ends of the Earth
16. Woe is me

THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Desperation; Praised
(anag) (7)
- 5 God, doing this on day
7 (7)
- 9 More refined (5)
- 10 One of Paul's
letters (9)
- 11 Uncared for (9)
- 12 Encamp against
city (5)
- 13 Charitable giving (4)
- 15 Consecrated (8)
- 18 Abraham received
these (8)

by *Philologus*

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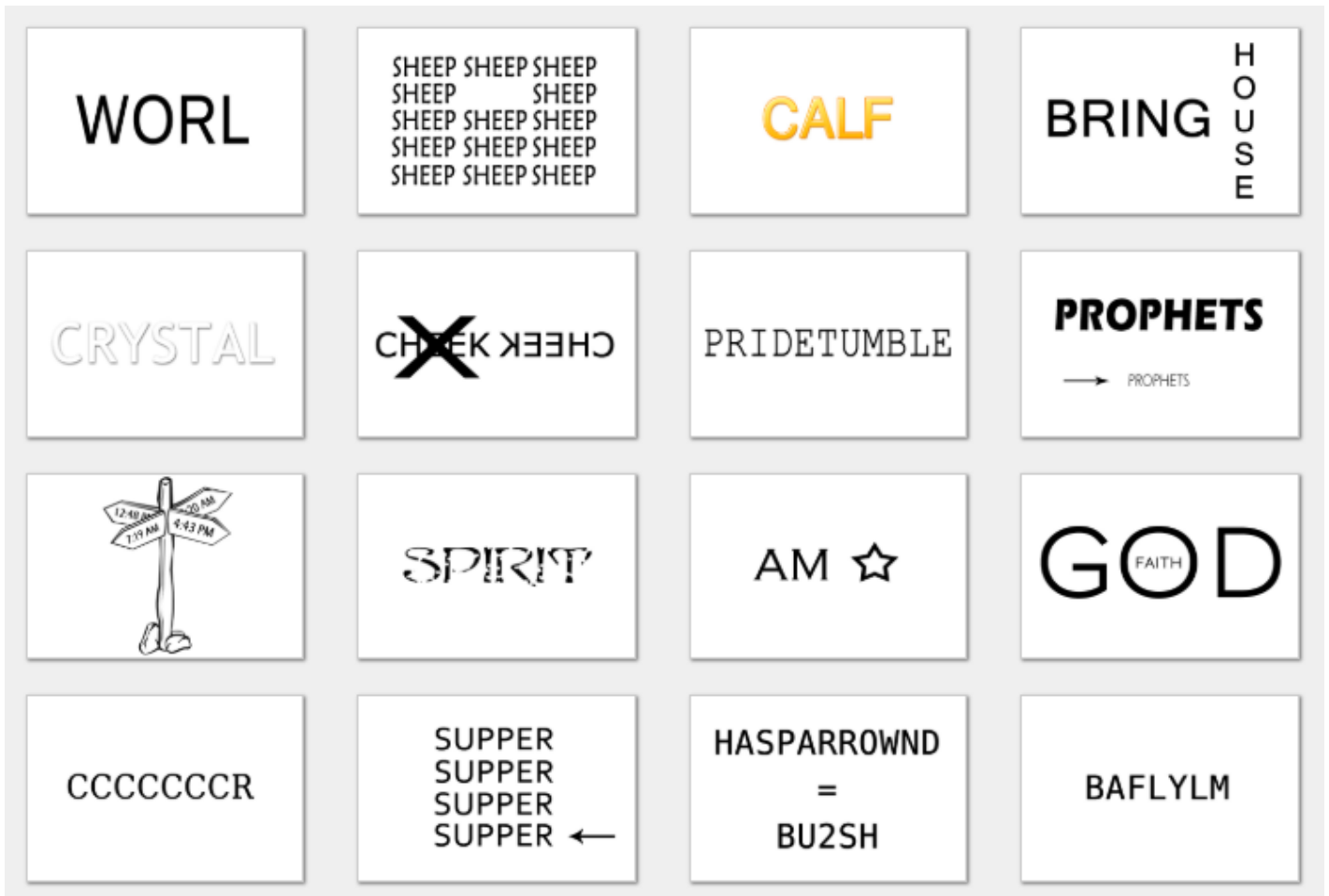
Down

- | | | |
|--|---------------------|---|
| 19 Jesus raised in 3 (4) | Down | 14 The first, first-aid-er? (9) |
| 22 Colour found only in
Ezekiel (5) | 1 Rely on (6) | 16 Fraudulent (9) |
| 24 Someone who
shields (9) | 2 Tail-ender (9) | 17 Slain by Moses (9) |
| 26 Continuance of life (9) | 3 Be in harmony (5) | 20 They get the hump (6) |
| 27 Grind together (5) | 4 Not wicked (9) | 21 Parentless (6) |
| 28 Unusual (7) | 5 Reigned (5) | 23 Prickly shrub (5) |
| 29 Athalia's cry (7) | 6 Contented (9) | 24 300 bought ointment
to anoint Jesus (5) |
| | 7 Picture (5) | 25 Keen-sighted bird of
prey (5) |
| | 8 Good news (6) | |



ST JAMES' BIBLE DINGBATS

The say what you see puzzle. Work your way across each row. Answers next week. Enjoy!



PROGRAMMES YOU MAY ENJOY – Sunday 6th February

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: The Queen's Accession

In this service of Matins the community of Westminster Abbey marks the Queen's accession to the throne. Preacher: The Dean, the Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle MBE.

11.20 BBC 1 Songs of Praise: Gospel Singer of the Year - Final

It's the final of the Gospel Singer of the Year competition, hosted by Mark De-Lisser. With judges: Carrie Grant, CalledOut Music and Mica Paris.

NEWSLETTER NOTICES FOR NEXT WEEK



If you would like to share anything during lockdown 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