

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

MINISTER: Rev. 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 – 17th January 2021



Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Almighty God, by whose grace alone we are accepted and called to your service, strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Hello Everyone, I hope you are all safe and well. I know that many of you have been getting Covid vaccines this week, which is a real sign of hope. We trust that the roll out of vaccine will continue to go smoothly so that we can all be protected in due course.

We seem to have been deluged with rain in the last few days. Part of our garden has turned into a large pond, so if you know any homeless ducks please let me know as we may be able to help! Our son, Owen, who works in the bus industry in Yorkshire, sent me a video of one of his double-deckers skidding sideways in the thick snow in Halifax. We should be grateful that we've only got rain!

We will meet again for a Zoom Service on Sunday and hope that you can join us. May God keep our fellowship alive and strong as we come through this time together. God Bless Peter.

Birthdays.

For those who are celebrating a birthday this week, remember, count not the candles...see the lights they give. Count not the years, but the life you live. Wishing you a wonderful time ahead. Sending you smiles for every moment of your special day... Have a wonderful time and a very happy birthday! Everyone at St. James' wishes you a happy birthday and enjoy your day.

Birthday wishes this week to everyone celebrating their special day. A happy birthday to Chris Bennet.

Happy belated birthday wishes to both Teresa Melias and May Kelley who was a wonderful 92 this week.



SUNDAY SERVICES

This Sunday we are going to hold our morning service on “Zoom”.

Joining details for our Telephone Worship (2.30pm in the afternoon) are underneath the Zoom morning worship details.

FOR First Time Zoom Users:

If you have never joined a Zoom Meeting before - and you have received this email – it is very likely that you can join by clicking the link below.

(But please only join if your device - phone, computer or tablet – has a speaker, or you won't be able to hear the service)

For people to be able to see you your device (phone, computer, tablet) will need a camera (and you will need to click or tap the “camera” icon).

For people to be able to hear you your device (phone, computer, tablet) will need a microphone (and you will need to click or tap the “microphone” icon).

If this is the first time you are using Zoom you can practice before the service – if you click on the link and follow instructions you should get to a screen which says “The Host knows you are waiting and will let you in soon”. If you are just practicing leave/close the meeting at this stage, and you will know you can get to the service on Sunday...

St James' Sunday Worship on Zoom: Opens at 10.45am, service starts at 11am (followed by “after worship” chat)

Preacher: Graham Martin

Either click on this link:

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

Or if you have a Zoom “App” click “join meeting, then enter following details:

Meeting ID: 591 345 5610

Passcode: 6WbLRw

Or on a smart phone just tap one of the links below:

One tap mobile

+441314601196 5913455610# *944121# United Kingdom

+442030512874 5913455610# *944121# United Kingdom

Or if you cannot do any of the above and want to join in you can use your telephone to dial **any** of the following numbers, then enter the “Meeting ID” and “Passcode” numbers below when asked. You will be able to hear the service. [From experience you may have to try 2 or 3 times to get in by phone. Do keep trying]

0131 460 1196 United Kingdom 0203 051 2874 United Kingdom 0203 481 5237 United Kingdom

0203 481 5240 United Kingdom 0203 901 7895 United Kingdom

Meeting ID: 591 345 5610

Passcode: 944121

In the afternoon we have:

Telephone Worship – Invitation and Order of Service

Sunday 17th January 2.20 for 2.30pm

Dial In Instructions: Between 2.20pm for 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 invited to say your name and will then be admitted to the Worship Session.

Order of Worship:

- Welcome and notices:
- Opening prayer (Host)
- Bible reading (Pam Bellis) John 1: 35 – 51
- Lord's Prayer (Host)
- Talk or “mini-sermon” (Rev Peter Hughes)
- Prayers (Chris Bennett)
- Grace and dismissal. (Host)

If there is a lot of “noise” during your session you can mute everyone's telephones by pressing #5 – but please unmute – by again pressing #5 – at the end of your contribution.

Many thanks, and God Bless

Graham Martin Communications Officer, St. James Church.

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

BIBLE READINGS

1 Samuel 3:1-10 New International Version

The Lord Calls Samuel

3 The boy Samuel ministered before the Lord under Eli. In those days the word of the Lord was rare; there were not many visions.

2 One-night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. **3** The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the Lord, where the ark of God was. **4** Then the Lord called Samuel.

Samuel answered, "Here I am." **5** And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So, he went and lay down.

6 Again the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

"My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."

7 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

8 A third time the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy. **9** So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So, Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"

Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

John 1:43-51 New International Version

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

43 The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me."

44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida.

45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

46 "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked.

"Come and see," said Philip.

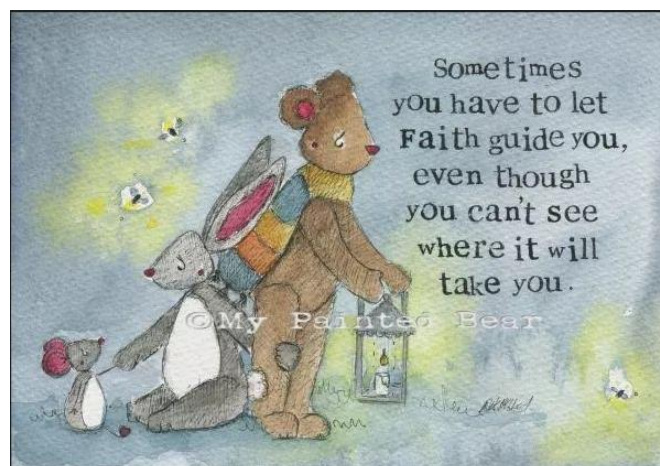
47 When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit."

48 "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked.

Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you."

49 Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel."

50 Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that." **51** He then added, "Very truly I tell you, you will see 'heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on' the Son of Man."



Picture from the Church Railings

This week's picture focuses on new beginnings. The person kneeling is a very small part of a big picture, yet the prayer reminds us that each of us is important in God's kingdom. In the words of the prayer, may each of us be illuminated by Jesus, may his nature be imprinted on ours, may we be inspired to live in His way, may the Holy Spirit indwell us so that we radiate the light and love of Jesus.



New Beginnings

Lord, take my life, my small life,
and illumine it:
that everything I say and do
may reflect the light of your glory.

Lord, take my life, my small life,
and imprint it:
that everything I say and do
may reveal the image of your love.

Lord, take my life, my small life,
and inspire it:
that everything I say and do
may resonate with the power of
your Spirit.

Lord, take my life, my small life,
and indwell it:
that everything I say and do
may radiate your Life
your glorious Life.

magnet • words: *New Beginnings* © Pat Bennett (2008)

Taken from *Bare Feet and Buttercups* compiled by Ruth Burgess, Wild Goose Publications, Glasgow

Image: *Hannah (II)* From an original artwork by James Martin w: www.jamesmartinartist.co.uk

PRAYERS

Almighty Father, Thank you for your love, grace and mercy. I pray that my discomforts will turn to comforts, my pains to gains, my deprivation to more blessings, my losses to profits, my tear to smiles, my sorrows to pleasures, my illness to wellness, my debts to credits and my dreams to realities.

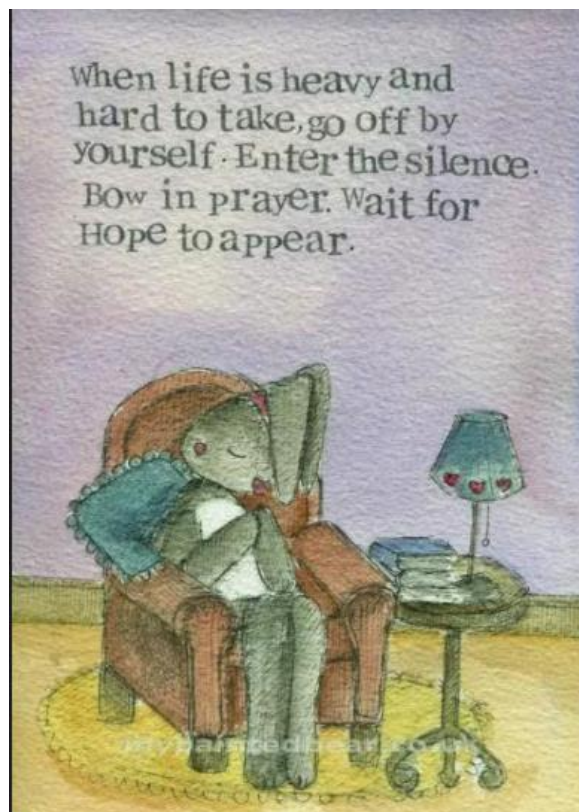
As the scripture said "The Lord is near to the broken-hearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

And he "He heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds.

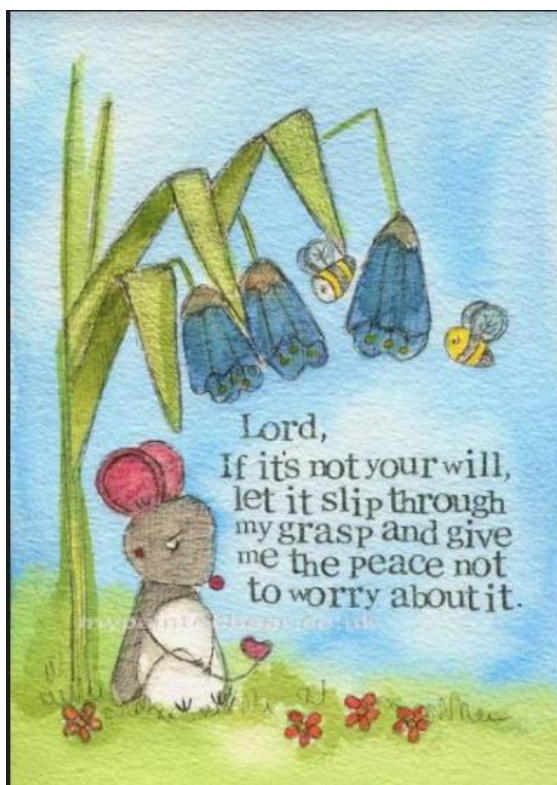
I trust in you Lord and in you alone to heal me with any form of scepticism towards blessing that you will be employed upon me.

I trust, Lord, that this agony and suffering that is only in my head, will come to end and positivism will shine upon me as I read, hear, study and preach the truth in the Bible.

Amen.



When life is heavy and
hard to take, go off by
yourself. Enter the silence.
Bow in prayer. Wait for
Hope to appear.



Lord,
If it's not your will,
let it slip through
my grasp and give
me the peace not
to worry about it.

Father, I ask You for a fresh vision for what breakthrough will look like in my life. Help me to pursue healing while I wait for my miracle.

Show me how to rest right in the middle of the storm.

Help me to enjoy the feast You prepare for me, right in the middle of the battlefield.

I want my whole life to testify that there's a God in heaven who knows my name and who will get me safely home.

Fill me afresh with the wonder of Your love and power.

I am determined to win this battle with anxiety.

Help me to discern when to rest, when to feast, and how to actively engage my faith as I wait for You to breakthrough.

May my life display Your power.

Do the impossible in and through me, I pray.

Amen.

HELLO

It was a lovely surprise to receive the St James Christmas brochure, with messages from church members. What a lovely idea! Thanks so much. It brought me close to you at this difficult time. May I wish you all a 2021 that brings blessings and greater freedoms. Liz.

Elizabeth Harris (Birmingham)

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | E | C | R | E | E | S | | T | Y | R | E |
| O | | R | | N | | I | | R | | U | |
| O | W | E | | D | I | S | C | I | P | L | E |
| R | | A | | U | | T | | B | | E | |
| P | E | T | E | R | | E | V | E | R | | P |
| O | | I | | E | | R | | S | E | A | S |
| S | P | O | T | | S | | E | | J | | A |
| T | | N | E | B | O | | S | T | E | A | L |
| | P | | M | | R | | T | | C | | T |
| Z | I | P | P | O | R | A | H | | T | I | E |
| | T | | L | | O | | E | | E | | R |
| L | Y | R | E | | W | O | R | L | D | L | Y |

Across: 1 Decrees, 5 Tyre, 7 Owe, 8 Disciple, 9 Peter, 10 Ever, 13 Seas, 14 Spot, 18 Nebo, 19 Steal, 21 Zipporah, 22 Tie, 23 Lyre, 24 Worldly.

Down: 1 Doorpost, 2 Creation, 3 Endure, 4 Sister, 5 Tribes, 6 Rule, 11 Rejected, 12 Psaltery, 15 Temple, 16 Sorrow, 17 Esther, 20 Pity.

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.org.uk

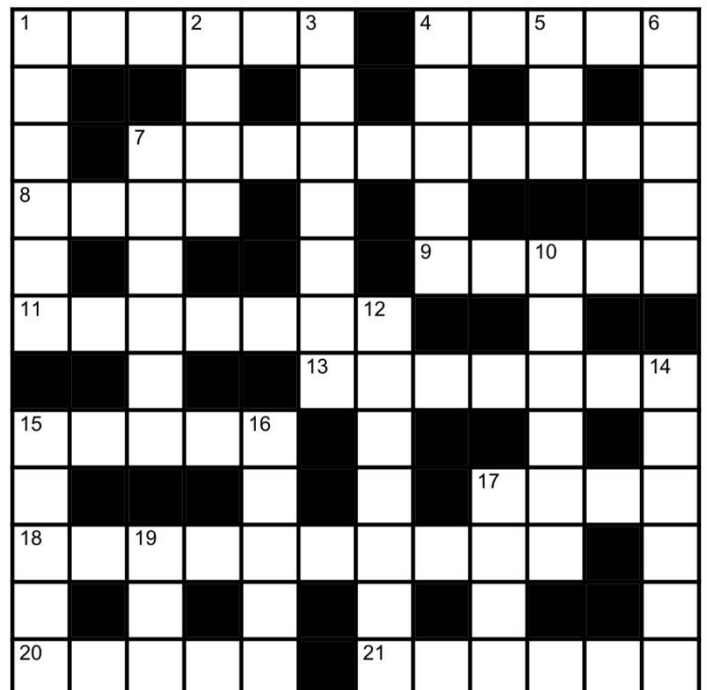
THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

Across

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1 Exultant (6) | 2 Sustenance (4) |
| 4 Verity (5) | 3 Sparing the rod (7) |
| 7 Something to build on (10) | 4 Drops of sadness (5) |
| 8 Path (4) | 5 Son of Hur (3) |
| 9 Feeling regret (5) | 6 Subject of Samson's riddle (5) |
| 11 Leftover (7) | 7 Husbandman (6) |
| 13 Urim's partner (7) | 10 Paul's longest letter (6) |
| 15 Place for change (5) | 12 They take things the wrong way (7) |
| 17 Prophetess (4) | 14 Daughter of Absalom (6) |
| 18 Bestowers (10) | 15 One of 150 (5) |
| 20 Surrounded (5) | 16 Minimum age in days for a sacrificial lamb (5) |
| 21 Seek (6) | |

Down

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1 Mocker (6) | 17 Region (4) |
| | 19 Angry (3) |



by Philologus

© BiblePuzzles.org.uk

Dan Holmes Concert

Hello!!

While it seems that we are often taking one step forward and two steps back, I believe we are making progress to ending this long trial of patience.

So, what can I do to help? Whenever I ask a question like that, God is quick to respond... use the gifts that I have given to you! Following the plan, I'd like to do a short concert for you!! Live! From my home studio/office via Facebook Live. I'd like to do it on Sunday, January 24 at 6:00 pm UK time.

It will only be about 30 minutes, but I'd like to share a little music and maybe a story or two with you and anyone else that would like to watch.

Please pass this along to your friends, anyone you think might enjoy 30 minutes of LIVE music!! I will record the concert, too, so it can later be uploaded to YouTube. In case folks aren't able to watch live, they can watch it later or watch it again.

It is my hope that this might bring a little light to you and bring us a little closer together. Again, please pass this along to everyone!

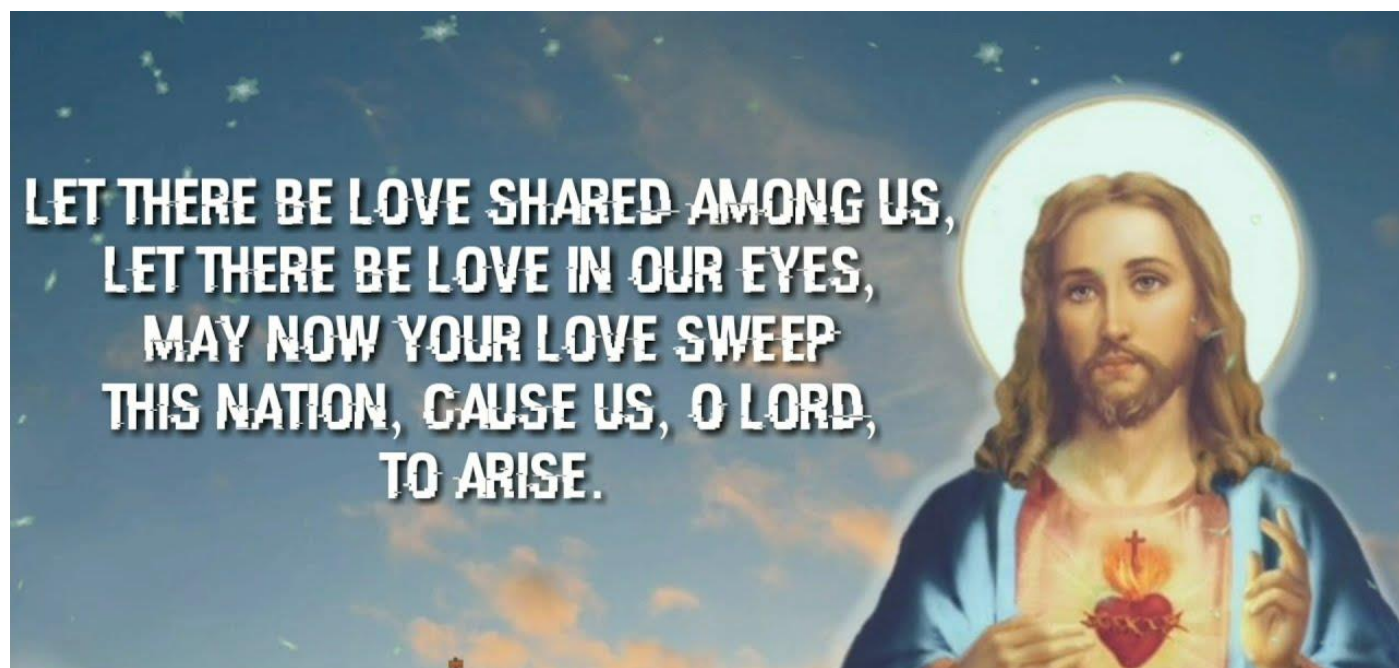
Here is the Facebook Event page to share with you. <https://fb.me/e/3XOtTs57e>

Please share with your friends.

I'm looking forward to being with you on the 24th!

Until then, stay strong, stay safe.

Blessings and Peace,
Dan Holmes



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