

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Lombard Street, Eynsham OX29 4HT



SUNDAY 7th FEBRUARY

SERVICE ON ZOOM
at 10.30 a.m.

Leaders: Janet and Steve Gaugroger
Christ is as Christ does ... Jesus exercises authority
Mark 2: 23-3:6

Songs: 'Crown Him with many crowns' and 'Take my life and let it be'

Meeting ID: 753 5934 1499 Password: 024518
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/75359341499?pwd=U1IYRzk3N1ppeTJDcjVPWG5kNFQwZz09>

You can also join by phone by calling one of the following numbers and keying in Meeting ID followed by # then Password also followed by #

0203 481 5240, 0203 481 5237, 0203 051 2874, 0131 460 1196

OTHER SERVICES ON SUNDAY

8.10 a.m. BBC Radio 4

1.15 p.m. BBC 1 Songs of Praise

Monday to Friday

9.45 a.m. BBC Radio 4 LW service

DAILY HOPE - 0800 804 8044

Music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England: 24 hours a day.

EBC DEACONS MEETING

Tuesdays at 10.30 a.m. Please pray for Zoltan and our Deacons.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays at 11 a.m. All are welcome.

Meeting ID: 821 2089 8795

Passcode: 994274

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82120898795?pwd=ejN4RU8rSkpDRFlxYlJQbEhHUytlZz09>

'SONGS OF PRAISE' **on zoom**

Sunday 14th February
at 3.00 p.m.

Theme: *'Love in a time of crisis'.*

Please let Zoltan have your choice of hymns.



[Login details will be the same as for our morning service.](#)

ZOOM 'LENT AWAY DAY'

Saturday 6th March 2021 from 10 a.m.
If anyone would like to join please let Zoltan or Sheila know. More details will follow.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



A women-led, global, ecumenical movement.

Due to the current Covid19 lockdown restrictions, the three churches of Eynsham are, unfortunately, unable to hold this year's **World Day of Prayer taking place on Friday, 5th March.** The event with the theme "Build on a Strong Foundation" and prepared by the women of Vanuatu, was to have been hosted by EBC. However, orders of service are available for distribution to anyone wishing to join in the Day of Prayer from their own home thus being united with the rest of the world on this special day. For those with internet access, there will be a list of services that are being livestreamed on the World Day of Prayer website.

The World Day of Prayer National Committee, encourage people to make a donation to the movement by either using the envelope in the order of service, or via its website or sending a donation to its office.

Please contact Denise Launchbury if you would like an order of service, collection of your donation or further information.

'PAUSE AND PRAY' : LENT

Following a successful experiment in January you are invited to share in 'Pause and Pray' during the forthcoming Lent Season.

In order to try and include as many of us as possible there are various possibilities:

Monday to Friday every morning at 8.00 a.m. for about 15 minutes 'Journey to Jerusalem' - readings and reflections from Luke's Gospel - starting on Ash Wednesday 17th February through to Good Friday 2nd April.

Wednesdays at 12 noon for about 25 minutes - 'Worship in the Wilderness' - starting on Ash Wednesday 17th February through to Holy Week Wednesday 31st March.

Sundays at 8.00 p.m. a short act of Evening Prayer about 15 minutes starting on the first Sunday in Lent 21st February until Easter Sunday 4th April.

People are encouraged to join for any or all of these opportunities as you feel able and as fits your own pattern of life. But it would be great if as many as possible could join something to share in corporate prayer together - a request which featured strongly in the questionnaire last year.

January 'Journeying through the Psalms' created a little community of around 12 people, it would be wonderful if we could extend that community togetherness during Lent as we prepare for Easter and the hope that it will bring into our lives during these dark days of lockdown living.

More details to follow next week.

Gill Crippen, Janet Gaukroger and Nick Wood

PRAYER

The Archbishop of Canterbury is leading a prayer initiative 'Praying for the Nation' in response to "reaching the terrible milestone of 100,000 deaths from COVID-19". We are invited to set aside time every evening to pray, particularly at 6.00 p.m. each day.

The Archbishop's Facebook broadcast on 1st February can be found on the link below. It is recorded so you don't have to be on Facebook to access it:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1106263876505625>

We pray for all members of our EBC fellowship who are unwell or recovering from treatment, thinking particularly of Phil Whittaker and Grace. We give thanks that George is making good progress following his operation.

Shared by David

Saturday 16th January 2021 10.15 a.m.
I rang S. She said "Sorry Dave I meant to ring you, B. was rushed into hospital with a blood clot in his leg. They have just rung me to get to the hospital now as he only has a few days".

I e-mailed ten of his friends. I didn't need to mention 'prayer'.

Tuesday 26th January 2021 11.20 a.m.
Lin receives a call from S. "Sorry I have not contacted you, but I've just spent 10 nights sleeping on the floor beside his bed, and B. has recovered his will to live, the Staff said it was a miracle, he recovered sufficiently to undergo an operation, they had to amputate his leg. I am exhausted!"

Thursday 28th January 2021 B. is in a local Community Hospital undergoing physio. and recovering well.

Share the gospel, or be damned

(1 Corinthians 9:16-23)

I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. (vs. 22&23, NLT)

To grasp what Paul is saying in these verses we have to understand the main argument of the 1st letter to the Corinthians which is call to unity. The Corinthian Christians find themselves torn by a number of internal forces which are threatening to break the bonds between the members. So, Paul writes to them and urges them to remain one in Christ, because this is both the sign and result of their faith (1Cor 1:10).

Now, part of his argument about unity is to highlight that our utmost mission in life is to share the gospel. The unique nature of the gospel is that it can change lives, it can free people from their bondages, whether that bondage is the law or lawlessness. In the previous chapters Paul emphasised that there is no greater satisfaction in life than to experience and become part of the transformative power of the gospel. Hence, sharing the gospel is both a calling and a reward. This is why no one should boast about it.

However, in order to reach people with the transformative power of the gospel, Christians (them then and us now) must examine themselves whether their social, cultural, financial and educational ties do not prevent them in sharing the gospel. And if these ties prevents them to share the gospel giving them up might be necessary. "I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some."

At this point we must be careful not to read "all things to all people" as though Paul is saying that "everything goes." Here Paul is talking less about "all things" than articulating a basic two-part distinction: those under the law, and those outside the law (which actually covers everyone). What Paul is driving at is not some pluralist vision of all things being equal. He is driven by the need to deliver the gospel to all people, not just the chosen people or the insiders. In other words, Paul is stressing that he has given up all claims to his own individuality in order to "win more," and "save some." The question is, why?

Why is Paul willing to do this? Why be all things to all people? Why risk appearing a chameleon of compromise? Why give up freedom for servitude? Why? Preach or be damned. For Paul this is not a question, or a matter of choice. It is a matter of necessity, of compulsion, of imperative. It is the gospel that is for all people, the gospel that drives him to reach out both to Jew and to Gentile, to the one struggling under the burden of the law and the one blissfully ignorant of its demands. For Paul the gospel is needed by both kinds of people, it is the one thing that is for all people. This is why he does what he does. He is motivated by the joy from servitude to Christ, the reward of a slavish devotion to all his neighbours, both those under God's law and those unaware of it. Not doing it would be a punishment: "woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel".

Which begs us the question "what motivates us to share the gospel?" Let it be the joy of sharing all the blessings of the gospel with all people, and may this drive unite us. Amen.

Prayer: *Lord, You are the giver of life. In the midst of suffering, we celebrate the promise of Your peace. In the midst of oppression - the promise of your freedom. In the midst of doubt and despair - the promise of your presence and your kingdom. In the midst of fear - the promise of everlasting joy. In the midst of sin and decay - the promise of salvation and of renewal. In the midst of death, the promise of life eternal. May we dwell in your promises and lift them up before others with love and compassion.*

Zoltan

COPING WITH LOCKDOWN

Five Pillars of Wellbeing

Connect with others - telephone, zoom, skype, or even write a letter, all better than nothing at keeping in touch.

Exercise - the 'right' exercise is one you will do (so probably don't go straight from being a couch potato to joining a gym or rock climbing!)

Keep learning - not necessarily to get qualifications just read books or online, take up a new hobby or craft.

Give - there is always someone worse off than you and even just your time may be just what someone else needs.

Pay attention - look at nature and God's wonderful world around us, especially at this time of year when everything is starting to come to life again, bulbs are pushing through and birds are looking for nest sites.

ASYLUM WELCOME

Donations still needed. Please speak to Marcus Thompson on 01865 881808.

EYNESHAM COMMUNITY LARDER

Anyone who is finding it difficult to buy the food they need can request help, either a regular or a one-off food parcel. Call Bob Thiele on 07738 063083 or email eynshamhelp@gmail.com and ask for further information. **Donation points** in Co-op, Spar and The Market Garden.

STOP PRESS

FACEBOOK

Eynsham Baptist Church

If you are on FACEBOOK fb, please can you friend EBC fb page. If you do not have a fb profile, perhaps consider it? If you are on fb please can you ask to join the EBC Messy Church fb page

We want to start using these means to communicate more of what we are doing as a community.

Editors note: please refer any queries to Zoltan, Deacons or Gill as I don't do Facebook!

Pre-Lent preparation

SHROVE TUESDAY

We are looking at a zoom party on Tuesday 16th February, Shrove Tuesday. Sadly, the usual events cannot take place and we are looking at what we might be able to do as an alternative. Details to follow next week.

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

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rccarley@outlook.com

MINISTER: Revd. Dr. Zoltan Biro

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CHURCH SECRETARY:

Sheila Wood - 01993 650263

CHURCH TREASURER:

Bob Thiele - 01865 426203

DEACONS:

Angie Cox - 880563

Barbara Cook - 375730

Denise Launchbury - 881128

Derek Malin - 884107

June Poole - 375130

Maureen Thompson - 881808

Sue Law - 07796 955472

**Please make Zoltan or Deacons
aware of any pastoral needs.**

Contributions for the newsletter to

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01865 881780 (*subject to space
and editorial discretion*).