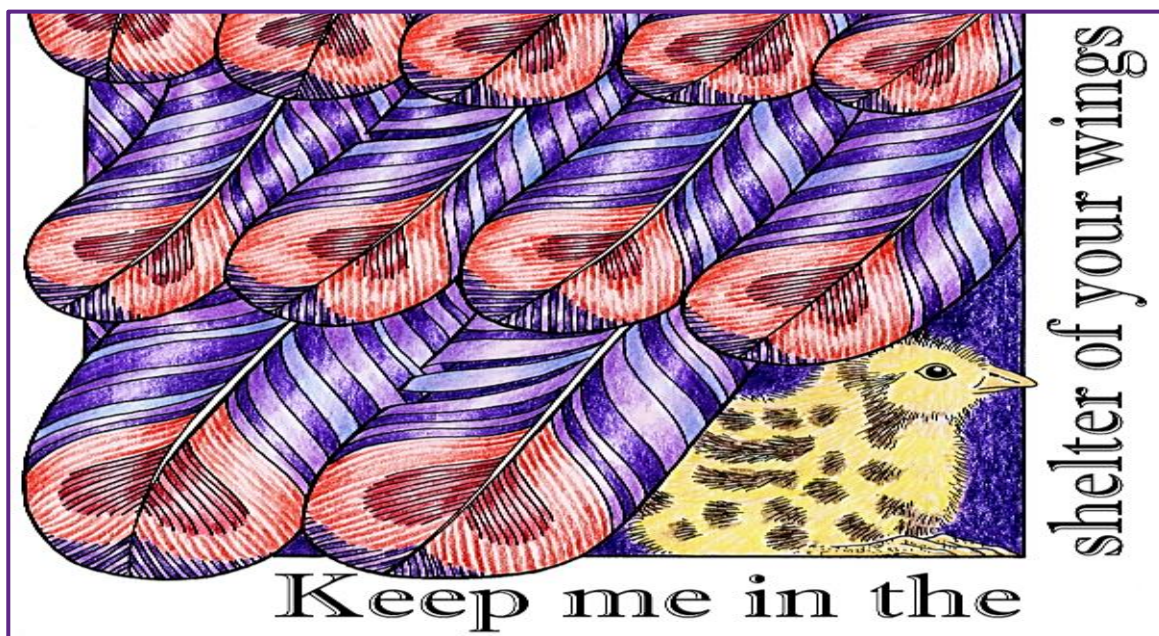


EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Lombard Street, Eynsham OX29 4HT



SUNDAY 28th FEBRUARY

SERVICE ON ZOOM
at 10.30 a.m.

Lent: Giving It Up - Giving up on self-realisation (for stepping out in faith)
Readings: Genesis 12: 1-4 and John 3: 1-17

Led by: Revd Dr Zoltan Biro

Zoom Login:

Meeting ID: 753 5934 1499 Password: 024518

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/75359341499?pwd=U1lYRzk3N1ppeTJDcjVPWG5kNFQwZz09>

IF YOU ARE NOT ONLINE YOU CAN ACCESS ANY OF OUR ZOOM EVENTS BY TELEPHONE. Simply call one of the numbers below and follow the prompts: you will just need the **Meeting ID** and **Password** to hand (but you *don't* have to enter the very long number):

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

OTHER SERVICES ON SUNDAY

8.10 a.m. BBC Radio 4 Service
11.15 a.m. Sunday Worship for Lent
1.15 p.m. BBC 1 Songs of Praise

Monday to Friday - Short Service

9.45 a.m. BBC Radio 4 LW

DAILY HOPE - 0800 804 8044

Music, prayers and reflections plus full worship services: 24 hours a day.

LENT

'PAUSE & PRAY'

WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYERS

at 8.00 a.m. 'Journey to Jerusalem'
readings and reflections from Luke's
Gospel - about 15 minutes.

Monday 1st March - Luke 12:22-34
(*St David's Day*)

Tuesday 2nd - Luke 12:35-48

Wednesday 3rd - Luke 12:49-13:5

Thursday 4th - Luke 13:10-21

Friday 5th - Luke 13:22-35

WEDNESDAYS AT 12.00 NOON

'Worship in the Wilderness' - 25 minutes.

SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER

at 8.00 p.m. about 15 Minutes

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TUESDAYS

(23rd Feb - 30th March)

7.00 - 8.00 p.m.

Join Nick Wood and others on Zoom to reflect together on Rowan Williams' book 'Being Disciples'.

Zoom login same for all the above:

Meeting ID: 815 4844 7151

Passcode: 952712

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81548447151?pwd=SExsditUT0kxNHVRU1JKdWFOntdwdz09>

LENT QUIET DAY

Saturday 6th March 2021 10 - 1.00 p.m.
with breaks. More details from Zoltan or Sheila.

Zoom Login:

Meeting ID: 821 2089 8795

Passcode: 994274

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

EBC DEACONS MEETING

10.30 a.m. on Tuesdays. 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>

ADVANCE NOTICE

A Church Meeting will be held on **Sunday March 21st** after the morning service. This will be an ordinary Church Meeting, in place of the AGM which should have been on that day: because of Covid this will be later in the year.

BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

Joan Lang (3rd), Riley (20th), Ethan (27th)

Birthdays can't be cancelled,

We all have one each year.

They stack up like a tower,
Sometimes we think "Oh dear".

We cannot meet in lockdown,

Our plans will have to wait,

We'll have a "knees-up" next year

To mark a double date.

Mary Thomas

(January 2021)

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 5th March 2021

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. The event with the theme "**Build on a Strong Foundation**" and prepared by the women of Vanuatu, was to have been hosted by EBC.

Orders of service are available for 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.

The services below are being livestreamed on the day and will also be available anytime on YouTube - [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). The World Day of Prayer website <https://www.wwdp.org.uk/> also has details of any local virtual events.

VIRTUAL SERVICES FOR 'DAY OF PRAYER' 5th MARCH 2021

Venue	Link	Time
St Thomas Becket Church Bridford, Exeter	This service will be conducted via telephone. 5 or 10 minutes before the Service begins dial 0333 011 0616 and enter the code 334 7721 followed by the hash key when asked.	14:30
Guildford Baptist Church Millmead Centre, Millmead, Guildford	Livestream link:- https://www.guildfordbaptist.org/	14:00
The Most Holy Redeemer Church Billericay	If you would like to watch the livestream you can do so by following this You Tube link: https://youtu.be/29u_QmIDloo	10:30
Truro Methodist Church	Go to http://www.truromethodist.org.uk/ and follow the link on the Home page/	14:00

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.**

A prayer from Vanuatu, the South Pacific island who prepared this year's service.

Coconut prayer

Praying while looking at a coconut from that life giving tree.

Its water refreshes, **Lord refresh us in your love.** Its inner flesh feeds, **Lord feed us in your love.** Its oil is nourishing, **Lord nourish us in your love.** Its coir from the shell can be woven, **Lord wrap us around in your love.** Its leaves and trunk can build good houses, **Lord build in us the knowledge of your love.**

So, we here on earth can be witness to your Love, given to us through your life-giving tree, the cross. Amen.

(Christine Miles)

The cross is more than a piece of jewellery (Mark 8:31-38)

“If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own ways, take up your cross, and follow me.” (v. 34, NLT)

As 21st century Christians we are so accustomed to the symbol of the cross that we often overlook how disturbing the prospect of taking it up would have been for the disciples. For them, the cross was a horrific symbol of subjugation, not a pendant to be worn. Having seen Jesus’ miracles, experienced his magnetic personality as they followed him, and watched him draw enthusiastic crowds, it would have been totally natural for them to assume that Jesus would somehow bring an end to the harsh Roman rule.

Yet in today’s reading Jesus shocked and disappointed them, that contrary to their hopes and expectations he has no plans to rule, but to serve, suffer, and eventually be killed. It was the worst possible thing Jesus could have said. No wonder that the hot-headed Peter reprimanded him. However, Jesus’ response to Peter – that his way of the cross may well be their future too – shocked the disciples even more deeply. And as if that were not enough, he continues with even more unexpected and totally unforeseen news: to save your life you must lose it for the sake of the gospel.

This news was so contrary to the disciple’s expectations and so difficult to comprehend that Jesus would have to repeat it twice more in chapters 9 and 10 subsequently. It was a bitter pill for the disciples to swallow, but it was Jesus’ way of helping them understand that “my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways.” This was necessary, so at the end they

understand, that the whole point of Jesus’ ministry is to give his life for the salvation of all humanity.

By our human nature we want to be prosperous, strong, successful and influential. Jesus has other priorities. He, on the other hand, came to serve, not to be served. His ways are not our ways and if we are honest, we accepted this. Yet the challenge for us is not that Jesus is the servant king, but that he invites us to follow him and his ways.

Over the two millennia of Church history there were times when the Church dominated the personal, social and political lives of millions of Europeans. The church could command armies to do its will. Its leaders lived like princes, surrounded by wealth and pomp. During these times the Church embraced a “theology of glory” (e.g. heaven on earth) and lost the “theology of the cross” (e.g. to deny oneself).

This self-denial does not mean a forced or fake humility. We do not follow Jesus by degrading ourselves. We are called to do our best with the talents and abilities God has given us. To “deny oneself” means to keep one’s priorities in harmony with the two “great commandments” — love God and love your neighbour (Mk 12:28-31). The challenge is to follow Jesus by living a life of service to others, to serve rather than to control and dominate. The challenge is to recognise when we are being proud of our position and status at the expense of others.

Prayer: *It is too easy, God for faith to become an escape - a way to avoid the pain of being human and alive; or a path to success - a way to persuade the universe to give us the things we want;*

or a system of control - a way to bend others to our will. But the faith you offer is different, Jesus, more dangerous and compelling. It is the faith that carries the cross, that embraces death and lays itself down for the sake of others. Help us to recognise this. Amen.

Zoltan

PRAYER

Please remember in prayer those of our EBC family facing difficulties at the moment due to illness. Those who are worried about their own health or that of family members. Pray for those who are feeling isolated because of the continuing pandemic restrictions, or who are finding things difficult because of lack of mobility. Pray that we may all know God's presence with us every day.

"Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings " Psalm 17:8 (NKJV)

Christ the Hiding Place

The birds have their nests
and the foxes their holes.
But you were homeless, Lord Jesus,
with nowhere to rest your head.
And yet you were a hiding-place where
the sinner could flee.
Today you are still such a hiding-place,
and I flee to you.
I hide myself under your wings, and
your wings cover the multitude of
my sins.

Soren Kierkegaard (1813 -1855)

ASYLUM WELCOME

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

EYNESHAM COMMUNITY LARDER

Anyone finding it difficult to buy the food they need can request help. 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.

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

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eynsham.baptists@gmail.com

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Tel: 07554012535

rccarley@outlook.com

MINISTER: Revd. Dr. Zoltan Biro

Tel: 01865 881670

Mob: 07846 653457

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

linmiller25@gmail.com

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

