

# EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Lombard Street, Eynsham OX29 4HT

*When everything else is shut, God is open!*



## SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH

**SERVICE ON ZOOM**  
at 10.30 a.m.

**Led by:** Angie Cox and Maureen Thompson

**Lent: Giving it Up** - Giving up superiority (for crossing social boundaries)

*Reading: John 4: 5-42*

*Songs: 'You laid aside your majesty', 'Just as I am', 'We are one in the Spirit'  
and 'Brother, sister, let me serve you'.*

**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:

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

**The following will be used in our Sunday service:**

We are one in the Spirit,  
We are one in the Lord,  
We are one in the Spirit,  
We are one in the Lord,  
And we pray that all unity  
may one day be restored:

*And they'll know we are Christians  
by our love, by our love.  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians  
by our love.*

We will walk with each other,  
We will walk hand in hand,  
We will walk with each other,  
We will walk hand in hand,  
And together we'll spread the news  
That God is in our land.

*And they'll know we are Christians .....*

We will work with each other,  
We will work side by side,  
We will work with each other,  
We will work side by side,  
And we'll guard each one's dignity  
And save each one's pride:

*And they'll know we are Christians .....*

All praise to the Father,  
from who all things come,  
And all praise to Christ Jesus,  
His only Son,  
And all praise to the Spirit  
Who makes us one:

*And they'll know we are Christians .....*

*\* Peter Scholtes  
(1938–2009)*

**If anyone does not join Zoom, but would like to see the words of the hymns used on Sundays, please contact one of the Deacons and ask to borrow a copy of the 2 hymn books we use in church.**

**OTHER SERVICES**

**SUNDAY**

8.10 a.m. BBC Radio 4  
11.30 a.m. BBC 1 Lent Worship  
1.15 p.m. BBC 1 Songs of Praise

**MONDAY TO FRIDAY**

9.45 a.m. BBC Radio 4 LW

**DAILY HOPE - 0800 804 8044**

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

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**LENT**

**'PAUSE & PRAY' on zoom**

**WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYERS**

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

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup>** - Luke 14:1-14

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>** - Luke 14:15-24

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>** - Luke 14:25-35

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>** - Luke 15:1-10

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup>** - Luke 15:11-32

**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** (23<sup>rd</sup> Feb - 30<sup>th</sup> 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 FOR ALL THE ABOVE:**

Meeting ID: 815 4844 7151

Passcode: 952712

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81548447151?pwd=SExsditUT0kxNHVRU1JKdWFoNTdwdz09>

## **EBC DEACONS MEETING**

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

## **ZOOM BIBLE STUDY**

**11.00 a.m. on Thursdays.** All are welcome. We are currently studying the book of Revelation.

Meeting ID: 821 2089 8795

Passcode: 994274

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

## **ADVANCE NOTICE OF CHURCH MEETING**

**Sunday March 21<sup>st</sup>** An ordinary Church Meeting will be held on zoom after the morning service.

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## **ASYLUM WELCOME**

Donations are still needed please. Speak to Marcus Thompson on 01865 881808 for more information.

## **EYNHAM COMMUNITY LARDER**

Anyone who is finding it difficult to buy the food they need can request help: call Bob Thiele on 07738 063083 or email [eynshamhelp@gmail.com](mailto:eynshamhelp@gmail.com) **Donation points** in Co-op, Spar and the Market Garden.

## **THE GATEHOUSE**

**SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> MARCH 9 - 12 noon**  
FOOD DONATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED so please drop them off at 15 Newland Street on 14<sup>th</sup>, **but note that Gatehouse is still only accepting shop-packaged food: sandwich ingredients, bread, biscuits & cakes.**

**The Gatehouse** offers free support for adults aged 25+ who are homeless, vulnerably housed, on low income and/or looking for company and

community. For more information see <http://oxfordgatehouse.org/>

**Clothing donations.** Due to limited storage capacity and rapidly fluctuating availability, anyone who would like to donate clothing should first email [clothes@oxfordgatehouse.org](mailto:clothes@oxfordgatehouse.org) to check that any items they want to donate are needed at that specific time, and, if so, to make arrangements with Gatehouse for dropping them off. Priority items are blankets, sleeping bags, men's gloves (fleece/waterproof), men's trousers and jogging bottoms, men's boots, shoes, trainers, and rucksacks.

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## **PRAYER**

Many of our fellowship, and our families and friends, are hurting in one way or another, whether through illness, bereavement, worry or isolation. Let us hold each other before God in prayer, asking that He will meet our needs and that we may be a blessing to others.

...

Out in the highways and byways  
of life,  
Many are weary and sad;  
Carry the sunshine where darkness  
is rife,  
Making the sorrowing glad.

*Make me a blessing,  
Make me a blessing,  
Out of my life may Jesus shine;  
Make me a blessing,  
O Saviour, I pray,  
Make me a blessing  
to someone today.*

*\* Ira B Wilson  
(1880 - 1950)*

## Is The Ten Commandments still relevant? (Exodus 20:1-17)

**Then God gave the people all these instructions: “I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery... I lavish unfailing love for a thousand generations on those who love me and obey my commands. (vs. 1&6, NLT)**

God creates, names, and calls us and then he continues to recreate us. We aim to express our new creation, yet we regularly fail to live up to his name. Some misplaced desire, some grief, some reckless act takes over and we find ourselves lost and afraid. Throughout the history Christian writers compared this *losing-sight-of-God* with “wandering in the wilderness”.

Often, we wander through life blissfully unaware that we lost ourselves, our destination, and God. We forget that life is bigger than us and at the end all we are left with is our grief over what we have lost, to which we cling with all our might. While all this time God seeks again (and again) to call us, to embrace us within a community of fellow travellers, to provide us with a place and a way of living, and to say to us “*This is what you were made for.*”

By the time Israel gets the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai they have already experienced how God has liberated them from slavery and set them on a journey through the wilderness. They encountered thirst and hunger, and God has provided sweet water and bread from heaven. They have been attacked and have been victorious, and they have finally reached Sinai. This is where God makes a pact with Israel: Israel will become God’s beloved people, a

priestly kingdom and a holy nation, as long as they keep their end of the agreement.

Interestingly, from the very beginning of the Ten Commandments God makes it clear that they were always part of the story of God’s intention for humanity. God begins by identifying Himself as the one “who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery,” (v.2). This statement not only identifies God through his actions but also remind the people of who *they* are: the ones whom God delivered (v.6).

But if take a closer look, we can notice that The Decalogue reaches farther back. The commandment to “Honour your father and mother, so that your days may be long *in the land that the Lord your God is giving you,*” recalls the covenant with Abraham and Sarah to whom that land was first promised. And in verse 4, the phrases used (“heaven above,” “earth beneath,” and “water under the earth”) resembles the language of the first creation narrative. The God who separated those waters at the creation is the only God who is worthy of worship.

Looking at the Ten Commandments from this perspective it becomes clear that from the *beginning* God’s destination was Sinai. The ultimate destination for the Israelites, of course, is Canaan, the land that God promised to Abraham. But before they can arrive there, they must get to Sinai.

The whole journey, from creation forward, has been leading to Sinai. It is at this place that God shows the Israelites the harmonious world in which they are meant to live and calls them to

live in it. It is as if God is saying: *this is what you were made for. You were not made to wander, to be afraid, to hunger and thirst, to be lost. You were made to live in this community of justice, in right relationship with your God.*

Of course, we fail, but Sinai serves as a signpost, ever reminding us of the sacred community for which we were made. Amen.

**Prayer:** *All heaven and earth proclaim the majesty of God's creative power! Praise God for the amazing and awesome beauty. He has given us instructions to live in harmony and peace. In his commandments, God showed us way to respect one another. So, rejoice in God's goodness and praise his steadfast love for us. Amen.*

**Zoltan**

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### **Shared by Pam Breeze**

#### **A Gardener's Reflection**

First look at the weeds:

Weed out gossip  
Weed out laziness  
Weed out indifference  
And weed out pride.

Then plant five rows of peas:  
Patience, Peace, Promptness,  
Politeness and Prayer.

Then plant five rows of lettuce:

Let us be faithful  
Let us be loving  
Let us be useful  
Let us be trustful  
And let us be grateful.

Then we can turn to the reliable turnips

Turn up on time  
Turn up with a smile  
Turn up with a new idea  
And turn up with new determination.

### **EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH**

Tel: 01865 882203

[eynsham.baptists@gmail.com](mailto:eynsham.baptists@gmail.com)

**Hall Bookings: Rebecca Carley**

Tel: 07554012535

[rccarley@outlook.com](mailto: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](mailto:linmiller25@gmail.com)

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

\* 'We are one in the Spirit' and 'Make me a blessing' are used under under CCLI Licence No. 170465)

