

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Lombard Street, Eynsham OX29 4HT



SUNDAY 2nd MAY

SERVICE ON ZOOM
at 10.30 a.m.

Led by: Janet Gaukroger and Richard Crippen
Made new at Easter: Caring new community
Readings: John 17: 13 - 21 and 1 Peter 4: 1 - 4, 10, 11

Zoom login:

Meeting ID: 753 5934 1499 **Password:** 024518

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/75359341499?pwd=U1IYRzk3N1ppeTJDcjVPWG5kNFQwZz09>

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** (*but not 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

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.

MONDAY PRAYERS

7.00 p.m. on zoom

15 minutes - all are welcome.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

11.00 a.m. on zoom

About an hour - all are welcome.

Login details:

Meeting ID: 821 2089 8795

Passcode: 994274

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

You can also join by 'phone:

Dial 0203 481 5240 and when prompted enter the Meeting ID: 821 2089 8795 and then Passcode: 994274

TWEENIES BREAKFAST CLUB

Saturday 8th May 10.00 - 12 noon

DEACONS MEETING

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

CHURCH MEETING

Sunday 9th May This will be held on zoom after the morning service.

BAPTIST ASSEMBLY ONLINE 2021

Thursday 13th - Sunday 16th May

For more information or to book go to: www.baptist.org.uk/baptistassembly

EYNESHAM CHURCHES HOLIDAY CLUB PLANT SALE



How's your potting going?!

Please do help with the pop-up plant and cake sale on **Saturday 15th May 10 - 1.00 p.m.**

- 1) provide plants
 - 2) bake cakes
 - 3) help set up on the day
 - 4) help staff the sale - taking money, advising about plants, selling cakes - and being a friendly, welcoming presence to new people in the village!
- If you are able to do any of these, please contact Chris Sugden: 07808 297043 or csugden@ocrpl.org**

Birthdays in May

Audrey G. - 15th

Jolyon - 17th

Rose - 20th

Jackie - 24th

Janet - 28th

Pamela T. - 30th

David - 30th

David celebrates his 80th birthday this month.

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. Call Bob Thiele 07738 063083 or email eynshamhelp@gmail.com **Donation points** in Co-op, Spar, Market Garden and Tesco.



The theme this year is “making a stand”, with communities in Kenya and across the world, against the climate chaos, that has so affected their lives. To quote Christian Aid.... *“Kitui County in Eastern Kenya was already in the grip of a climate emergency. Severe drought followed by extreme and unpredictable changes in weather has destroyed crops, killed livestock, and continues to threaten livelihoods. Then the pandemic hit. We know ourselves that water and washing hands have been vital in helping to save lives during the pandemic. But what if there isn’t any? What if the nearest source is miles away on foot? This pandemic and climate crisis impact us all but more so people living in poverty in countries like Kenya.”*

We are being asked to give money to help people access life-saving water in Kenya. Together we can work with communities to make sure everyone has easy access to reliable water sources now and in the future by building an earth dam. Huge basins are dug in the ground to collect and store rain water. It’s then piped into taps for people to draw from simple, sustainable, and ingenious!

There will not be a door-to-door collection for Christian Aid in Eynsham this year, but donations can be made on line or by post, or over the phone. Go to <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

Please feel free to contact me if you need more details. Thank you.

Maureen Thompson

PRAYER

Prayer isn’t about trying to persuade a reluctant God to do something, or to craft a perfect set of words to win God over It starts in the most ordinary, instinctive reactions to everyday life:

Gratitude: good things are always happening to us, however small.

Wonder: we often see amazing things (e.g. in nature) but pass them by.

Need: we bump into scores of needs every day.

Sorrow: we’ve messed up.

Prayer is taking those instincts of gratitude, wonder, need, sorrow and the desire to help, and bringing them before God

(Based on ideas in ‘Prayer, a simple guide’ from Diocese of Oxford)

Twin Your Vaccine

Because Covid vaccines are free via the NHS, Revd Scott Patterson and his wife Rowan decided to ask people who could have afforded to pay for it if asked, to donate to UNICEF, the United Nations' children's charity. UNICEF has its own vaccination programme and wants to vaccinate **two billion people** by the end of 2021.

It’s fantastic that already half the adults in the UK have received their first Covid vaccination (each will cost between £4 and £30 depending on the type you receive). But there are countries who can’t afford to vaccinate their people and whose infrastructure may not even include refrigeration in places. You can read more on this link:

<https://www.unicef.org/supply/covax-ensuring-global-equitable-access-covid-19-vaccines> or go to

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rowanpatterson>

Love vs. fear (1 John 4:7-21)

And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So, we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence... Such love has no fear because perfect love expels all fear... We love each other because he loved us first. (vs. 17-19, NLT)

It all begins with God's love. In case we ever forget this basic, essential fact of our faith, 1 John makes it crystal clear. God is the source and the meaning of love. God *is* love. God loves as the sun shines and love captures who God is.

Our text highlights that God's love is not some abstract concept, it is passion expressed in action. God made his love real by sending Jesus to live among us and to die for us. God continues to show us love through Jesus' life-giving presence among us. If ever we should question whether God truly does love us, the gift and witness of the Holy Spirit should be a confirmation.

God's love does not depend on our initiative or on our worthiness. We do not have to reach out to God or even believe in God in order to be loved. We do not have to clean up our act before God can love us. We do not have to measure up to some standard to be lovable. No, God showers love on us whether we deserve it or not. And honestly, who could ever deserve such amazing, immeasurable love?

The writer insists that the more fully and completely we know God, the more the immense reality of God's love dawns on us. When we open ourselves to the warmth and light of God's presence, we find that even our deepest, darkest secrets and the ugliest parts of ourselves are not beyond God's reach. Nothing in us is so broken or so filthy

that God is unwilling or unable to touch. God embraces us as we are, loves us as we are, and works in us to make us clean and whole and new.

However, the opposite of love for John is not hate, but fear. The idea encapsulated in verse 18 that "*Perfect love expels all fear*", is about the relationship between believers and God who is creator and judge of the world. If God would be understood exclusively as the God of power, or even God of justice, then we would only approach God with fear. But if we know Him first and foremost as the God of love, then we approach God with confidence.

The way the writer describes our connection with this divine love is key. It is **not** that "we *ought* to love because he first loved us" as if God's love were the ground for a *new requirement*. Instead, it is that "we *can* love because he first loved us," because God's love is the ground for a *new opportunity*. Even our imperfect human love has the power to dispel fear. Watch the growth of a child and notice that the child who can give love is the child who has received love. Love grows from love while from indifference only grows coldness, fear, and withdrawal.

Prayer: *God of all dominion and power, God of love; we can love only because you first loved us. Empower us by your Holy Spirit to be and do the same. When we rest in your love, fear - though present - cannot overpower us. Help us to rest there always.*

Amen.

Zoltan

My Garden?

I thought I owned a garden
A lovely place to be
A bird said, "Beg your pardon,
"This land belongs to me!"

A squirrel dropped a nut on me
Which wasn't what I'd planned
"Get lost!", said he, "for can't you see
"You trespass on my land?"

A pheasant flapped and
squawked so loud
I scarce could hear me think!
"Get off my ground, for two's a crowd!"
He kicked up such a stink!

The wild-life around me
So loudly do protest!
They growl and screech 'till I can see
That I am just a guest!

Nigel Beeton
(Parish Pump)



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EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Tel: 01865 882203

eynsham.baptists@gmail.com

Hall Bookings: Rebecca Carley

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

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 881780

(subject to space/editorial discretion).