

# Connected

*Two Churches, one Lord*

**Christ Church and Emmanuel**  
Weston-super-Mare



## *This Week...*

- Prayer for Christmas Services
- Christmas Invitations
- Church Services Details
- 'Together In Heart'

## *Verse For The Week*

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor.

*(Isaiah 61: 1a)*

## *Watch today's service*

at [www.ccwsm.org.uk](http://www.ccwsm.org.uk)

Go to the 'Church Life' menu and click on the 'Sunday Services' page.

## Contact Details

Rev. Tom Webber (709343)  
(Day off - Tuesday)

Church Office (641016)  
(8.30-12.30 Mon-Fri)

e: [office@ccwsm.org.uk](mailto:office@ccwsm.org.uk)  
w: [www.ccwsm.org.uk](http://www.ccwsm.org.uk)

## Christmas Prayer

I am so pleased to say that we will be having "live" Christmas services (did I ever think I'd be saying that this time last year?). They will be on the website, and we have invitation cards for you to give to friends or to deliver to entire roads if you'd like to (see Notices).

This is always an important time of year for us as church; but especially so this year. I'm inviting you to join me on "Zoom" this Monday evening (14th) at 7.30pm to pray with me for these services. Don't worry if you've never done this sort of thing before; you won't be expected to say anything at all if you'd prefer not to. You'll need to install Zoom on your computer (if you don't have it already) by [clicking this link](#) and downloading the 'Zoom Client'. Then put in the Zoom code for the meeting:

Meeting ID: 550 999 6945  
Passcode: xbw4cy



## Sermon Snippets

*Isaiah 61: 1-4*

This week we're looking at one of the prophecies in Isaiah about a Messiah to come. Jesus actually claimed this very prophecy for himself in Luke's gospel (chapter 4). The interesting thing for me has been reflecting on who this Messiah came for. It wasn't the privileged, rich or famous but quite the opposite - the "poor, the broken hearted and the prisoners". Those are the ones he came to help; to "bandage them up", to help and heal them. As followers of this Messiah we have the same role - to be "living God's love" to those who need it. . . . but also to reflect on those areas of our own lives where we need help and so to be "living God's love" by rediscovering the Messiah's help and guidance for us too.

*Tom*

# Prayer Pointers

## Monday

As we get ready for Christmas, give thanks to the Lord that he so loved the world that He sent His son to Earth to save us from our sins.

## Tuesday

Pray for the police and local authorities as they face the difficult task of enforcing responsible behaviour from the public over the festive period. Pray that the Christmas celebrations will not lead to a big increase in infections.

## Wednesday

With the election in the USA finally resolved, pray for reconciliation there, and that the USA will once again become a force for Christian virtues in the world.

## Thursday

Pray for those who in these dark winter days are far from home, friendless or lonely; particularly pray for those still having to shield from the pandemic. Pray also for those who have been bereaved this year and are facing a first Christmas without someone they love.

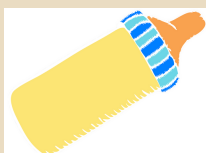
## Friday

At this time of 'peace and good will to all', let us pray for less violence in the world in the year ahead. In the words of the carol, 'It Came Upon a Midnight Clear', we pray: "Oh hush the noise ye men of strife and hear the angels sing".

## Saturday

As we come together over Christmas, let us give thanks to the Lord for our homes and the love of our families, and pray that when two or three are gathered in His name, He will be among us.

A huge Thankyou to everyone for your prayerful support and good wishes at the arrival of our new granddaughter.



Bonnie Joy was born on Saturday afternoon and is doing really well. She has a good set of lungs that are already denying mummy and daddy sleep! Chris has been fortunate to have lots of cuddles already but sadly, as for many families in these Covid times, Tom has only been able to have a 'through the window' introduction. He plans to make up for this once restrictions ease!

Tom & Chris

# Notices

## *Invitations to Christmas Services*

There are still plenty of invitations to our Christmas services available for collection from the Christ Church lobby. Instead of asking people to deliver to every property in our two parishes, we are suggesting that people take a few to give out personally to friends and neighbours.

However if you still feel you would like to deliver to your entire road, please let Phil in the office know so that enough cards can be printed and also that we can avoid delivery duplication!



## *Christmas Postage Stamps*

Please save your used Christmas, Special British Issue and Foreign Postage Stamps for the Bible Society. The Stamp Box will be on the Christ Church foyer table until mid January.

## *Bible Notes*

The January 2021 Bible Notes have now arrived from all three publishers and may be collected from the table in the Christ Church foyer during normal office hours (8.30 - 12.30), or during services, up to Sunday December 20th. Any remaining in the box after that date will be delivered before January 1st, by whatever means is available.

## *Christians Against Poverty Donations*

If you happen to be shopping online on Amazon, there is a list of charities that you can ask for a donation to be sent to. CAP is listed as one of those charities.

## *Crash Team Contacts*

If you are a member of either of our two churches and are in need of some practical assistance, please call the Crash Team:

- Liz Cole (01934 782886)
- or
- Jane Milsom (01934 417776)

# Coffee after the Service...

## *Together In Heart*

*Julie Andrews*

Robins singing in the morning,  
The sky shines bright in winter's glow;  
Frost is nipping at our noses,  
The seasons running in normal flow.

Trees are shedding their leafy glory  
Before they go to sleep.  
All is well in the natural world;  
These are gifts we can hold deep.

In human time we are in turmoil:  
The world straining from grave disease,  
Unprecedented illness sweep through our land,  
And on earth we sadly grieve.

But if we listen carefully,  
We know just what to do:  
Stay in, stay safe, stay separate,  
Then we will all win through.

Apart we can be united  
In every single way;  
Caring more for one another  
With every passing day.

Seeing clearly the needs of others,  
We will share deeply in our woes;  
Instinctively knowing how it feels  
As devastation grows.

It's hard to find the positives  
In this situation now so grave,  
But somewhere, deep inside ourselves,  
We can find a piece of brave.

Try not to look to what you are missing,  
For time will soon pass by;  
Instead count all your blessings,  
And thank God, from up on high.

Look forward into brighter times  
When this virus trial will cease,  
And we can breathe more freely  
And know a time of peace.

So for now let's link together,  
In hearts if not in touch;  
A united family we now be  
As we go through so very much.

Look kindly on your neighbours,  
Be considerate to one another;  
And be the day that smiles brightly upon  
Every, Sister, Friend and Brother.

*You can see Julie reading this by watching the 6th December Service on the Christ Church website.*

**ROC**  
WESTON-SUPER-MARE  
**CHRISTMAS CAROLS**  
Help us bring light and hope to our town this  
Christmas by joining us for a virtual  
Christmas event filmed on the  
**GRAND PIER**  
5:30 and 7:30pm, Tuesday  
**22nd DECEMBER**  
MORE DETAILS AND  
LINK TO FOLLOW



# Another coffee, anyone?

## Reminder of December Services

### Christ Church:

#### 13 December

10.30 - Morning Service

2pm onwards - Walk Through Nativity (ticket only)

#### 20 December

10.30 - Online Service (no service in church)

5pm - Carols by Candlelight (ticket only)

7pm - Carols by Candlelight (ticket only)

#### 24 December

4pm - Christingle Service (ticket only)

#### 25 December

10.30 - Family Communion (ticket only)

#### 27 December

10.30 - Online Service (no service in church)

To reserve seats for the 'ticket only' services shown above, please phone or email Phil at the Church Office to avoid disappointment.

The services at Christ Church, with the exception of the Nativity on the 13th and the 7pm Carol Service on the 20th, will be available to view online. You can watch the services either on the Christ Church website or by accessing them via a smart TV if you are used to using that. To view services on the website, either [click this link](#), or go to Sunday Services under the Church Life heading.

### Emmanuel:

#### 13 December

10.30 - Morning Service

#### 17 December

2.30pm - Carols in Church Square

#### 18 December

7pm - Carols by Candlelight

#### 20 December

10.30 - Holy Communion

#### 25 December

10.30 - Holy Communion

#### 27 December

10.30 - Morning Service

It will not be necessary to reserve seats for any of the services at Emmanuel.

## Connected During Lockdown!!

Can anyone beat the connection made by two members of the 2019 Alpha Group last week? After Alpha ended, the group has continued as a Life Group and we have tried to keep in contact during this year by meeting as a group of six outside initially, once in Emmanuel Church and once in the Spire Centre but, since the end of October, we have only been able to chat on the phone or meet individually.

Elaine and Jo met for a walk in the woods last week and were having a conversation about politics (as you do!) when Elaine mentioned that she was living in Leeds when the Yorkshire coal mines were being closed down. The conversation continued like this:

Jo: I went to University in Leeds.

Elaine: So did I! Which year did you start there?

Jo: 1973.

Elaine: So did I! Where did you live in your first year?

Jo: In one of the halls of residence – Weetwood Hall in Headingley.

Elaine: So did I!

Neither of us can remember the other from those days but you can imagine – the grins on our faces were growing wider and wider as we racked our brains to remember the names of room mates and friends, places where we'd studied, socialised and gone to church etc. and we could scarcely believe it when we discovered we were both part of a very small group of girls who watched the Royal Wedding of November 1973 (can you remember whose?) in the lounge at Weetwood Hall!

What a special afternoon of walking “down Memory Lane”! We're meeting up again soon, Jo armed with some photos to jog the memories a bit further. Thank you, Lord, for friendships old and new!

Jo

