

Connected

Sunday 17th October 2021
20th Sunday after Trinity

Verse For The Week

"The Lord has done this for me," Elizabeth said. "In these days he has shown his favour and taken away my disgrace among the people."

Luke 1: 25)

Sermon Snippets

Wonderful Timing (Luke 1: 5-25)

There were 24 divisions of active priests who lived in their own villages tending their smallholdings and coming to Jerusalem once or twice a year.

Zechariah came with his division, Abijah, and was amazed that he drew the lot for the very sacred duty to enter the inner sanctum and burn incense in prayer to God. It was a once in a life time duty and called for him to pronounce the blessing afterwards on the gathered crowds of worshippers in the Temple.

God spoke to him at that moment granting him and his wife their dearest wish, which was also an important part in a much bigger plan.

Sometimes we are called to play our part in God's incredible plan by following His direction. That means listening, expecting and then acting, just like Zechariah.

Watch this Sunday's Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

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

Covid Safety Update



At our two churches we've been reviewing what to recommend in terms of Covid safety. We want to balance keeping safe with making church a relaxed and friendly space for all.

At Christ Church we're suggesting that masks don't need to be worn as you enter church and take your seat – but we would be grateful if you could wear one during the singing of hymns as this is the time when the risk of spreading the virus is at its greatest. We will still invite you to use hand sanitiser as you enter church. Of course you are welcome to wear a mask throughout, and socially distanced seating is available on the right hand aisle. At the same time we recognise that for various reasons some prefer not to wear a mask.

At the time of writing, the practice at Emmanuel is also under review and I would imagine will go in a similar direction.

Without strict rules to follow, we have to navigate our way through to what seems best for the whole church family - thank you to all for your forbearance and understanding!

Tom

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Prayer Pointers

Sunday

Praise God today for His love and mercy towards us. Pray for those who hear the Word of God in church or through the live streaming that they, too, may know His love and mercy.

Monday

We pray for families and friends. Remember each of them by name before God today.

Tuesday

We give thanks for the ministry of the Barnabas Fund and pray for those who receive the food parcels that are being despatched from the UK that aim to save a life with food. Pray, too, that each recipient may also know the love of God for them.

Wednesday

Give thanks for medical staff who work in hospitals abroad in places of conflict and violence. Pray for their safety and their witness as they seek to bring wholeness and healing in Christ's name.

Thursday

Pray for our schools, teachers and support staff – particularly for the Preschool that meets in Christ Church each weekday and for the church links with the local Junior School.

Friday

At this time of increasing financial and material need, we pray for the work of the Foodbank and the work of Christians Against Poverty in our town.

Saturday

Remember before God those who will be leading our church services tomorrow, the musicians and those who open up the buildings and those who welcome at the door. Pray for God's blessing on those who hear the Word of God maybe for the very first time.

Claire Gooch

Many of you will know that Mike and Pat Hurst's daughter Claire passed away recently. I know from things you have told me how much she was loved as part of our church family. My apologies for not mentioning it in last Sunday's service. Do continue in your prayers for Mike and Pat at this time.

Tou

Claire's funeral will be at 12.20pm on Monday 18th October at North Devon Crematorium. If you would like to join us, the link for the live streaming is below:

<https://watch.obitus.com/>

Notices

Emmanuel Harvest Service

Emmanuel are supporting the Harvest Barnabas Appeal at this Sunday's service, 17 October at 10.30. We have been given cardboard boxes to fill with chick peas, lentils, rice, salt, whole meal flour and soap - in bars and not fragranced. Only these items please, and they must be in packages, not jars, tins, or cardboard boxes.

If you bring items to church we can put them straight into the boxes for Tom to bless in the service. Barnabas Fund would also welcome a financial contribution towards the shipping of these goods. Please give this to Carl.

In addition, we are going to have a display of fresh flowers for Harvest. We do not have a Flower Rota for 2021, but if anyone would like to contribute to flowers for Harvest and the weeks to Advent, please either give cash or a cheque to Carl, or make an online payment using the reference Flowers to PCC EMMANUEL WSM, Sort Code: 60-23-32, Account number 82608393. Thank you.

Meg & Carl

Tom and Chris away

Please note that Tom and Chris are away from Monday 18th to Friday 22nd October. Please do remember them and their family in your prayers.

Bible Notes 2022

A reminder that the deadline for ordering the Bible Notes for 2022 is this Sunday, 17 October. Click [here](#) to order and pay via the Christ Church website, or contact Sandra directly on 815181 (email: dandswilkes@aol.com). Payment upon ordering please to David White. If you have any queries please see Sandra. Thank you.

Coffee time after the Service...



Ascending the Hill of the Lord (actually, it was Crook Peak)

The Men's Walking Group began Series Two of their adventures on October 7th.

It was the first outing since the lockdowns began. We had a very pleasant afternoon's walk of just under five miles from Compton Bishop. We began at the church which proclaimed a text from Psalm 121. *'I lift my eyes to the hills - from where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord.'*

We ascended Crook Peak for a great panorama from Cardiff to Winscombe via the Quantocks before a gentle stroll back down.

If you'd like to know about future walks please contact Dave Milsom.



Maintenance Help

Thank you to everyone who helped to clear the garden behind the Spire Centre on Saturday. Thank you Lord for good weather and fellowship. So much was achieved! Thank you!



Our next jobs are going to be done during the half term - 25th to 30th October. We will be painting the outside of the Spire Centre. If you can physically help that would be great or if you would like to contribute £35 for a pot of paint that would also help.

If you can help, please have a word with Angie.
(angiegirling@ymail.com)

What's On This Week

Mon 18 Oct

Ladies Together at 2.30pm at Christ Church

Tue 19 Oct

Parish Prayers at 9.30 at Emmanuel Church

The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel Church

Wed 20 Oct

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10.15 at Christ Church
(note - pre-registration is required)

Book Club at 7pm in the Spire Centre

Thu 21 Oct

Welcome Group at 2.30pm at Emmanuel Church

Craft & Chat at 2.30pm in the Spire Centre



Sunday 31st October 4pm - 6pm

We would be very grateful for donations of the following:

- Clean glass jam jars
- Glow sticks
- Wrapped sweets (eg. individual bags of Haribo)

Please either let Nicky know, or bring your donations to the Church Office.

Thank you!