### Christ Church and Emmanuel, Weston-super-Mare

# Connected

Sunday 16th January 2022 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

## The 'I Am' Sayings of Jesus

### Introduction to the Sermon Series

### (John 20: 24-31)

We're going to be thinking about the "life" that Jesus offers all of us – as it's described in John 10: a "life to the full". It got me thinking that it must be more than simply existing in the sense that we're biologically alive . . .but also it's not the sort of life that's the "living it up" that we sometimes hear of. So – what is it then?

The word "life" in John's gospel is always connected with Jesus (or God) – so it's a God-life, or as it's put in our Verse for the Year, a life 'in his name'. It's a life we find when we stop trying to put pleasing ourselves always at the top of our agenda and start to look to God for his strength and direction first and foremost. It's a life that's an adventure and surprisingly good and rewarding. As someone put it: "it is life at its scarcely imagined best". It's a life that we are born into spiritually and then grow and flourish as we mature.

Many of us know this life but would love to grow into it more fully and some of us have yet to begin that journey. Will you use this year to find that "life to the full" that Jesus talked about?

### Watch this Sunday's Service

at <u>www.ccwsm.org.uk</u>

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



Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, <u>and that by</u> <u>believing you may have life in his name.</u>

(John 20: 30, 31)

### Sermon Series Readings

Here is a grid of the readings on which the sermons in this series will be based.

Why not have a read through them to familiarise yourself with these sayings of Jesus?

John 20: 24-31	Introduction to the 'I am' sayings
John 8: 12-20	The Light of the World
John 6: 25-35	The Bread Of Life
John 10: 11-18	The Good Shepherd
John 10: 1-10	The Gate
John 11: 17-27, 38-44	The Resurrection and The Life
John 14: 1-14	The Way, The Truth and The Life
John 15: 1-17	The Vine

# **Prayer Pointers**

### <u>Monday</u>

We pray for Bishop Ruth. We give thanks for all that she does in praying for and supporting the parishes in the Diocese We pray for those who are in the process of choosing a new Diocesan Bishop.

### <u>Tuesday</u>

We pray that people will be inspired to sign up for the Archdeaconry days 'Stories of God's Calling' which are being held online at the start of February. *(see page 3)* 

### <u>Wednesday</u>

We bring the start of Alpha Course before the Lord. We pray that all who will attend this evening will feel inspired by what they hear and will sense an inner longing to learn more.

### <u>Thursday</u>

We continue to pray for refugees, especially those arriving on our shores, that they will be treated with love and care and an understanding of all the traumas they have been through.

### <u>Friday</u>

We pray for all the homeless on our streets and pray they get the support and help they so desperately need. We pray for places like Somewhere To Go and Key Steps as they do their best to provide them with their everyday needs and a warm, friendly and safe place to spend the day.

### <u>Saturday</u>

We pray for all those preparing services this Sunday including all the tech people, prayers, welcomers, readers etc., that our services will be meaningful and full of the Holy Spirit.



# What's On This Week

#### Mon 17 Jan

Ladies Together at 2.30pm in the Spire Centre

#### <u>Tue 18 Jan</u>

Parish Prayers at 09.30 at Emmanuel Church The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel Church

### Wed 19 Jan

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10.15 at Christ Church (pre-registration is required for this event) Alpha Course starts at 7pm in the Spire Centre

### <u>Thu 20 Jan</u>

Welcome Group at 2.30pm at Emmanuel Church Craft & Chat at 2.30pm in the Spire Centre

# Afghanistan Appeal

According to the Disasters Emergency Committee the situation in Afghanistan is very serious indeed. An Afghan winter can be as cold as -12 degrees and 1 million children are at risk of dying from malnutrition this winter. The DEC estimate 95% of the people in Afghanistan do not have enough to eat and only some 9% of the population is vaccinated against Covid.

At both our churches we are making an appeal to raise money as quickly as possible. If you would like to give towards this, information is available on a special page under "Church Life" on the Christ Church website. Simply click on this link -<u>https://ccwsm.org.uk/afghanistan/</u>

To pay by debit / credit card, please scan the QR code below on your smart phone, enter the amount and then choose to Pay Online Securely.

Alternatively, please mark any cash in envelopes or cheques with "Afghanistan appeal".

Thank you.



# Coffee time after the Service...

# God calls... everyone, everywhere

### Archdeaconry Days Sunday 6 to Saturday 12 February 2022

Sometimes, even in church, it can feel as if God only calls 'special people'.

But God calls us all. We are all called to live lives that are true to our Christian faith.

God may call us to a particular role, often for a season only, or sometimes for the rest of our lives.

The 2022 Archdeaconry Days are running from Sunday 6 to Saturday 12 February. We are going to hear from a range of people from across Bath and Wells about their experience of God's calling:

- What has helped people hear their call?
- Have any Bible stories inspired them?
- What about when the call has been far from straightforward?
- Who am I called to be?

#### When:

Sunday 6 February at 3pm – Online Launch Worship led by Bishop Ruth from Taunton Academy

Monday 7 to Friday 11 February – Watch Daily Videos

Saturday 12 February at 10am – Online Archdeaconry Gathering – hosted by Archdeacon of Bath

### To register for the course, please click on this link:

https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/faith/everyday-faith/god-calls-everyone-everywhere/

or search for Bath & Wells Archdeaconry Days. Scroll down and click the 'Sign up here' link.

### An Invitation to Bike Owners

I'm grateful to Dina for passing this email on to us



Hello everyone,

I wanted to give you advanced notification of a FREE bike marking event on Sunday 23rd January, 1:30pm to 3:30pm outside the old ARGOS in the High Street, Weston.

We've run a few of these events and attendance has not been great, so please share with your contacts, family and friends and get them to come down. Using Bike Register direct would cost you more than £10 so it really is worth getting as many people to come down with as many bikes as they want. There is no limit on the number of bikes you can get marked up, so if people can get there with all the family's bikes, we are happy to get them all marked and registered.

Regards, Nick

PCSO 8283 Nick Gough (Weston Town Centre & Ashcombe)

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### **Contact Details**

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