

Connected

Sunday 20th February 2022
2nd Sunday before Lent

Verse For The Week

"I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and will find pasture."

(John 10: 9)

Sermon Snippets

"I am the gate"

(John 10: 1-10)

In this chapter, Jesus shows that he likes to mix his metaphors! He starts off describing himself as the shepherd known by both the gatekeeper and the sheep but the religious leaders don't understand what he's talking about. So he changes the picture and describes himself as the gate the sheep come through to find what they need. Then he moves back to the picture of himself as the good shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep.

Throughout all these pictures, one thing stays the same: we are the sheep, and not just any sheep, we are his sheep. We know Jesus and he knows us. And what will we find when we enter through the gate? Life to the full. The best life possible lived in the presence and care of Jesus, now and forever.

Watch the Morning Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

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

Our new Administrator has been appointed!



Many of you will have heard that Phil, our Administrator, is retiring from the role at the end of March. I'm delighted to announce that Emma Bale – a member of our Christ Church family – is taking on the role from the start of April.

'Church Administrator' is quite a wide ranging job and which is difficult to sum up in a sentence or two. We do have a fairly thorough "job specification" but, in truth, the best description of the role is to be seen to be believed:

... picture a busy Wednesday morning with both Pre-school and Toddlers running – a number of people will pop into the office with requests. . . . then we find out the boiler isn't working properly . . . then someone calls about a funeral . . . then there's something needing changing on the website . . . then someone comes in who looks like they could do with a listening ear for a moment . . .

I could go on, but you get the idea!

It's a job needing many different skills – and we have been blessed with committed, gifted Administrators with (in my time here) both Jane and Phil. We've shared many moments of solving things together with the many things needing doing, and more recently how to run a church during a pandemic! I've found the working relationship with both as one of support and good humour. Most of all I've appreciated their commitment not just to "do the job" but also to be an active part of "Living God's love".

Please do pray for Emma and Phil as they spend time having handover training in March – and of course for Emma as she take up this new role and for Phil as he steps back from a job he has enjoyed over these last five years.

Tom

Prayer Pointers

Monday

Father God, as this week begins help us to follow Christ's example as we pray and immerse ourselves in what are your concerns and priorities, knowing we can have full confidence that your will is done on earth as in heaven.

Tuesday

We praise you Lord for revival of interest in worldwide prayer, thanking you for Andy Page and others we are aware of who are involved in this life-changing ministry. Lord, honour their faithfulness with signs following.

Wednesday

We pray for our Christian and political leaders. Lord, cleanse them from all moral duplicity, self interest and the desire to sometimes lead us by opinion polls rather than spiritual and moral truth. Lord, give our country a Prime Minister and cabinet worthy of their proper responsibilities.

Thursday

We pray against the threat of war in Eastern Europe and any escalation since these prayers were written. Lord, keep the light of true democracy burning bright, and we ask that wisdom might prevail.

Friday

We pray for our much loved and respected Christ Church and Emmanuel leaders as they continue to cope with unusual times and health issues. We pray for ongoing spiritual refreshment and strength. Continually remind them that they have our prayers always.

Saturday

We are aware that many are suffering from long Covid, and others come to mind with health issues and various needs. We pray for healing and the supply of all needs. Lord, give us the knowledge of how we can be part of the answers to their problems, in addition to our prayers.

*Do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything by prayer and
supplication with thanksgiving let
your requests be made known to God.*

(Philippians 4:6)

What's On This Week

Mon 21 Feb

Ladies Together at 12.45pm in the Spire Centre

Tue 22 Feb

Parish Prayers at 09.30 at Emmanuel Church

The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel Church

Wed 23 Feb

Service of the Word at 10.30 at Emmanuel Church

Alpha Course at 7pm in the Spire Centre

Thu 24 Feb

Welcome Group at 2.30pm at Emmanuel Church

Craft & Chat at 2.30pm in the Spire Centre

Notices

Church Office Closed (again!)

Please note that the Church Office will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, 21st and 22nd February.

Spring Maintenance Day

This next week 21st - 26th Feb Christ Church will be doing a spring maintenance and gardening week, the 26th being a cleaning and clearing day. Please see the board in church for jobs or chat with Angie, who is looking forward to working with you.

Life Bookshop Reminder

This is just a reminder that Life Christian Bookshop is open Monday - Saturday, 10am to 1pm.

Bibles, books, cards gifts and much more are available, plus tea and coffee in The Living Room.

Do have a look at their website - www.life-wsm.org, or give them a call on 01934 418109.

Contact Details

Rev. Tom Webber (Day off - Tuesday)

t: (01934) 709343

e: vicar@ccwsm.org.uk

Rev. Larissa Trust (Day off - Tuesday)

t: (07379) 754372

e: curate@ccwsm.org.uk

Church Office (08.30-12.30 Mon-Fri)

t: (01934) 641016

e: office@ccwsm.org.uk

w: www.ccwsm.org.uk