

# Connected

Sunday 24th April 2022  
2nd Sunday of Easter

## Sermon Snippets

John 20: 19-31

### An Anxious Time

There are times when bad things seem to be all around us and we can get anxious that they might happen to us. Then what? There are times when the unexpected surprises us and we don't know what to make of the 'new normal'. Certainly we can understand how events in the world around us lately can raise anxiety levels. But there are also times when we are called to face a challenge whether at work, or in our personal lives, or in our relationships and we are anxious not to fail.

In our reading from John this morning, the friends of Jesus faced all three of those things - danger, surprises and a challenge. Yet they were also told by the risen Jesus of what might help them to meet each of those circumstances - advice we might find useful today.



## Verse For The Week

"On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!'"

John 20: 19

## Annual Parochial Church Meetings

Our annual meetings will be taking place as follows:

Emmanuel:

Sunday 24th April after the service

Christ Church:

Monday 25th April at 7:30pm

The new Christ Church Electoral Roll is currently displayed on the main noticeboard - please check this & advise Emma in the Church Office if any corrections are needed.

At Christ Church we have five vacancies for the PCC (Church Council). This is an important role - please reflect on whether you would like to put yourself forward or maybe suggest it to someone else you think would be good in that role. Nomination forms are available at the back of church or from the Church Office.

If anyone wishes to raise something under 'Any Other Business' we would ask that this is made known to either Tom or the Church Wardens by Friday 22nd April.

You can view the Christ Church Finance Report / 2021 Accounts by visiting: <https://ccwsm.org.uk/2021-accounts/> or [clicking on this link](#)

# What's On This Week

## Sunday 24th April

Emmanuel APCM (after the morning service)

## Monday 25th April

Ladies Together at 2.30pm in the Spire Centre  
Christ Church APCM at 7:30pm in church

## Tuesday 26th April

Parish Prayers at 9.30am at Emmanuel  
The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

## Wednesday 27th April

No Seedlings Toddler Group this week  
Holy Communion at 10:30am at Emmanuel

## Thursday 28th April

Welcome Group at 2.30pm at Emmanuel  
No Craft & Chat this week

## Notices

### *Newsletter from Rosemary Aldis*

If you would like to read the latest newsletter from Rosemary Aldis, there are a few copies in the slots next to the Mission Board at the back of church.

More can be printed if required (or emailed) - if there are none left in the slots please ask Emma in the Church Office if you would like one.

### *Documentation for Christ Church APCM*

The documentation for the upcoming Christ Church APCM should (hopefully!) be forwarded via email to all Christ Church members. There will be limited numbers of paper copies available on the night for those who are not signed-up to our mailing list.

### *Wells Cathedral Visit*

Afternoon at Wells Cathedral taking place on Tuesday 24th May.

See table in Christ Church foyer for further details (or previous weeks' Connected).  
If you have not already done so, please sign-up this week if you are interested.

## *Watch the Morning Service*

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

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

# Prayer Pointers

**Sunday** – We pray for our archbishops and bishops, that they will receive Your guiding light to help lead us all. We also pray that You will grant wisdom to Tom, Larissa, retired clergy, and readers at Christ Church and Emmanuel as they put together our services.

**Monday** – We pray for so many in the world who are struggling to live in war (especially the people of Ukraine), or natural disaster situations, while Covid is all around them. We pray for an end to war.

**Tuesday** – We pray that You will be especially close to all those elderly and lonely people living in care homes in our town. Help them to trust in You and grant them patience.

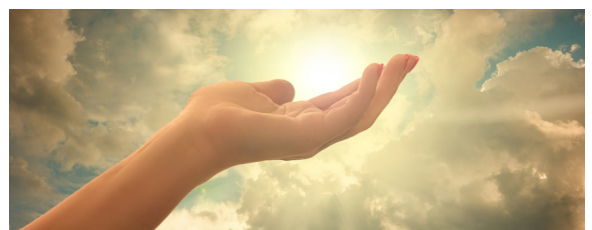
**Wednesday** – Dear Father, we thank and praise You that You are our Creator God who gave us our wonderful planet to live on. We have so much to praise You for, including knowing that, at times of trial, You are in control.

**Thursday** – Surrounded by the beauty of peace, we pray for those who are unsure of the way ahead, especially in difficult and confusing times when many have lost their jobs and their way of life. In the trials they face, and the burdens they struggle with, may Your love break through, and may they receive the help, healing, comfort, and strength that they need.

**Friday** – We pray for Your wisdom to guide our politicians and leaders, especially our Prime Minister, as they seek to make the right decisions for our country and its people.

**Saturday** – Almighty God, we bring You our world, thankful that it is also Your world, precious to You and shaped ultimately by Your will. Remake, redeem and renew it through Your sovereign power.

May all people everywhere come to know Your purpose, experience Your love, and receive Your peace, and may each rejoice in the new life You so yearn to give them. God of peace, flow through us and use us as channels of Your peace.

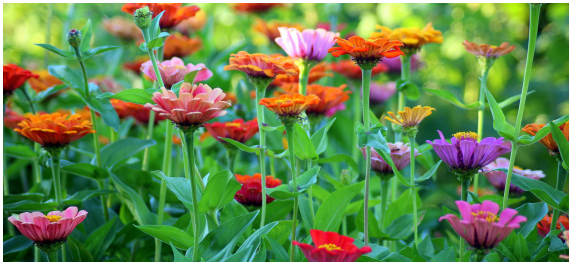


# Coffee after the Service...

## OPEN GARDENS 2022

The new programme for the coming season of Open Gardens is now available from the foyer at Christ Church, and at Emmanuel. Please make sure that you take one, and perhaps another to give to a friend.

Open Gardens are informal social events and are an ideal way for newcomers to meet with other church members. There are also teas, coffee, cakes, and soft drinks !  
Under cover - if the sun fails to shine!



## Christ Church on Tour!

Six intrepid explorers went to Spring Harvest in Minehead last week for some great teaching and worship - and, by the looks of it, enjoying the sun!



## 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 (09.30-12.30 Mon-Fri)  
t: (01934) 641016  
e: office@ccwsm.org.uk  
w: www.ccwsm.org.uk

## Relating to your neighbourhood

Over the years I've wondered how I can relate to my neighbours in a way that 'Lives God's Love'. I'm definitely not the person who can go round knocking on doors saying 'do you know Jesus?'. There must be other ways I can live out my faith in my neighbourhood.

The first possibility was when I discovered the Neighbourhood Prayer Network. This organisation has a vision to see every street in the UK covered in prayer. Their strategy is to pray, care and share for our neighbours. If you sign up, your street goes on the NPN map, you get a weekly email to encourage you as you pray and they offer resources such as online prayer meetings, books, and cards you can pop through letter boxes.



I had been praying in this way for a few years and then Covid struck. I was inspired by the members of my Life Group who immediately started communicating on WhatsApp. I thought I could give that a go on my street. I spoke to one neighbour and within a few hours I had several people I didn't even know signed up! At the height of lockdown there were nearly thirty neighbours in our WhatsApp group. We saw each other as we came out to clap the NHS and chat about everything from lost cats to waste collection. Every now and then I let them know I am praying.

Recently I found a practical way to serve my neighbourhood too. I signed up with North Somerset Council to 'Adopt A Street'. This means I am now officially a litter picker! I was provided with a hi viz vest, gloves, bags and the rather groovy picker. If you happen to drive along Locking Road by the horse field you might see me wrestling with it.



Try asking God how you might demonstrate the love of God in your neighbourhood - you never know what the answer might be.

*Bev*