

# Connected

Sunday 12th March 2023

Third Sunday Of Lent

## Sermon Snippets

### Christ Church

Isaiah 29: 13-16, 22-24 + John 12: 31-36a

It was joyous service last week for the baptism of baby Hezy. The baptism was to mark a beginning of his growing in the Christian faith. It was a start not a finish. Now we look forward to what he will become in the future, guided by his parents and Godparents, and encouraged by the fellowship of us all.

It reminds us that we are all unfinished; all on a journey of becoming sons and daughters of light.



God certainly hasn't finished with me yet - there's still a lot of work for Him to do if I am to become part of His new creation. It's probably the same for you. So what does this re-creating involve and what helps us in this process of becoming the bearers of God's light in our world?

### Emmanuel

Psalms 127 + Luke 6: 46-49

This Sunday at Emmanuel, we continue our preaching series focused on our Church Buildings Appeal. We will continue to build on Larissa's teaching from Luke; firstly needing to establish we've got the location right - that we've definitely built our house on a firm foundation of rock!

But now, how do we ensure our house is 'well built' (v48)!? What does the Bible tell us a 'well built' house looks like? Both practically and spiritually; as God's gathered people worshipping in church and individually in our daily lives? And what, I wonder, can we learn from the condition of our windows ?!



Let's ponder these questions together as we gather at church this Sunday.

## Appeals At Both Our Churches



Giving financially is a part of living as a Christian and giving to church is something many in our congregations do. We receive no Government help, so it is your giving which keeps the ministry in our churches going!

During this season of Lent both our church families have the chance to prayerfully think about their financial giving. At Christ Church the focus is on the inflationary increases needed in our budget for this year. At Emmanuel we are having a fundraiser for repairs which badly need attention.

I do appreciate that, for some of us (with higher mortgage rates and cost of living increases), it may not be possible to afford anything more. Others of us might have had an increase on our incomes with an inflation adjustment and may be more able to respond.

We will all be getting a letter to reflect on - please do take the time to pray about your response.



Tom

Thank you.

# Prayer Pointers

**MONDAY** - We pray for all those in residential homes in our two parishes and people in their own homes, indeed all laid aside through illness or the frailty of age. Lord, may they know Your continuing fellowship and Your will and power to answer every need.

**TUESDAY** - Father God, we stand in prayer alongside all we know facing possible terminal illness or overwhelming needs in their lives (whether financial, unemployment, or serious relationship difficulties to name just a few). Lord, use our prayers to point to You, the God who says "cast all your cares on me for I care for you".

**WEDNESDAY** - Lord, give wisdom to our political leaders to prioritise with fairness the material needs of our citizens - whether food or fuel costs or other knock-on effects. May Christian neighbourliness be a key part of meeting people's needs.

**THURSDAY** - Lord, may our Bishops and other Christian leaders speak Christian truth in our land to counter spiritual falsehood and social immorality. We pray for King Charles - that his coronation may give impetus to his duty toward being Defender of the Faith and a godly influence to all his people.

**FRIDAY** - We pray, Lord, that university and further education students preparing to find employment may be successful and, even more so, find Your purpose for their lives through knowing You as Saviour and Lord.

**SATURDAY** - Lord, we are thinking this weekend of all those You have given us as parents - especially mothers - but including fathers, guardians, carers, and all who have blessed us as role models, temporarily or permanently. We pray that through them You may have shown us so much of Your perfect love and care towards us.

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## *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*

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# What's On This Week

## Saturday 11th March

Repair Café from 10am-12:30pm at Christ Church

## Sunday 12th March

Families Together at 3pm at Christ Church

*(it would be helpful if you could let Nicky know if you are planning to attend the above event)*

Deaf Church at 3pm at Emmanuel

## Monday 13th March

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

## Tuesday 14th March

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel

The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

## Wednesday 15th March

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10:15am at Christ Church

## Thursday 16th March

Craft & Chat at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

## Notices

### *Larissa Unavailable*

Please note that Larissa will be unavailable on Saturday 11th March & Thursday 16th March.

## *Verse For The Week*

" Then Jesus told them, 'You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light.' When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them. "

*John 12: 35-36*

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## Contact Details

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# Coffee after the Service...



3pm - 4:30pm  
Sunday 12th March  
at Christ Church

This month we are discovering different ways to explore Psalm 23 together. There will be crafts, activities, and cake! Do let Nicky know if you can come (email: [family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk](mailto:family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk))

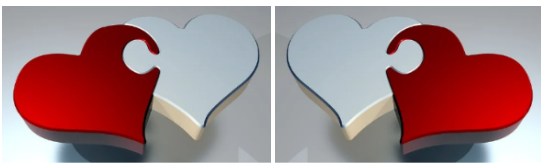


The next Repair Café will be held this Saturday 11th March from 10am-12:30pm at Christ Church

A thought on last Sunday's sermon - "I've heard of the man in the iron mask but never heard of the vicar in a plastic bucket!"

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## Charlotte & Pui's Wedding



Charlotte & Pui will be getting married on Saturday 18th March at 1:30pm at Christ Church. Church family are invited to attend the service.

## EASTER FAMILY FUN !

WE NEED A TEAM TO HELP SHARE THE MOST IMPORTANT STORY OF ALL WITH OUR COMMUNITY!



EASTER FAMILY FUN  
SATURDAY 1ST APRIL  
2PM - 4PM  
AT CHRIST CHURCH



WE'LL HAVE CRAFTS, GAMES, ACTIVITIES, AN EASTER EGG HUNT, AND REFRESHMENTS TOO!



ALL TEAM MUST HAVE CURRENT DBS CLEARANCE. PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME TO THE SIGN-UP SHEET AT THE BACK OF CHURCH OR LET NICKY BOARDMAN KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP (EMAIL: [FAMILY.MINISTRY@CCWSM.ORG.UK](mailto:FAMILY.MINISTRY@CCWSM.ORG.UK))



## Mothering Sunday at Emmanuel

As is our custom, Emmanuel will be meeting in the hall next Saturday, March 18th, at 10am to make posies for Mothering Sunday.

If you can help, do come along. It is always a good sociable time.

If you can bring flowers and greenery for the posies even better! Or leave bunches of flowers in the kitchen.

See you next Saturday!

*Meg*