

# Connected

Sunday 14th May 2023

Sixth Sunday Of Easter

## Ascension Day



*Why pay attention to the Ascension of Jesus? In part, because it is a reminder that the earthly ministry of Jesus has ended: at Pentecost, the torch is passed on to the disciples, and down to us through all the centuries. Now, the story says, it is up to us – we are the ones who are called to be more compassionate, more accepting, more forgiving, more just: more faithful.*

*We shall be celebrating a Celtic Liturgy of Holy Communion for Ascension Day on Thursday 18th May at 7pm at Emmanuel Church. The Celtic tradition will give us a different experience of prayer.*

*Please note, this will be our Evening Prayer Service for May so all members of both congregations are welcome to attend.*

*Please come and join us.*

*Julie & Terry*

## Sermon Snippets

Christ Church

James 3: 1-12

James, the half brother of the Lord Jesus, writes an earthy practical letter. He is out to remind people that it is all very well talking about their faith but how is their Christian life shown by their actions? All chat and no act?

This Sunday we touch down midway through the epistle where James is stressing this need in one particular direction - using our tongue. How powerful for evil or good our words can be!



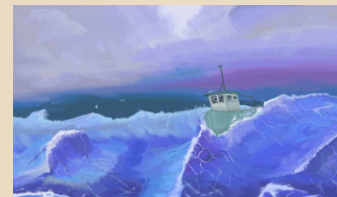
'No doctor can heal wounds inflicted by the tongue'. So 'let your conversation be always full of grace seasoned with salt'.

Emmanuel

Luke 8: 22-25

Jesus has been teaching using parables beside the Sea of Galilee and suggests going across to the other side - this is an eye-witness account. Jesus is asleep on the helmsman's cushion in the stern when a storm starts. What did they do? Trust him and his presence with them - no! They woke Jesus up! Jesus addressed the wind and the waves; not the disciples. The 'nature' miracle is difficult to accept in a scientifically-oriented culture.

We will look at: **Panic** - trusting and praying before 'do'-ing; **Peace** - interceding for yourself and others; **Presence** - enjoy Jesus' company with you.



There are people panicking about debt. Christians Against Poverty (CAP) brings the peace of Jesus into people's lives. Even in 'stormy' circumstances, he is there - present - with us.

# What's On This Week

## Saturday 13th May

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

## Sunday 14th May

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 15th May

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

## Tuesday 16th May

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel

The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

## Wednesday 17th May

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10:15am at Christ Church

*(please note that this event is currently full)*

## Thursday 18th May

Holy Communion at 10:30am at Emmanuel

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

Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Celtic Holy Communion at 7pm at Emmanuel

## Saturday 20th May

Open Garden from 2:30pm-5pm

*(see programme for further details)*

## Notices

### *Larissa Unavailable*

Please note that Larissa will be unavailable from Friday 12th May til Sunday 14th May inclusive.

### *Nicky Unavailable*

Please note that Nicky will be unavailable on Friday 12th May, Sunday 21st May, and from Monday 29th May til Thursday 1st June inclusive.

### *Tom & Chris Unavailable*

Please note that Tom & Chris will be not be available from Saturday 13th May til Saturday 3rd June inclusive.

### *Church Office Closed*

Please note that, during the week commencing 29th May, the office will be officially closed. It will still be manned at some point most days but not necessarily during 'normal office hours'.

# Prayer Pointers

**We live in a world that needs our prayer.**

## Church Family:

“Lord, the one you love is sick” (John 11:3)  
We lift up to you, Lord, our loved ones - those in our Church families who are sick, suffering, lonely, frightened, hurting, or bereaved. And also those who are suffering from Long Covid.

Please pray for the new season of Open Gardens - the first one will be open to us all on the 20th May.

## The Local Area:

The young people around us are showing more and more uncontrollable anxiety. Lord, we pray that you will create a society that will help our young people - that we will be informed & trained to help, and that our churches will be welcoming shoulders who will bear the burden. Enable our churches to show the support and compassion that you have shown us.

## National Prayer:

Everlasting God, we pray for King Charles III. We pray for strength, for wisdom to follow you where you lead, and that he will be aware of your presence through his role. We pray that you will empower him, enable him to do your will, and serve your people. Bless his reign throughout our nation.

## Global Prayer:

We pray for Ukraine - for the strength and wellbeing of the army and the Ukrainian people that are still in the country. There has been a mass of Russian drones flying over Ukraine this week and we lift this situation to you, Lord. We also pray into the stability of their nuclear power station.

## *Verse For The Week*

" He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. 'Where is your faith?' he asked his disciples. "

*Luke 8: 24b-25*

# Coffee after the Service...

## CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOX OPENING

Usually this is held on the first Sunday in May but, because of the Coronation, it will be on Sunday 14th May.

Could you please let me have your boxes then or, if you would prefer to make a donation, that would be fine.

To those at Emmanuel - please do not leave boxes unattended. Just give them to me or one of the wardens. I shall return the boxes when they have been counted and let you know how much was raised.

Many thanks to all who support the Children's Society.

*Carl*



## Christ Church School Appeal

One of the activities a Year 6 child does is prepare for secondary school in their final term. The move to secondary is a huge one – to a large school from a relatively small one. The Diocese is running “leaver days” at Bath Abbey to help children prepare for this and to know that our God “goes with them”.

School budgets are very tight and Christ Church Primary is short of approx. £400 for coach hire and the other costs of the day. The cost per child is £16.50. Would you like to sponsor a child or two to make this possible? Or just give a general donation towards the overall cost.

You can donate via this link:  
<https://pay.sumup.io/b2c/QGKOH2D6>

Or, alternatively, please speak to David (our Treasurer) if you would like to give towards this.

Thank you.



*Tom*



## Open Gardens 2023



The new programme for the coming season of Open Gardens is now available at both our churches.

Please do take one.

Open Gardens are informal social events and are an ideal way for newcomers to meet with other church members. So please do come along and, perhaps, invite a friend to join you.



The first Open Garden will be taking place on:

**Saturday 20th May from 2:30pm-5pm**

Please see the programme for further details.



There are teas, coffee, cakes, and soft drinks!  
(under cover - if the sun fails to shine!)

## Some Sad News...

Many of you will have known  
Brenda White.

We are sad to inform you that Brenda  
passed away recently.

Please keep the family in your  
thoughts and prayers.

Details of her funeral will follow in due course.

## *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*

# More coffee anyone...



## Thy Kingdom Come 2023 Daily Prayers

Thy Kingdom Come is a worldwide prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for five particular people, known to them, to come to know the love of Jesus. These focused prayers take place between Ascension Day to Pentecost.

LORD I PRAY THAT  
YOU WILL LEAD...





TO YOU, AMEN

Above is a space for you to write the names of those people as a reminder to pray for them. Another option is to make a bracelet for yourself with five knots to represent those five people you will be praying for.

Our Daily Prayers for weeks beginning 15th and 22nd May will follow the reflections prepared by Church leaders, across the denominations, for the Thy Kingdom Come initiative (the order will be adjusted to reflect our six-day Daily Prayers pattern so apologies that they will be slightly out of order). If you wish to follow in a prayer journal these can be found at:

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/new-2023>

As Jesus ascended to heaven (on Ascension Day), he promised the gift of the Holy Spirit. As the disciples waited for the promise to be fulfilled, which came at Pentecost, they devoted themselves constantly to prayer. As Jesus' disciples in this generation, we do the same, so that we might be witnesses to Jesus' love and goodness and that more people would come to know Jesus and so Thy Kingdom Come!

*Larissa*



The next Repair Café  
will be held this  
Saturday 13th May  
from 10am-12:30pm  
at Christ Church



3pm - 4:30pm  
Sunday 14th May  
at Christ Church

### Somewhere new to try...?

In Congresbury, Broad Street stands Congars Café run by a Christian couple. They would appreciate your patronage.

Carole and Jeff can recommend their meals and service!

Broad Street is the sharp right turn off the A370 junction by the pillar memorial. Reasonable parking nearby.

Website: <https://congarscafe.squarespace.com/>



### Contact Details

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