Christ Church and Emmanuel, Weston-super-Mare

Connected

Sunday 25th October 2026 — Last Sunday After Trinity

Sermon Snippets

Christ Church

(Isaiah 56: 4-8) + Mark 2: 13-17

Let's face it – Jesus' choice of Matthew as one of his inner team was surprising. As a tax collector in those days, he would have been seen as one who swindled his fellow countrymen out of money by inflating their taxes... so why did Jesus not choose someone more 'holy'? And, come to think of it, what exactly is Jesus looking for in his followers?

Come along/ tune in on Sunday to find out!



Emmanuel

(Isaiah 43: 18-25) + Mark 2: 13-17

Today's passage starts with the phrase, 'Once again...'. We find Jesus out beside the lake, 'once again'. What does doing something 'once again' look like for us in our Christian walk? Whether that is continuing to serve when we are growing tired, seeking God's forgiveness for the same thing yet again, continuing to contend in prayer when no answers seem to come.

Following Jesus is a call to repent and believe, a call to change and to keep changing.

Let's look at this passage together this Sunday, 'once again'!

Operation Christmas Child

This year we are, again, encouraging folk to support Operation Christmas Child (a project run by Samaritan's Purse).

The most straightforward way to participate is by packing a shoebox online. Either:

1) Go to https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/shoebox-online/create-a-box and create your own shoebox(es). Each box costs £25. This way you can choose the gender/age of your child and pick items to go in your box(es).

OR 2) Go to https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/shoebox-online/send-a-pre-packed-shoebox to send a pre-packed shoebox(es). Here you can simply confirm how many boxes you wish to send and donate accordingly (again, £25 per box).

Alternatively, there are a few pre-printed shoeboxes available should you wish to physically pack your own complete shoebox (plus leaflets explaining what to put in a box). If packing your own shoebox, Samaritan's Purse also asks for a donation of £5 per box to cover shipping costs. Please see David White/Carl Evans or speak to Emma in the Church Office regarding payment of this.

Lastly, if you aren't able to pack a shoebox (either online or physically) but would like to donate money towards the project, please see David White/Carl Evans or speak to Emma in the Church Office.

For further information relating to Operation Christmas Child, access to all relevant links, and 'ways to pay' if donating, please visit our website: https://ccwsm.org.uk/shoebox-appeal-2026/

All boxes (physical and online) will be dedicated during services on 8th November (Christ Church) and on 15th November (Emmanuel).

Prayer Pointers

Monday: We thank God for the Church Weekend At Home last week, especially for Bishop Mike Hill. And we pray that his words - Christian seeds sown during the weekend - will bear full fruit in people's lives. We also thank you Lord for all those who helped in various ways.

Tuesday: We pray for all the elderly and housebound of our two churches who find it difficult to get out - that they will still know God's presence in their lives by our prayers and visiting.

Wednesday: We pray for our church leaders - especially Tom, Di, and all our Associate Ministers and Readers - that they will be blessed by God's wisdom and peace in their busy lives as they try to fulfil their family and parish responsibilities.

Thursday: We continue to pray for all Christians suffering as a result of wars, especially in the Middle-East. Many are persecuted for their faith and are not free to worship but have had to flee their homes and many have lost loved ones. We pray that God will encourage and find ways to support them. And bring peace.

Friday: We pray for those known to us who are unwell, distressed, worried, or bereaved.

Saturday: God of all, Three-in-One and One-in-Three, we praise you that you have called us to be your children, your friends, and your people. Receive now our worship, offered to you in awe and wonder, in joy and thanksgiving. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, receive our praise.

Last week the Diocese was praying for those who administer and offer governance using the following prayer from the monthly Diocesan Prayer Calendar:

Jesus, Lord of all, we thank you for those who administer and offer governance in our parishes and across our Diocese. May the wisdom of the Holy Spirit be a source of support for all those who offer advice and governance. Amen.

What's On This Week

Monday 26th October
Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Tuesday 27th October
Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel
The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

Wednesday 28th October
No Seedlings Toddler Group this week

Thursday 29th October
Craft & Chat at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre
Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Saturday 31st October
Men's Breakfast from 8:30am-10am at Christ Church
Ambassadors Outing at 2:30pm at Playhouse
(for those with tickets to Jesus Christ Super Star)
Lightfest! from 4pm-6pm at Christ Church

Sunday 1st November
12 New Disciples in 27 Meeting after the service
(for those who are part of this group - in Room 3)
Annual Memorial Service at 4pm at Christ Church

Notices

Church Weekend At Home

If anyone was unable to make the Church Weekend, you can catch-up with the teaching sessions here.

Parking Around The Church

Just a polite reminder to everyone who drives to the church and parks in the surrounding roads - please park considerately and make sure that you do not obstruct people's driveways. Thank you.

Don't forget...

...the clocks go back this weekend (25th October)!



Verse For The Week

" When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: 'Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?' On hearing this, Jesus said to them, 'It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but those who are ill. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.' "

Mark 2: 16-17

Coffee after the Service...

BIBLE READING NOTES

It is time to order your Bible reading notes for 2027...

If you would like to place an order, please contact Sandra Wilkes. Some payment will be required on placing the order (Sandra can let you know how much this will be). Payment can be made by either cheque, cash, card, or bank transfer.

If you have not had Bible reading notes before, please do speak to Sandra.



LightFest 2026!

Saturday 31st October
4pm-6pm

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER...

Go to ccwsm.org.uk/events/ and click on the LightFest tab for more information. The cost is £2 per person (babies under 6 months go free).



If you need any more information, please contact Nicky, email: family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk

Men's Breakfast - Christ Church

Saturday 31st October
8:30am-10am
COST: £5

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN-UP THIS WEEKEND



A cooked breakfast together followed by "An Interview With John Butt"

If you would like to attend, please add your name to the sign-up sheet at Christ Church... or, if you are at Emmanuel, please notify Paul Sodzi or contact the Office.

Locking Deanery Worship Gathering

This is an opportunity to gather as churches, to worship and pray together.
Everyone is invited - All ages are welcome - See you there !

Sunday 15th November
4.00 pm
Locking Castle Church
Jasmine Way, Weston-super-Mare BS24 7JW
Arrive from 3.30pm for refreshments

Jesus Christ Super Star

Playhouse
31st October
2:30pm

There are another two tickets going spare for this Ambassador's outing - please do see Sandra Wilkes if you are interested in going and she can give you details.

WOODSPRING CHRISTIAN TRUST

Woodspring Wordsmiths,

for Christians writing in any genre, who hope to be published, who are already published, or who write just for fun!

WW is a safe place to encourage each other, discuss any problems, and share our experiences.

Venue: Uphill Methodist Church
4 Uphill Rd S, WsM BS23 4SD
Time: 7.30pm - 9pm
When: First Wednesday of each month
Nov 4th Your piece on 'Remembrance'
Dec 2nd Christmas Social (No meeting in January 2027)
Feb 3rd 'All you need is love'
More info from tavah@gertrudejames.co.uk



Please share this with any writerly friends, and we look forward to seeing you!

(Affiliated with the Association of Christian Writers, but membership not required!)

Watch the Morning Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk
Go to the 'Church Life' menu and click on the 'Sunday Services' page

Contact Details

Rev. Tom Webber (Day Off - Tuesday)
t: (01934) 709343
e: revtom@ccwsm.org.uk

Rev. Di Vickery (Day Off - Thursday)
t: 07356 248442
e: revdi@ccwsm.org.uk

Church Office (09:30-12:30 Mon-Fri)
t: (01934) 641016
e: office@ccwsm.org.uk
w: www.ccwsm.org.uk

Remembrance Poppies

Poppies are now available at Christ Church - these will be at the back of church on Sunday or outside the Church Office during the week - please feel free to take one and leave a donation in the charity tin alongside.





Annual Memorial Service

Sunday 1st November at 4pm

In a couple of weeks' time we'll be holding our annual 'Memorial Service' at Christ Church.

It's a chance to give thanks for someone you've loved who's passed away. Any bereavement doesn't have to be recent - their loss can affect us for many years - and this space gives us all a chance to honour their memory. It will be a gentle reflective service and Julie Birkett will be speaking.

You'd be welcome to join us and it's a good opportunity to invite a friend – there are some small flyers available at the back of church for you to pass on to anyone you think may benefit.





Weston Foodbank is again running their Reverse Advent Calendar throughout November for donations towards their Christmas food drive.

If you would like to participate in this (either individually, as a couple, or in a group) there are a few Advent Calendars available at the back of church.

Fill a box or a few bags with one item each day and then drop the filled box/bags off either:
(1) at the Church Office by Sunday 8th December; or
(2) directly to the Foodbank Warehouse (Beaufighter Road) by Monday 14th December.

Or, perhaps, if it is easier, you could collect some of the items mentioned during your trips to the supermarket over the next few weeks and place these into the Foodbank donation bins provided (available in-store somewhere at most of the major supermarkets).

Thank You Emmanuel!

Weston-super-Mare Foodbank
Together with Trussell

Today you donated 9370 kg of food to support Weston Foodbank. Your help is invaluable. In 2024 we distributed 121 tonnes of food and provided emergency parcels for over 8000 members of our community.

Deliveries can be taken directly to our warehouse in Haywood Village at Unit 2, 12 Beaufighter Road, BS24 8EE They operate on a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings.

For more details about our activities, please follow us on Facebook, twitter and Instagram (WsM Foodbank) or online at www.westonsupermare.foodbank.org.uk.

Lost Property

There are a few lost property items on a table at the back of Christ Church (under noticeboard) - please do take a look to see if anything is yours.