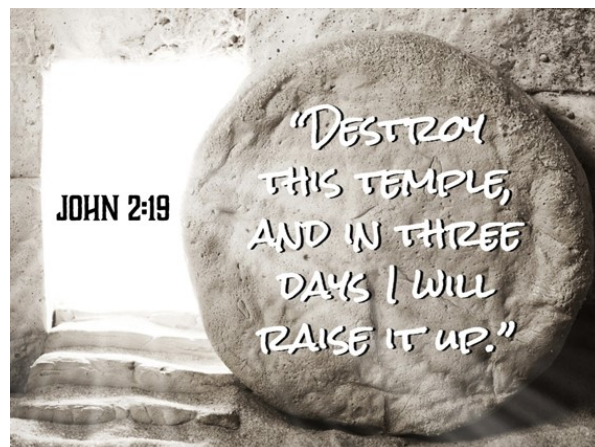


# Christ Church Higher Bebington

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

Sidespeople: Jill & Graham Loach  
Next week: Rhona Snelson & Fiona Murphy



**Welcome to Christ Church!** We are all one in the Spirit!

This morning Revd. Mike Loach will lead and Revd. Eunice Blackmore will preach at our 10am Traditional Simplified Eucharistic Service.

## HYMNS

- 212 Holy, holy, holy
- 53 Be still for the presence of the Lord
- Let us build a house
- 501 There's a wideness in God's mercy

## Prayer for the week

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## Thoughts for the week:

"The risen Lord is the new Temple, the real meeting place between God and man."  
- Pope Benedict XVI

"The temple in which the Lord Jesus delights most, is a broken and contrite heart, renewed by the Holy Spirit."  
- J. C. Ryle

"Those in whom the Spirit comes to live are God's new Temple. They are, individually and corporately, places where heaven and earth meet."  
- N. T. Wright



**Don't Eat Sunday Lunch Alone: today at 12.30pm**  
Broadway Steak & Wine



**Praise and Pray - Today at 4.00pm**  
A fun event with lots of noise, Bible stories and activities for children up to 6 years, their siblings and parents/carers. Topic: "Palm Sunday".

The first reading is Psalm 26 (NRSVA)

<sup>1</sup> Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity,  
and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

<sup>2</sup> Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and mind.

<sup>3</sup> For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to  
you.

<sup>4</sup> I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites;

<sup>5</sup> I hate the company of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup> I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O LORD,

<sup>7</sup> singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous  
deeds.

<sup>8</sup> O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your  
glory abides. <sup>9</sup> Do not sweep me away with sinners, nor my life with the  
bloodthirsty, <sup>10</sup> those in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right  
hands are full of bribes.

<sup>11</sup> But as for me, I walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to  
me. <sup>12</sup> My foot stands on level ground; in the great congregation I will  
bless the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Regular Activities at Christ Church

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

**9.00am** Start the week with prayer



**9.30am** Toddler Group

**1.30pm** Sit Fit - chair based exercises

**5.00pm** Music Group



**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March**

**10.30am** Sewing Group

**10.30am** Singing Café



**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

**9.30am** Baby Group

**10.30am** Connect Café



**10.30am** Holy Communion

**1.30pm** Garden Gang

**1.30pm** Knit & Natter



**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**



**10.30am** Line Dancing

**12.30pm** Prayers for Peace

**12.30pm** Befrienders' Lunch

**1.30pm** W.I.

**2.00pm** Choir practice



**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

**2.00pm** Bridge Group

### **Experience Easter:**

**Planning meeting Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 12.30pm** in the Troughton  
Room. All volunteers welcome to put final plans in place for our exciting  
schools project.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 2:v 13-22  
**Glory to you, O Lord** (NIVUK)

Jesus clears the temple courts

<sup>13</sup> When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. <sup>15</sup> So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup> To those who sold doves he said, 'Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!' <sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it is written: 'Zeal for your house will consume me.'

<sup>18</sup> The Jews then responded to him, 'What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?'

<sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.'

<sup>20</sup> They replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?' <sup>21</sup> But the temple he had spoken of was his body. <sup>22</sup> After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**



Duncan is making a new flower bed on the slope behind the outdoor stage. It will be an ongoing project over the year to fill the bed. If you have any garden plants, bulbs or small shrubs you are splitting or no longer need, please consider donating them to Church where they will be admired for a long time to come!

Please leave any plants next to the 'Men in Sheds' Beb Shed and text Duncan on 07906 296835. Thank you.



Viola's Pop-Up Bread Bakery will be here next Sunday (10<sup>th</sup> March) after the 10.00am Mothering Sunday service.

**Wanted!** Social media savvy volunteers to keep our Facebook page up to date. This is mainly to advertise our services and events and Mike would happily talk through requirements with anyone who is willing to help. Many thanks.

**PCC Meeting**  
**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**March at 7.30pm**  
in the Troughton  
Room



### **Coop Academy Cake Sale**

The year 8 students from Coop Academy really enjoyed running their cake sale at Connect coffee last week and raised £47 for Barnardos. Their next cake sale will be in May. Thank you to everyone who came to enjoy cakes!

## Christ Church Magazine

Prior to lockdown, the church magazine was an important part of how we communicated with our parishioners. Since then, we have expanded our digital connections, but haven't replaced many of the good things that the magazine offered and, understandably, people do miss it. We would love to start it up again, but in order to do so, need volunteers to help put it together and an editor to take overall responsibility. Please do give some consideration as to whether this is something that you could help with - it would be very much appreciated by many.

Every blessing, Mike

### **Opportunities to further explore our faith:**

We offer several groups that meet regularly for fellowship and discussion around matters of faith.

**2nd & 4th Mondays of the month:** watching "The Chosen" a drama series about those who met Jesus

3pm - 4.30pm: Led by Pam & Rev Mike in the Troughton Room

7pm – 9.00pm: Led by Helen & Diane at 3 Rotherwood Close

**2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month:** discussing the "Watch & Pray" Lenten booklets.

8pm - 9pm: Led by Ian, Colette & Rev Eunice on Zoom

Starting on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** at 7pm Rev Mike will be leading a monthly **Bible study group** attempting to read the books of the New Testament in a year! The first session will be on the **Gospel of Mark** and all are asked to have read this in advance. If you'd like to join in with this, please sign the sheet at the back of church.

All our groups are very welcoming and friendly and are open to everyone...

### **Funerals last week:**

1<sup>st</sup> March: Wilfrid Roy Bishop; 4<sup>th</sup> March: Peter Barry Green, Irene May Jones.

**Anniversaries:** Charles Dillon, Edna Chiocchi, Annie Alexandra Hughes, Joyce Rathbone, Joyce Wilkins, Jean Lowe, Gordon Edwards, Sheila Roberts, Nancy Elizabeth Porter, Queenie Bowen, Graham Mercer, Ken Allen, Leonard Reginald Clinch, Nevil Wade, Nicole Forster.

**Prayer List:** Finley Armstrong, Sharon Beecham, Rob Bell, Ian Buckley, Eloise Cook, Julie Crosbie, John Henry & Edna Edwards, Deborah Ferguson, Geoff Hall, David Hamilton, Pam Hollinshead, Kitty, Arthur & Louise Jones, Ted Jones, Jim & Maureen Lloyd, Will McElroy, Geoff Newns, Grahame Owen, Dave Price, Rita Quine, Sam Roach, Howard Rogers, Jenny Russell, John Russell, Janet Shorrock, Yvonne Slerman, Audrey Smith, Barbara & Steve Smith, Theresa Smith, Roisin Terris, Amelia Trenbirth, Gill & Terry Walters, Jane & Malcolm Wheatley, Linda & Ron White.

Vicar: Rev. Mike Loach 0151 609 0943 [mgloach@gmail.com](mailto:mgloach@gmail.com)

Associate Minister: Rev. Eunice Blackmore 0151 648 5343 [euniceblackmore@talktalk.net](mailto:euniceblackmore@talktalk.net)

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