

Notices

With full lockdown in place places of worship are allowed to be open

Our services are streamed on Youtube, Facebook & Zoom

Sunday service at 10am is still in church too, with strict COVID rules

Wednesday service is at 1pm in Church

Morning Prayer takes place online only, Monday-Wednesday at 9.30am

The Church is open to all to visit for prayer on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday however in lockdown people preparing lunches are there between 10am and 1.30ish

Please remember social distancing/face covering regulations and rules prohibiting mingling

Coffee on Zoom

11am every Sunday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89810440350?pwd=YzM2U3FZeVRxSm85VWsvSjJ0aStRdz09>

Meeting ID: 898 1044 0350 Passcode: 716401

Lunch Club (delivery)

Weekly Hot meal for local elderly, vulnerable and isolated people.

Our next lunch is on **Wednesday January 13th**

If you would like one, contact us to book and let us know about any dietary requirements.

We aim to deliver between 12-12.30pm

0191 415 4200

office@stgeorgesfatfield.co.uk

A Poetic Prayer – Valley of Vision – The Spirit of Jesus

LORD JESUS CHRIST,

Fill me with thy Spirit that I may be occupied with his presence.

I am blind — send him to make me see;

dark — let him say, 'Let there be light'!

May he give me faith to behold my name engraven in thy hand,

my soul and body redeemed by thy blood,

my sinfulness covered by the life of pure obedience.

Replenish me by his revealing grace,

that I may realise my indissoluble union with thee;

that I may know thou hast espoused me to thyself for ever,

in righteousness, love, mercy, faithfulness;

that I am one with thee, as a branch with its stock, as a building with its foundation.

May his comforts cheer me in my sorrows, his strength sustain me in my trials,

his blessings revive me in my weariness, his presence render me a fruitful tree of holiness,

his might establish me in peace and joy, his incitements make me ceaseless in prayer,

his animation kindle in me undying devotion.

Send him as the searcher of my heart,

to show me more of my corruptions and helplessness that I may flee to thee,

cling to thee, rest on thee, as the beginning and end of my salvation.

May I never vex him by my indifference and waywardness,

grieve him by my cold welcome, resist him by my hard rebellion.

Answer my prayers, O Lord, for thy great name's sake.

Readings and prayers for week of January 11th

Monday

Read 1 Corinthians 1 v4-7

⁴I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵For in him you have been enriched in every way – with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge – ⁶God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. ⁷Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ⁸He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Think : Why is the write Paul thankful for these people? What are the encouragements he shares with his readers? What do we learn about God? Who are you thankful for in your Christian walk? Why? How do you see God confirming the truth of Jesus in your life? How have you been enriched in your faith this past year? How do you see fellowship this year?

Give thanks for the faith you have in Jesus. Give thanks for those who teach and encourage you in Jesus. Give thanks that God has you in his hands and holds you firm even in death.

Pray that the Lord would bless you with spiritual gifts to serve him and know him more.

Pray for the nation, for patience through this lockdown. Pray that Christmas freedoms would be used wisely. Pray that our fellowship would thrive, despite all the limits in place.

Pray for front line staff in hospitals dealing with circumstances that are very difficult. Pray especially for those hospitals close to being overwhelmed

Ask the Lord to humble this nation so people would repent and find life through His church as it proclaims the gospel. Pray that Christians would work to transform society for good.

Pray for the ongoing planning and logistics of both testing and vaccine roll outs. Pray for patience and wisdom as we wait. Give thanks to God that vaccines work and are happening.

Pray for those who are suffering with depression and grief.

Pray for the nation of Chile

Pray for the team making lunches for young people for energy and safety. Pray that our Risk Assessment and Hygiene rules are fully acceptable if anyone checks on us (we think they are)

Pray : O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Tuesday

Read Psalm 2 v10-12

¹⁰Therefore, you kings, be wise;
be warned, you rulers of the earth.

¹¹Serve the LORD with fear
and celebrate his rule with trembling.

¹²Kiss his son, or he will be angry
and your way will lead to your destruction,
for his wrath can flare up in a moment.

Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Think : What are the warnings here to rulers of the earth? What does it mean to be blessed? What do you think it means to serve the Lord 'with fear'? Why should we? How can we celebrate his rule 'with trembling'? Where are rulers across the world being foolish? Where are they rebelling against God? Where do you see rulers taking refuge in God? How can you better take refuge in Him and encourage others to do as well.

Pray for world leaders as they deal with the resurgences of COVID 19. Pray that many would take refuge in Christ, the Lord.

Pray that the Lord's rebuke of our sin on this earth would be heeded and we change tack.

Pray that we would learn to rightly fear God's awesome power and celebrate his rule in us.

Pray that the new COVID virus variants would not circumvent the vaccines.

Pray for the Police, that they would act wisely and those dealing with emergencies.

Pray for your family, or others with families who do not know Jesus.

Ask God to help us not get run down by the mundane, but trust in His strength.

Pray for businesses that have had to close again. Pray against fear and worry

Pray for the nation of Thailand today.

Pray for scientists, doctors, nurses and companies involved in healthcare around the world, that their efforts to treat people would be effective, especially increasing non CV-19 needs.

Pray for teachers, especially that they would get good rest this Christmas.

Ask God that church leaders would be strengthened to continue through the winter and would be bold and wise in proclaiming Jesus to our community effectively.

Give thanks for the financial giving and support the church receives. Pray that we would have sufficient funds to do all the ministry of the church and cover all fixed costs.

Pray : Be with us, Lord, in all our prayers, and direct our way toward the attainment of salvation, that among the changes and chances of this mortal life, we may always be defended by your gracious help, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Wednesday

Read Genesis 1 v27-29

²⁷So God created mankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'

²⁹Then God said, 'I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.'

Think: What does it mean that mankind was made in God's image? Clearly we do not look physically like God, rather it is about our nature to create, to love. Etc. Why do you think he told us to 'fill the earth'? what does that tell us about the likely ability of the earth to be sufficient in supplying food, etc? When we 'rule' over the fish, birds and animals, what do you think it means? Are we free to use them as we please? Why not. It is often said we steward the earth under God's good rule. How should that impact how you live and consume things?

Pray for the environment. Pray against destruction of forests and habitats. Pray that we would learn better how to reforest deserts. Pray we would steward the sea better.

Pray for our children, who will inherit a world in deep debt and with massive environmental issues. Pray for scientists trying to find better ways to solve our problems.

Pray that the current crisis would see us change and live more sustainably/ a green recovery.

Pray that all people would know they are made in God's image and loved by him.

Pray for those Bishops who are balancing holding the church together while upholding truth.

Pray for the weekly lunch club running in delivery only mode. Give thanks for volunteers.

Pray for Bishop Paul and the senior staff as they lead the diocese. For wisdom and grace.

Pray for those facing domestic abuse. Pray there would be support for those in need.

Pray for God to call people into church leadership roles. Pray for Terry and Chris our wardens.

Pray for USA, for healing and reconciliation. Pray for wisdom for their leaders.

Pray : heavenly father, lord I admit that I have allowed doubt to settle in my heart. The uncertainty in this world and my concern for the future has caused my focus to stray from you. Lord, forgive me. Help me to delight on you. Lord i commit my desires to you, I will wait on you to move. Thank you for keeping me in perfect peace. Thank you for your faithfulness. Remind me of your faithfulness to me. Remind me of those moments when your hand was clearly present in my life. I praise you for your presence and i put my trust in you! I kneel before your feet! In Jesus name, amen

Thursday

Read Matthew 22 v8-10

⁸Then he said to his servants, "The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find." ¹⁰So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

Think -Why do you think people would turn down a wedding banquet? The parable is about Israel rejecting God. What does the Lord do when people reject his invitation to join his banquet? What is striking about those who do come? What does this teach you about God? How can you be like one of the servants more? Who could you invite to his banquet?

Pray for those who are being hard hearted towards God, that they might see Christ

Pray for those who are on death's door, that they too would see Christ and put faith in Him.

Ask God for opportunities to tell others about the eternal banquet. Pray you would take them.

Praise God that he is the builder of all things, and pray he would build our church.

Pray that the Lord would help you to fix your eyes on Jesus and live for him.

Pray for parts of the world dominated by evil and that it would soon be subject to Christ.

Pray that the Lord would raise up amongst us evangelists and gospel teachers.

Pray for churches that run foodbanks, homeless shelters, schools and other social action projects, that in them Christ would be made known. Pray for our ministries to serve others.

Praise God that the new Annexe planning application is continuing and that both bat surveys have been completed and although there are bats around, it should not (pray is doesn't) have a major impact. Pray for the fundraising and grant applications that will be made.

Pray for the world to be changed for good. Pray for nations where there is persecution and oppression. Pray for refugees and those trying to cross open seas to find a better life.

Pray again for nurses in hospitals, especially those overrun with COVID patients. Pray for those people with other illnesses who cannot get treatment.

Pray for parents home-schooling again, that they would be able to do what is needed.

Pray: father, you are the creator of the universe, you are the author of the constantly evolving story of our world, you are the painter of the seasons. You are the inventor of change, you imagined the earth, spoke the word and light, and earth, and animals and plants become. Because you said it. You created change to be an indicator of positive growth. You ordained this as part of your perfect plan, and while changes may shock me, they never take you by surprise. While consistently I am called to adapt to different settings, and people, and situations. You, lord, are my constant. You are my rock and my shelter, you promise to walk with me through life's changes and to keep me and give me rest. I worship your name for you are my rest and my peace. I praise you for you are faithful. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Friday

Read 1 Corinthians 4 v1-5

This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed. ²Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. ³I care very little if I am judged by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge myself. ⁴My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of the heart. At that time each will receive their praise from God.

Think : Why do you think Paul describes himself in these terms? Why does he not care if they judge him? How should he be living and why is he confident? How does this challenge you in times when someone is not doing what you think they ought to be? How does this help you when you feel judged by someone else? How do you feel about being a 'servant of Christ'? How might you prove yourself to be faithful without being proud?

Praise God that you are innocent in Christ and the only person's opinion whose matters is his.

Give thanks that Jesus will judge the earth and evil will be shown up and judged justly.

Pray for wisdom when you feel someone is doing something wrong?

Give thanks for the rest that Nick and the family had over Christmas. Pray for them as they work through this lockdown which feels like it will be long and hard.

Pray for those who are grieving as the death rate continues to rise. Pray vaccine rollout continues to accelerate and supplies are produced even faster but correctly.

Give thanks for the Nation of India and pray for their vaccine manufacturing industry which makes most of the world's vaccines. Pray for Christians in that nation and for revival there.

Pray to God to end persecution, civil war, corruption and greed.

Pray for those who serve in different ways. Pray for those struggling with life.

Pray for those who have lost jobs and that more new jobs would be created as the way the world works continues to be turned upside down. Pray for people to show grace.

Ask God to guide you in how to view 'church'. Pray that as we head through 2021 that we would know how we can meet as church in a united way and not dwell on preferences or what has changed. Pray Christ would help us to have unity in the gospel.

Pray: Father, I am so grateful that I can put my trust in you. When i am afraid, and when anxiety is great within me, your consolation brings me joy. You sustain me, you give me a peace unlike the world. You relieve all my fears. You know my name, and the beating of my heart. Your eye is upon me, and you smile upon me. Lord, I admit that I have dwelled often too long on the fears of the future. I don't know what is going to happen and I am nervous about the unknown. Help me to see you and to focus on you alone. Thank you, lord, for your peace, grace, love, and faithfulness as i navigate each day seeking your will. In Jesus' name, Amen

Saturday

Read Psalm 19 v1-4:

- ¹The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
- ²Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.
- ³They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.
- ⁴Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.

Think : What is the Psalmist telling us about a: creation? b: God? Dwell on creation, what is most beautiful? What is most awe inspiring? What is most dangerous? What is most amazing? How do these things point you to God and declare His glory? How does their voice go 'to the ends of the earth'? How can you use creation to point people to God and Jesus?

Pray for the world, that people would be both humbled and in awe of creation.

Give thanks that there is already a re-awakening to Jesus across the world, pray that more would come to faith in Jesus everywhere.

Pray that you would live for Jesus more and more

Pray for America, especially that the political right would stop bringing the name of Jesus into disrepute through politics but rather focus on living out truth in love.

Pray that the church would become ever more a source of light in our community.

Pray for those using the food bank at St George's and those helping that work.

Pray for our council, that they would act with integrity and support our mission here.

Pray for nations where poverty is rampant and the CV-19 has made it worse. Pray for the millions unemployed globally and those losing jobs each week.

Pray for the Church of England, that it might be renewed and get back to the job of proclaiming Jesus in and out of church and trust Jesus.

Pray for local residents and church members that we would build relationships.

Pray for the nations of Togo, Senegal, Mali and Morocco today.

Pray for global supply of vaccine to grow massively and affordably for all.

Pray for people who are suffering racism and oppression. Pray for more enlightened attitudes. Pray against extremism in all its forms.

Pray for Sunday service being prepared.

Pray : The Spirit's Work

O GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT,

Thou who dost proceed from the Father and the Son, have mercy on me.

When thou didst first hover over chaos, order came to birth,

beauty robed the world, fruitfulness sprang forth.

Move, I pray thee, upon my disordered heart;

Take away the infirmities of unruly desires and hateful lusts;

Lift the mists and darkness of unbelief;

Brighten my soul with the pure light of truth;

Make it fragrant as the garden of paradise, rich with every goodly fruit,

beautiful with heavenly grace, radiant with rays of divine light.

Fulfil in me the glory of thy divine offices;

Be my comforter, light, guide, sanctifier;

Take of the things of Christ and show them to my soul;

Through thee may I daily learn more of his love, grace, compassion, faithfulness, beauty;

Lead me to the cross and show me his wounds,

the hateful nature of evil, the power of Satan;

May I there see my sins as the nails that transfixed him, the cords that bound him,

the thorns that tore him, the sword that pierced him.

Help me to find in his death the reality and immensity of his love.

Open for me the wondrous volumes of truth in his, 'It is finished'.

Increase my faith in the clear knowledge of atonement achieved, expiation completed,

satisfaction made, guilt done away, my debt paid, my sins forgiven, my person redeemed,

my soul saved, hell vanquished, heaven opened, eternity made mine.

O Holy Spirit, deepen in me these saving lessons.

Write them upon my heart, that my walk be sin-loathing, sin-fleeing, Christ-loving;

And suffer no devil's device to beguile or deceive me.

Sunday

Read Psalm 145 v3-8:

³Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;
his greatness no one can fathom.

⁴One generation commends your works to another;
they tell of your mighty acts.

⁵They speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty –
and I will meditate on your wonderful works.^(L)

⁶They tell of the power of your awesome works –
and I will proclaim your great deeds.

⁷They celebrate your abundant goodness
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

⁸The LORD is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and rich in love.

Think: Dwell on the works of the Lord, name them, give thanks for them. How do they speak of his glorious majesty? How do they celebrate his abundant goodness? How do they sing of his righteousness? How is the Lord gracious and compassionate? How do all these find meaning in Jesus and his works? Why is it good news that he is slow to anger? How is it good though that he will get angry at sin and evil and also be rich in love at the same time? How might you commend the works of god to the next generation?

Praise God for who he is. Pray that we would become better at commending Him to others.

Give thanks to God's faithfulness over Christmas, especially for all the visitors to our outdoor carols and the amazing response to 'carols on a van' and for Rob, Jeff, Jo-Anne and others who ensured it happened. Pray for ideas they have for next year!

Pray that many would come back to church as they see us as at the heart of our community and willing to serve and step out when others cannot or will not.

Pray that Christ's reputation would be magnified through everything that we do.

Pray against the spiritual attacks we face each day, both from people opposed to the church and from spirits trying to discourage and put people off.

Pray that lies and misinformation would be laid bare.

Pray that the church would look past the buildings and traditions and see the glory of Christ.

Pray for the global church, especially that those who have lost their way would turn back.

Pray that God's sovereignty would be evident to all in this global pandemic.

Pray for those who feel discouraged today.

Pray for the nation of Iraq. Pray for the few Christians there.

Pray for St George's church family, that we would remain united in the gospel. Pray for wisdom as we plan for the future. Pray for graciousness and unity.

Pray for our children's and youth volunteers. Pray God might raise up more young people to serve and lead and preach. Pray for more to join the PCC/ Deanery Synod.

Pray that the church would be transformed for good so we may bless many more people as we come out of this. Pray for ways to reach children and youth in this time.

For people to find faith that would endure and that they would recognise all of us can rely on no one but God for eternal life. Pray for those who have drifted away from church.

Pray for the future of the Church of England, that it might be renewed and transformed by the Spirit and return to its biblical roots given by Cranmer and the reformers.

Pray: Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Lord in heaven, forgive me for doubting your faithfulness, for pridefully believing that i should navigate these daily challenges on my own. I humble myself before you for you are mighty. I have neglected to invite you into these moments and to see how you have planned these little moments for my good and my growth, to change me and perfect me. Walk with me now lord, i invite your holy spirit to show me your presence in these moments. Reveal to me your hand in my life. I cast my anxieties on you, for i know you care for me. In Jesus' name, amen.