

St James', Wulfstan Way, Cambridge

The Weekly Sheet

28 February 2021

The 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT



Today:

9.30 am 'Virtual' Lent breakfast
10.00 am Sunday Service via Zoom

We remain in Lockdown for a couple of weeks at least. We feel that it is not advisable to gather in the church building at the current time but will await guidelines from the Diocese as to how and when we might consider using the church building for public worship. In the meantime we will continue with online services on Sunday mornings and throughout the week.

During Lent we will be inviting people to join the online zoom worship on Sundays at 9.30 am to share Lent breakfast. Arrive anytime between 9.30 and 10.00 am and enjoy some informal time together before the worship begins.

The Children's Activity group will not meet during Lent but there will be a chance to catch up together during the 'break out' times in the service.

This Week:

Individual private prayer and reflection. The church will be open between 10.00 am and 12 noon on Monday and Wednesdays for quiet prayer.

You are very welcome to come in to church but please respect social distancing rules of 2 metres, wear a mask, and use hand sanitiser upon entering and leaving the church. Please do not touch Bibles and other literature.

Morning Prayer will be held via Zoom at 8.45 am on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. We will be using a recurring link as given out in the Weekly Update email. There is no mid-week Eucharist.

Wednesday evening Lent group. During Lent we will be reflecting on poetry and praying together using Night Prayer (Compline). Please join us at 8pm via Zoom.

Collect for today

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today's readings are:

Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22.23-end; Romans 4.13-end; Mark 8.31-end

Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16

The Sign of the Covenant

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

Psalm 22.23-end

Praise the Lord, / you that / fear him;
O seed of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of / him, O / seed of / Israel.
For he has not despised nor abhorred the suffering of the poor;
neither has he hidden his / face / from them;
but when they / cried to / him he / heard them.
From you comes my praise in the great / congre/gation;
I will perform my vows in the / presence of / those that / fear you.
The poor shall / eat and be / satisfied;
those who seek the Lord shall praise him;
their / hearts shall / live for / ever.
All the ends of the earth
shall remember and / turn to the / Lord,
and all the families of the / nations shall / bow be/fore him.
For the kingdom / is the / Lord's

and he / rules over the / nations.
How can those who sleep in the earth
bow / down in / worship,
or those who go down to the / dust / kneel be/fore him?
He has saved my life for himself;
my des/cendants shall / serve him;
this shall be told of the Lord for / gene/rations to / come.
They shall come and make known his salvation,
to a people / yet un/born,
declaring that / he, the / Lord, has / done it.

Romans 4.13-end

God's Promise Realized through Faith

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Mark 8.31-end

Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their

life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

Readings for next Sunday, 7 March (3rd Sunday of Lent)

Exodus 20.1-17; Psalm 19 (or 19.7-end); 1 Corinthians 1.18-25; John 2.13-22

Zoom Bible and Prayer group on Wednesdays in Lent. We will be looking at different poems as part of our reflective time together throughout Lent. Each week the poem will be sent out with the weekly update email. Each session will conclude with Compline.

Zoom Banner making sessions during Lent. If you like to sew or just want to try, we are hoping to create something that reflects our feelings about the last year and how we have coped/are coping. All welcome - no experience necessary, just a willingness to try. Bring a cuppa with you and join our Saturday meetings from 3:30-4:30 pm on 27 Feb; 6, 13, 20 and 27 March to help us start to make a new banner for St. James.

Email Jacqui Worster: wreathmaking20@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Spiral Prayer Walk or Labyrinth. G and Tom Davies (through the Queen Edith Community Forum) have expertly laid out a simple spiral in the side garden of the church, using paint which will gradually fade away. It will remain there for Lent, so do drop by as families or individuals to use it as part of your daily exercise! There is no correct way to walk a labyrinth, but there is a sheet on the hedge next to the spiral with some suggestions from Anne which you are free to use or ignore as you please. We're not expecting there to be many users at one time, but be prepared to socially distance if necessary. See page 5 for picture and more information.

CMS Boxes. Thank you to those who collect for CMS. Please hold on to your boxes until further notice. Thank you.

100000 steps challenge for Arthur Rank Hospice - a message from Eleanor Pippard
I have decided to attempt the Arthur Rank's fundraising challenge to walk a million steps in a hundred days. This works out at an average of 10000 a day. To make it more interesting I have calculated that this is about the equivalent of walking from my house to Inverness, using roads rather than going 'as the crow flies' which would involve a lot of swimming. This means that each week I shall be able to see where I have got to in the country. The walk started on 11 January and finishes on 20 April.

Any sponsorship would be gratefully received to help this excellent charity. The link to my giving page is <https://arhc.enthuse.com/pf/eleanor-pippard-d0c4e>

Food Hub. The Food Hub will continue operating on a Saturday morning between 10.30 am and 12.30 pm here at St James'.

The food remains a basic food package ideally for those who are either struggling to pay for provisions or who cannot get to the shops or book an online delivery.

During lockdown the Food Hub is unable to receive or collect personal donations from people, but if you would still like to help, look on the Queen Edith Community Forum website to find more details about how to donate financially. Thank you.

Caroline is working from home and has access to the office answering machine and email - so please do contact her as you would normally.

Phone line. The Church of England central team have supported the release of the Daily Hope phone line. Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. Find out more here - <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-parishes/daily-hope-phone-line>

Spiral Prayer Walk or Labyrinth



Prayer Walk

A Labyrinth is a single, spiralling path that leads to a central area. There you might pause, before continuing on the same path, which takes you out again

There is no right or wrong way to walk a labyrinth. Just set off at a natural pace.

One approach is to focus on your breathing and on matching your steps it.

Another is to silently ask an open question such as those on the poster next to this.

Or you could simply pray. If something is troubling you, using the walk to share that concern with God can really help.

Prayer for Friends and Congregation of St James'

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| Sunday | Beryl Hobbs and family |
| Monday | Ruth Holdstock, John Griffiths, Matilda and Theo |
| Tuesday | Jean Holland |
| Wednesday | Christina Hood, Elena and Lukas |
| Thursday | Geoff Howard |
| Friday | Julia Hullyer |
| Saturday | Elsbeth Hutchison and family |

Contacts

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| Priest-in-charge | Rev'd Steve Rothwell 246419 s.rothwell3@btinternet.com |
| Curate | Rev'd Anne Strauss stjamescurate@gmail.com |
| Churchwardens | Pam Butler, 07745 591235 pambutler27@hotmail.com Hatty Harris, 01223 504720 harrishatty458@gmail.com |
| Pastoral Assistants | Mary Calladine, (01223) 246742 Rosemary Monk, (01223) 246421 rem66@btinternet.com |
| Director of Music | position vacant |
| The Music Group | Grae Worster, 846295 mgw1@cam.ac.uk |
| Safeguarding Officer | Jill Bradley, 07971 013645 happybeadsuk@gmail.com |
| Church Office: | 246419 (Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9.15 am - 1.15 pm) |
| e-mail: | stjameschurchcambridge@yahoo.co.uk |
| Website: | stjamescambridge.org.uk |

Weekly Church Activities – *currently suspended*

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| Junior Choir Practice | Sundays, 11.15 am – 12 noon |
| Choir Practice | Mondays 6.30 pm—7.30 pm |
| Meditation Group | Fridays 1.30 pm—2.00 pm |

Community Activities – *currently suspended*

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| Beavers (6-8 yrs) | 16thcambridgebeavers@gmail.com |
| Cubs (8-11 yrs, QE Schl) | Stephen Harrison, 07548 765421 |
| Scouts (10½ - 14 yrs, QE Schl) | 16thcambridgescouts@gmail.com |

Our parish magazine **Crosspiece** is available on the website.

If you are ordering goods from **Amazon**, please remember to use the Amazon link on the St James' website fundraising page. It doesn't cost you any more but gives St James a percentage of the price you pay.