

Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!

Having been exploring the 'Power of the Cross' over death, sin, sickness, and last week 'for fruitfulness' having considered Jesus metaphor of the vine bearing fruit through the branches remaining connected to the vine. This week we are taking that further, and looking at the Power of the Cross flowing through us, here, in our generation.



Photo by Madi Mocanu
"Frensham Little Pond"



Light up the world with prayer

Will you join us?

13th - 23rd May 2021
thykingdomcome.global

'**Thy Kingdom Come**' starts on **Ascension Day next Thursday, 13th May**, and continues until Pentecost Sunday. It is a global prayer movement that invites Christians to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. During the 11 days of 'Thy Kingdom Come', it is hoped that everyone who takes part will:

- *Deepen their own relationship with Jesus Christ.*
- *Pray for 5 friends or family to come to faith in Jesus.*
- *Pray for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to be effective in their witness.*

After the very first Ascension Day the disciples came together and were constantly in prayer while they waited for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which happened at Pentecost. We like them need the gift of the Holy Spirit, because on our own we can do nothing.

For centuries Christians have gathered at this time of year to pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit. 'Thy Kingdom Come' is a continuation of this. It started in 2016 and now Christians from 172 countries have taken part.

You can pray in your own way but there are some helpful resources available:

Prayer Journal: A short Bible reading, prayer and reflection for each day with space for your own notes.

Novena: a nine-day series of reflections and prayers based on various Psalms.

There are resources for children and youth too.

All these can be downloaded from www.thykingdomcome.global. Contact the church office if downloading is a problem.

"In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities." Archbishop Justin Welby

Blessings,

Brenda Schwartz

The Week Ahead

Zoom and other Links are in Website Calendar

10th Monday - 14th Friday

09.00 Weekday Morning Zoom Meditation

10th Monday

10 00 Babes and Toddlers,

11th Tuesday

20.00. Monthly Church Prayer Meeting Zoom (see next page)

12th Wednesday

15.00 Tea and Chat at 3

13th Thursday (Ascension day)

19.30 Communion in Church

16th May Sunday

08.00 Children's Celebration Video

10.30 Service in Church (Live Streamed)

11.45 Sunday Zoom Chat Fellowship

18.00 BCP Communion in Church

18.00 ~No Zoom Evensong Service

NB Track & Trace CHANGE

Please make sure that your name is ticked off at the door. Give your name if not on list.



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Update on recycled laptops for schools by PC Man :

The total of recycled laptops provided is now an amazing 24 laptops!!

Well done to PC Man

Please contact Trusted PC Man on 01428 606395 or email info@trustedpcman.co.uk to donate laptops. To make a financial donation, please visit the St Luke's website, go to vicar's relief fund and mark your donation "tech".

Many thanks,

Allison Sutcliffe

Thursday 13th is Ascension day

We celebrate when Jesus was 'glorified', taking his place at the right hand side of the Father. John explained: 'Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified (Jn.7:39). So the conditions were being set for the Holy Spirit to come upon the Church at Pentecost. **On Thursday I will be taking a Communion service at 7.30pm** in the Church to mark the day, and pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit afresh upon us at St Luke's, to revive us and bring abundant fruitfulness.



Photo by Brenda Schwartz

Contributions

Please send any contributions regarding good news, gardening tips, photos, humorous items, favourite Bible verse, poems, etc, for inclusion in future Newsletters before Wednesday, to Madi's email office@stlukes-grayshott.org

Prayer's for the week

- Head Teacher recruitment at Grayshott School
- Royal Family
- The pandemic in India (The situation is still worsening in India—numbers of infections and deaths still increasing)
- Those we know are sick.

The BCP Collect for Today

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
Amen

Prayer Focus Update

As you know from the news, India is desperately struggling with the ravages of a second wave of COVID.

In Kolkata (Calcutta) the situation is desperate. The city is in lockdown but thousands of poor have nowhere to go so they are dying on the streets. Their deaths are not recorded. Their bodies are burnt by petrol on the road side each night. Their children left to fend for themselves. The military in Kolkata are in total lockdown in their camps so cannot give help to the civilian authorities as they would do normally.

One of MMI's co-workers is an amazing Indian Pastor – Pastor Blesson is very concerned for his safety next week. He has to go to South India—a 40 hours journey by train or 4 hours flight, but because Jaya (his wife) is locked down as part of the medical staff in the hospital he will have to take children with him Blesson has been vaccinated. Pray for the Lord's protection and release from the need for this journey Pastor Samuel Mathai and his son Steven Samuel, both have Covid and have asked to 'be upheld with your sincerest prayers' – that is all we have to help us'.

The son of a General (we will call him M) military Christian leader, who we prayed for last week has sadly died. This has shaken the military Christian community in that area of India as well as M's church community. They believed in faith that when a bed was found the son would recover. Please pray for M as he deals with his loss while people watch him to see if his faith survives and asking him how he explains it.

Pray wisdom for those involved in planning the Covid recovery against a background of continuing massed religious gatherings (Kumbh Mela), multiple COVID variants, difficult oxygen distribution situation and a slow roll-out of vaccines.
Many thanks,
Susie

Life School

My vision is to make everything we do at St Luke's part of a programme of building the Kingdom of God in all our lives, growing in faith, living in the Holy Spirit, and 'abiding in Christ'. I have called this idea 'Life School', to bring together all the work we do. Having started with the preaching, I hope to explore this in all areas of our life. Jeremy

Growing in Jesus' Love at St Luke's

Our readings over the last couple of weeks have included John 15:1-16. The true vine, Jesus, encourages us that His love flows in us so we can grow and to bear good fruit in our lives. Joining with others and participating the activities below is an opportunity to grow a more in the love of Jesus.

The Morning Meditation Group meets from 9.00-9.40am weekdays on Zoom. The Group listen to the Bible passage then spend some time reading it themselves, meditating on it or looking at Bible notes. There is time for people to share if they want to, followed by brief prayers at the end. The Zoom link is on Jeremy's Sunday email. If you want to give it a try, you are most welcome to join them for the period of 'Thy Kingdom Come'. This begins on Thursday 13th May, Ascension Day. They will be using the Novena materials, mentioned above. If you want to know more, contact Brenda on 01420 479777 or brenda.schwartz@mybroadbandmail.com

Monthly Church Prayer Meeting: Tuesday 11th May, 8-9pm

For the anyone with a heart for God! No experience needed.....Includes:



- Five minutes teaching on a relevant topic.
- Listening to God for a short time.
- Praying for current issues for St Luke's and our nation.
- Declaring blessings over the people and businesses of Grayshott

This will be on Zoom. See Jeremy's Sunday email for the link.
Blessings,
Brenda Schwartz

"The Power of the Cross flowing through us" Today's Readings:

Acts 10:44-48

John 15:9-17

We are so grateful to you all for your support and encouragement in the work of the Gospel.

**Our Love to you all,
Jeremy & Claire**