

Vol: 43 - No 23
Sunday 7th March 2021
Third Sunday in Lent



Dear members and friends of TaB,

We are in the season of Lent, so our thoughts and preparations are mainly how we could live and serve God. So, I bring you a verse from the gospel of Luke: "...one of Jesus's disciples asked him, 'Lord, teach us to pray'". . – Luke 11:1.

We hear it said that a person's life will suffer if that person doesn't pray, but if you looked at it deeply; what will suffer is not that person's life. Instead, it brings an absence of the life of the Son of God in that person, which is nourished not by food but by prayer.

Remember when a person is born again from above, the life of the Son of God is born in that person. Prayer is the way that the life of God in us is nourished. Our common ideas regarding prayer are not found in the New Testament - as a means of getting things for ourselves, but the biblical purpose of prayer is that we may get to know God Himself.

John 16:24 - "Ask, and you will receive..." . But we actually ask God for very few things. Yet a child exhibits a magnificent boldness to ask! Our Lord said, "unless you become as little children" (Matt 18:3).

Ask and God will do. Give Jesus Christ the opportunity and the room to work. The problem is that no one will ever do this until that person is at in crisis point. When a person is at a crisis point, it no longer seems to be a cowardly thing to pray. In fact, it is the only way that person can get in touch with the truth and the reality of God Himself.

In this season of Lent, be yourself before God and present Him with your problems. The very things that have brought you to your knees. As long as you think you are self-sufficient, you do not need to ask God for anything.

To say that "prayer changes things" is not as close to the truth as saying, "Prayer changes me and then I change things." God has established things so that prayer, on the basis of redemption, changes the way a person looks at things. Prayer is not a matter of changing things externally, but one of working miracles in a person's inner nature.

Amen.

Yours in Christ

Rev Sam

LECTIONARY REFLECTION

By Gladys Chingoka

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 20 v 1-17, John 2 v 13-22, 1 Corinthians 1 v 18-25

From a Market Place to a temple of God

From the Gospel of John 2 v 12- 25. Jesus got into the temple at Jerusalem for the Jewish Passover service, and he found the temple full of sales of various moneychangers. He was furious that the temple was being used for the wrong motives. The temple of God had turned into a marketplace for selling cattle, sheep, and doves. It was their tradition, of course, that they would bring items for sales to raise funds for offering, for those coming from afar would not bring cattle, doves, sheep but would find them at the church, which was easy access for the burnt offerings. To them it was normal practice and so became the tradition. However, the coming of Christ was to give free access to God for all without any further offerings, to bring peace to the world without any further discord particularly in the meeting places of God's holy people.

God's Power through Jesus came on earth to remove the idol worshipping of burnt offerings, so looking at the access to these traditions he became very uncomfortable and the greater power in him caused him to overturn the tables and started challenging those selling in the table to stop this practice.

Looking further into the scriptures we see Moses, in Exodus 20, coming down from Mount Sinai with the commandments and one of the commandments in verse 4 says, "You shall not make yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below".

The question now comes to you and me. Are we not making the house of God the marketplace? Are we recognising that Jesus is the Power of God given unto us?

Friends do not wait for your intelligence to be made foolishness, do not wait for that disgraceful moment to catch up with you. With reference to 1 Corinthians 6 v 19, that reads "Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is within you?" We are challenged with those that sought to cause disorder in the hearts of children of God, those that stood with arrogance. It did not end in their favour other than repentance. Again in, 1 Corinthians 14 v 33 it reminds us, "...for God is not a God of disorder but of peace, as in all the meetings of God's people". Are you bringing peace to the world? I remember the song by Michael Jackson; Man In The Mirror, where he writes "If you want to make the world a better place take a look at yourself and then make a change".

As we prepare returning to the church buildings for worship, today I invite ourselves to bring the better us, the better for all, the greater joy, the greater peace.

Today friends we are called to accept the ultimate power of God, the sovereignty of God in our lives. Let the power of the holy spirit direct our footsteps as we turn away from being a marketplace to a place of worship.

Bless you all

Contact:

admin@trinityatbowes.co.uk - 020 8888 2797 - 07484 309301 - www.trinityatbowes.co.uk - Facebook: TaBChurch

PASTORAL



If you would like news items, prayer requests and or celebrations to be included in the Newsnotes Please send an email to revsam@mail.com before 6.00pm every Wednesday.
Pastoral Sec. Tony Addo – Anthony.addo54@gmail.com

O God our heavenly Father, as our United Kingdom continues with our restricted lockdown, we continue to seek your strength and courage for the days ahead.

God, this week we lift up the people of TaB, the families, friends and those who have asked us to pray for them. Help them to find ways to know that you love us all and consider each one of us important and a part of your creation. Pour into our lives your Holy Spirit to take away our worries, sickness and fear.

We pray for: those who are unwell, for those who are “staying safe” in their homes alone, for those working in care homes as well as the residents. We also pray for parents who struggle; juggling the pressures of work and home schooling, or those whose work puts them in the front line of risk.

We offer new prayers for:

Steve & Francis for the loss of his aunt, whose funeral took place on Wednesday this last week

We continue to pray for those who continue to need God’s grace and healing:

Elizabeth Arnold, Joyce Beaumont, Barbara Biggs, Iris Branch, Christina Cabrera, Dorothy Campbell, Yvonne Jordine, Rhona Knight, Yvonne Obeng, Hope Siwela, Victoria Sibanda, Elizabeth Takaedza, Charles & Elizabeth Dadey, Barbara McNally (Lewent), Christine (Linda Dawson’s sister), Cathy Riley, Catherine Smith, Nick (friend of Francis Branch Thomas & the family of Roy Mdudu

We pray for the families of those who have died recently: including the family of Lynnett Beckford-Heaven and the family of Bob Barker

Dear God hear our prayers. Amen



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Happy Birthday to our friends who may be celebrating a birthday this week

Carol Edwin 12th March

May God grant you overflowing joy, abundant opportunities, and a shower of blessings.
Happy Birthday!

To all who have Anniversaries this week.

May your marriage continue to be blessed with love, joy and companionship all the days of your life.

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Remembering our friends and loved ones

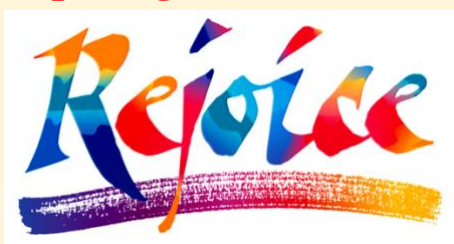


As we are not in the church building and enjoying the flowers, we felt it is still important to remember our dearly departed. Where we would usually have flowers in church in their memory, instead, we will still remember them. Let me know if there is any dearly departed loved one that you would want remembered.

Tony New, Lynnett Beckford-Heaven and Bob Barker

Donations that would have gone to the flower fund, will instead be used for the church garden project. Please send payment to the Tab bank account detailed on the next page, with a reference "Garden"

Opening of our church building again



Sunday 7th March: We shall be having a 30-minute Communion Service in the sanctuary from 10:30. This will be broadcast on Zoom. Select the link on the website. After the Communion Worship on 7th March, TaB is willing to share consecrated elements to all who wish, on request; collection from TaB on the 7th or on Monday 8th. If you have any difficulty in collecting them, please contact your pastoral link person or the Church Stewards to deliver it. Then you join with the

minister when you can by phone or Zoom to celebrate the Last Supper.

Sunday 14th March: This is the date of "Mothering Sunday". The church will be open for those who wish to join us watching the TaB produced circuit service on YouTube. Those in the sanctuary will follow this up with a prayer of thanksgiving. Alternatively, you can stay at home and watch. We would appreciate any texts or WhatsApp messages after the service finishes.

Sunday 21st March: This is Passion Sunday. We will be holding a shortened service from 10:30am in the Sanctuary, which will also be broadcast on Zoom.

Sunday 28th March: Palm Sunday. We are holding a full one-hour service, which will also be broadcast on Zoom. Following the service, we will be holding a Socially Distanced Silence Procession from the church around the block.

Thursday 1st April: This is Maundy Thursday. We are having a communion service from 7pm on Zoom. *consecrated elements are available for those who request*

Good Friday 2nd April: 30 min Meditation at 10:30am followed by a 'Walk of Witness - carrying the Cross'

Easter Sunday 4th April: Family Service from 10:30 including Communion

Note: We are decorating the Church for Easter and need lots of artificial / natural flowers and some plants. If you have artificial flowers and plants can we please borrow them? We will be happy to collect them from you or you could bring them to Church on Saturday 3rd 2021 between 10am and 1pm. The Zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9928297354?pwd=TjdiSG40ZG5YbUVLaXBFL0RiRGZ5dz09>

ID- 992 829 7354 Passcode- 518822

Circuit Lent study

We continue our Circuit Lent worship and study on Sunday evening at 6pm. The room will be open from 5.45pm to allow people to see one another and chat together. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87240918026?pwd=ckpvdXFCCc2JhZ1paTm1CYXJtVm9jdz09>

Meeting ID: 872 4091 8026 Passcode: 299877

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Church News and Centre Plus

During this Lockdown 3, Trinity at Bowes buildings is tentatively re-opening for worship in person, however worship will still be taking place through the New River Methodist Circuit - Online Church

Available on Facebook OR search You Tube for New River Methodist Circuit. Alternatively, you can use the link on our website's Home page of <http://trinityatbowes.co.uk>

Streaming Schedule for New River Methodist Circuit Online Church

Day/(s)	Time	Online Event	
Monday - Saturday	8.00 am	Thought for the Day	<i>Pre-recorded</i>
Monday - Saturday	9.00 am	Morning Prayers	<i>Live</i>
Saturday	10.30 am	Virtual Coffee Morning	<i>Live</i>
Sunday	10.30 am	Sunday Circuit Service	<i>Pre-recorded</i>

TaB church: Worship on Wednesday

Every Wednesday at 5pm-

As our building is closed, but our worship is growing week by week

Worship & Interactive Bible study.



Join via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9928297354?pwd=TjdiSG40ZG5YbUVLaXBFL0RjRGZ5dz09>

Meeting ID: 992 829 7354 - Passcode: 518822



TaB Church Face Book

"Like" our Facebook Page and receive regular inspirational updates

TaB Sunday School Resources

Updated every Saturday and ready for use from the Sunday following



TaB Bank Account Details

Should you wish to make your offertory or a donation here are our details:

Account Name: [Trinity at Bowes Methodist Church](#)

Account no: 92883701 **Sort Code:** 09-01-55

Please ensure you use your name as the payment reference



The UK is holding its 10-year census on 21st March 2021. There'll be plenty of help to take part for people who need it. Find out more at www.census.gov.uk



Local Elections are coming in May. Stay safe – register to vote by post



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