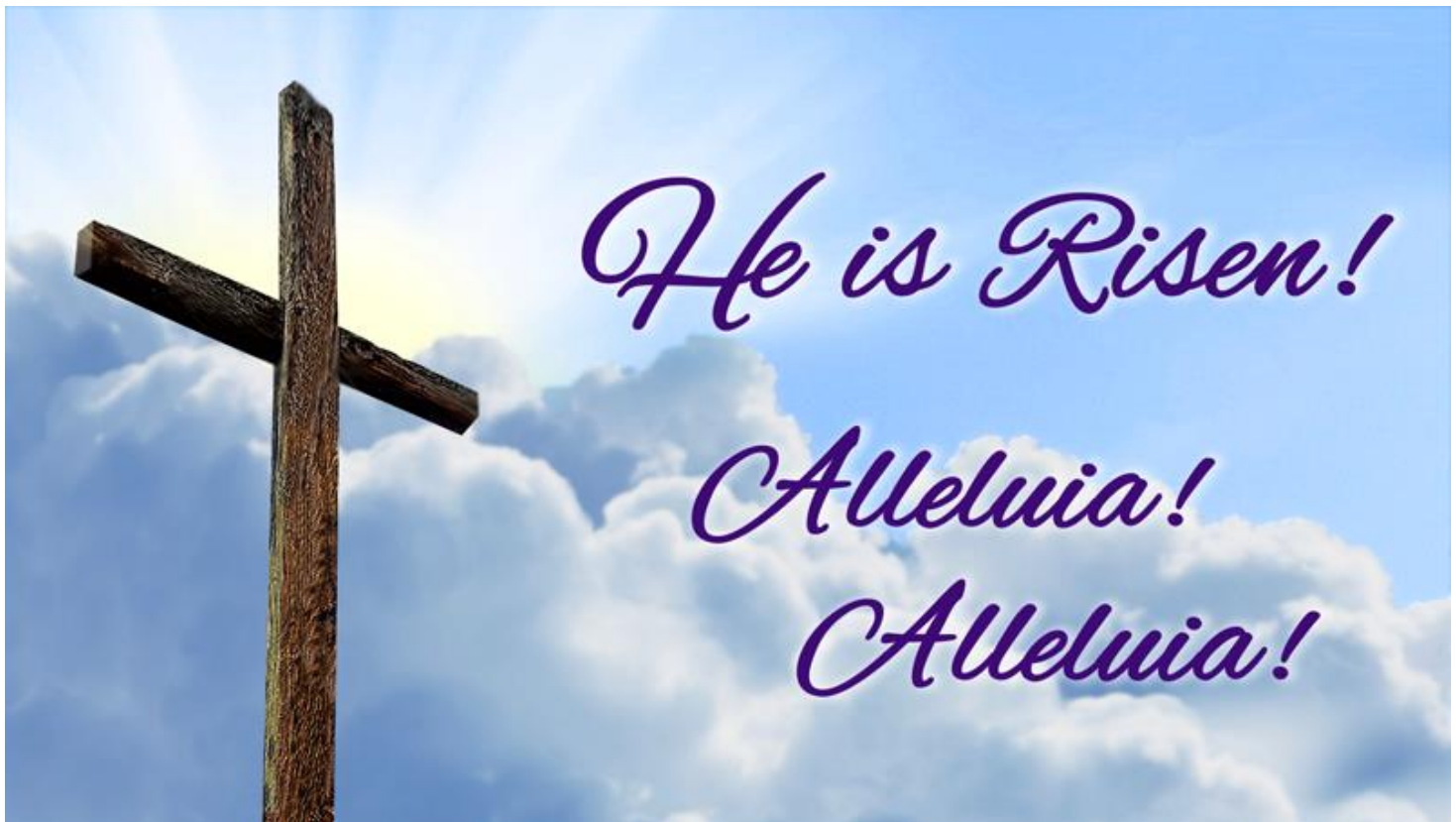


Just to keep in...

Contact

April 2022



The Borough, Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 1NL

www.hinckleyurc.org.uk

Minister

☎ 01455 634398 / 07725 747936

Youth Worker

☎ 07930 628011

Church

☎ 01455 637518

Rev Andrew Mudharara

revandrew@hinckleyurc.org.uk

Rachel Cobb

repooolehcar@hotmail.com

church@hinckleyurc.org.uk

Worship in April

3 rd Apr 10.30 am	Rev Andrew Mudharara (<i>Please note earlier start time; service followed by Church Meeting</i>)
10 th Apr 10.45 am	Mrs Rae Morrall (<i>Palm Sunday</i>)
14 th Apr 7.00 pm	<i>Maundy Thursday Communion</i> led by Mr Johnny O'Hanlon and Rev Andrew Mudharara
17 th Apr 10.45 am	Rev Andrew Mudharara (<i>Easter Day</i>)
24 th Apr 10.45 am	Rev George Lea
1 st May 10.45 am	TBA

Audio recordings of the services will be available on the church website by each Sunday evening. If you do not have access to the Internet and would like to listen to the service, we can relay the service 'live' to you by telephone. Please contact your Elder if you wish to take up this option.

Rotas for April (*Please arrange a swap if you are unavailable*)

Date	Door Stewards	Duty Elder	Cashing-up *
3rd Apr (10.30)	Sue Thain Kathy Smith	David Crick	Sally Leggat David Crick
10th Apr	Sally Leggat Ann Martin	Christine Thomas	Sally Leggat Tony Thomas
17th Apr	Richard Benham Sue Saunders	Sue Saunders	Sally Leggat Christine Thomas
24th Apr	Paul Deeming Julie Payne	Roger Moseley	Sally Leggat David Crick
1st May	Sue Thain Kathy Smith	Karen Jones	Sally Leggat Malcolm Hooke

If you can help on the Door Steward rota, please contact David Crick

From our Minister

We are going to have a student of Word and Sacrament from Westminster College, Johnny O'Hanlon for two weeks starting on the 23rd of March in Daventry and 24th in Hinckley. I want to thank the pastorate for the opportunity given to the student to have experience in our local churches and the people who are going to support Johnny during his two-week placement with us.

We are in Lent and preparing to celebrate the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ our risen Lord and Saviour. Easter is a time we celebrate the provision of our loving God who came down to where are and where to share His love for all people with us. We are currently going through the tabernacle in our series, "What makes us to be Church". The Tabernacle was God's initiative to reach out to the children of Abraham and God's desire to dwell among them just as God has initiated the coming of Jesus to dwell or live (Emmanuel; God with us) among us and show us the way to God. We celebrate that God loves all creation and gave His Only Son to die for it once and for all as an example to us to lay down our lives as best as we can for each other and creation because God loved us first and all creation.

We have a calling to love strangers and welcome them amongst us and do our best to make sure that they see the love of God through us. We have refugees and immigrants in our world that need support and people to walk alongside them in our towns and I believe we have a role to play as Church is this. You may feel like you cannot help and solve the challenges they face but you can listen to their stories and make a cup of tea in our Hinckley URC international friendship centre or offer to help read English or speak or read a story to their children at Daventry URC or what- ever you can offer as you respond to the love of God shown to us through Jesus Christ. I believe it was not easy for Jesus to offer Himself as a sacrifice for all of us and all creation but He did it and we are being called to do the same minus dying on the cross. I am so grateful for the donations towards the Ukrainian Crisis in Hinckley in particular and the Church donation of a thousand pounds through the Disaster Emergence Committee (DEC) Ukraine Appeal.

We have and are being called to minister to God in the tabernacle as we offer sacrifices of praise, thanksgiving and Worship to God daily and everywhere we are. We have to constantly remind ourselves of this ministerial calling upon us as God's people.

We are called to offer our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God which is our true and proper worship (Romans 12:1).

We are looking forward to see our families in Zimbabwe leaving on Easter Sunday for three weeks and introduce Tavonga to the families, prayers for safe journeys and stay are needed and welcome.

God Bless.

Andrew

News of the Family

Please remember our family and friends in your prayers.

We offer our sincerest condolences to the families of both Doreen Dawes and Maurice Harris.

Doreen passed away on Saturday 26th February, we pray for Jenny and all the family. Doreen's funeral will be held on Monday 28th March 11.30 at Hinckley URC.

Maurice passed away on Saturday 5th March, we pray for Mollie and her family. Maurice's funeral will be on Wednesday 6th April 11.45 at Market Bosworth Free Church.

Sue D is still quite unwell with a chest infection. Tony W has also had an infection. Joyce is now home after a spell of convalescence at her daughters after breaking her wrist. Paul D is to have a hospital procedure on Friday 25th March.

We give thanks that Zoya, Vita and Callum have returned safely with their family from the Ukraine. We extend a warm welcome to the family and pray for peace in the Ukraine and safety to all who remain.

We continue to pray for:

Betty H, Brenda O, Beryl (Julie's mum), Dennis, Ethel, Jackie H, Jan B, Joan, Keith G, Keith H, Lily, Nanette S, Nessa, Norrie, Muriel, Paddy, Pat, Ruth and Wendy and all of the church family who are receiving medical treatment or have continuing health issues.

Please contact me if you or someone you know is in need of prayer and would like to go on the prayer list, respecting their privacy and seeking permission first. Contact me by email or telephone 01455 446509.

Sue Saunders

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, flowers, cards and messages of condolence which I received following the death of Maurice.

They were all very much appreciated.

Mollie Harris

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Congratulations to all those celebrating birthdays this month:

Nanette (on the 7th), Sylvia and Tom R (both 15th), Janet (20th), Malvolia (25th) & Paddy (26th).

Congratulations to Paul & Nettie who celebrate their Wedding Anniversary on the 8th April, Geoff & Ann Sutton (11th) and Ian & Kathy Smith (17th).

Apologies to anyone we may have missed. Thanks to Kathy for maintaining these records. If we haven't got your information, please have a word with Kathy.

The resurrection of Christ, as I understand it, as Christians understand it, is that Christ is the "first fruits from the dead", the first sign. ... Thomas wanted to poke his hands into the wounds — he said, "that's what I've got to do, no nonsense" — that sort of thing. But, when Christ appeared to him, he didn't do that, he just fell at his feet and said, "My Lord and my God", which is actually the clearest assertion of a divine status of Jesus that you find in the New Testament.

John Polkinghorne (died 2021, theoretical physicist, theologian, and priest)

Church News

Elders' Elections

Nominations are now closed for the Eldership but no nominations have been received.

Church Meeting – Sunday 3rd April

There will be a Church Meeting after the morning service on Sunday April 3rd. The service will start at the earlier time of **10.30**

Volunteers Required

Help is required to serve tea and coffee after the morning service. Please see Ann Martin if you can help. If we don't have enough people willing to be on the rota, we will not be able to resume this valuable aid to church fellowship.

The Minister and Elders are keen to get the Tuesday Event up and running again. We need volunteers to help in the kitchen and to put out tables and chairs etc. Please see Ann Martin or one of the Elders if you would like to be part of this. It is hoped that these events can be held on a monthly basis.

Good Friday Walk of Witness – April 15th

Because of Covid this event has not taken place for the last two years but Churches Together are planning to go ahead this year. As in previous years the walk will commence at St Peter's RC Church at 11.00 and progress down Castle Street to the Market Square. Afterwards, folk are invited back to the URC for refreshments. Help is needed to serve tea and coffee etc. (please see Christine if you can help) and also to provide craft activities for children (please see Rachel).

International Friendship Centre

The IFC has started to meet again, currently on Mondays 11.30 – 12.30. It is hoped that this might be an opportunity to support refugees from Ukraine and possibly extend the opening hours in which case more help will be needed. Please speak to Christine if you want more information. If you know anyone for whom English is not their first language and who may need support, please tell them about IFC.

Wednesday at One

Wednesday at One continues to meet. Why not come along for a short service and time of fellowship? Wednesdays, in the church, at 1.00pm.

6 th Apr	Mr Karl Woodward	Hinckley Baptist Church
13 th Apr	Rev Daniel Cheyne	Hinckley URC
20 th Apr	Rev Solomon Bentu	Tilton Rd Pentecostal Church
27 th Apr	Rev Pat Mukorombindo	Hinckley Methodist Church

Contact Information

Please take great care when sharing these contact details with other people. This information will not appear in the version of Contact on the church website.

Church Secretary	Christine Thomas	
Treasurer	Sally Leggat	
Premises	Malcolm Hooke	
Children and Youth Work	Chris Sharrock	
Pulpit Supply	David Crick	
Music	David Crick	
Notices	Christine & Tony Thomas	
Flowers	Kathy Smith	
Catering	Ann Martin	
Contact Magazine	David Crick	

Mis-prints spotted in church notices

Eight new choir robes are currently needed, due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

The pastor would appreciate it if ladies could lend him their electric girdles for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast.

Commitment for Life Prayer - April 2022

Heidi Chow (Global Justice Now / Jubilee Debt Campaign)



Prayer for Global Justice Now

Dear God, thank you that economic and social justice are at the heart of who you are and that you stand on the side of those who are oppressed and marginalised. We pray for those on the frontlines of global injustice – healthcare workers and vulnerable people who are struggling to access vaccines in the global south, those who have lost their homes and livelihoods because of the climate crisis, countries that are struggling to fund healthcare because of crippling debt to international banks, black communities and people of colour who are on the sharp end of racial injustice, and communities that are fighting trade deals that prioritise corporate interests over human rights and public services. We pray for victories for communities and campaigners in the fight for a people's vaccine, for climate justice, for debt justice and for trade justice. We pray that solidarity, peace and justice will prevail.

In Jesus name, **Amen**

In the March edition the name of the writer of the Commitment for Life Prayer was omitted. It was written by Dr Mark Dawson (Fairtrade Yorkshire)

Come for a stroll?

We are proposing to restart the church walks. In response to my email there is no day which suits everyone so will probably vary the days as time goes by. The first stroll will be on Wednesday 13th April - please meet at Sutton Cheney Wharf at 10am. A nice easy stroll to begin with of about 3 miles with a cuppa at the Wharf to finish if you wish. Please let me know if you are coming.

Tony T

"The message of Easter is that God's new world has been unveiled in Jesus Christ and that you're now invited to belong to it."

— N. T. Wright

News from the Vine

As the weather improves, we are feeling very spring-like at The Vine with Easter books, cards and eggs on the shelves. If you haven't picked up your Easter cards yet there are still plenty available. We also have the Real Easter Egg in stock - please do let us know in good time if you need a quantity of them. They are available in milk chocolate, dark and (new for this year) white chocolate! We're serving hot cross buns in the coffee shop during Lent, which you can have toasted, oven-warmed or cold, served with or without jam. We'll also be preparing to welcome customers to sit at our outside seating as the weather improves - it's already looking lovely out there with daffodils and primroses having come up recently.

A new arrival recently in is the long-awaited novel by Francine Rivers called "The Lady's Mine". Like her first novel, "Redeeming Love", it is set in the American Goldrush and is about a suffragette and an ex-soldier who meet and join forces to save a town - I'll review it fully, on our website blog when I've finished reading it! If you are a fan of Rivers' work you are bound to enjoy it.

We are short of volunteers at the moment, particularly for Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and are looking for people who would be happy to help in the coffee shop doing food prep and serving customers. We ask for a reference (usually from a church minister) and have a simple form that needs completion. If you are interested, please call in for a chat or email thevinehinckley@hotmail.co.uk.

Since the invasion of Ukraine by Russia we have added a donation button to our website, which will take you to the DEC appeal page. We will also be donating anything put into our counter piggybank to the DEC campaign for the foreseeable. We have recently created a prayer board in the shop - this is for you to add your prayers - not just for Ukraine but for anything on your heart, and to prayer over the prayers of others.

God Bless, *Jessica Harrison* Manager

"The cross is the standing statement of what we do to one another and to ourselves. The resurrection is the standing statement of what God does to us in return."

Richard Rohr

Roles of the youth worker – part 3

Hinckley Council work

It has been a real pleasure working with the local borough council for many years now and we continue to do more to help each other out.

The work started when the events team used the church to do Christmas Children's activities during the Hinckley Lights switch on and the Car light trail for the elderly.

We have developed the relationship by working alongside the council staff to do the crafts and offering free refreshments to those that come in, also inviting The Vine. More recently due to staffing changes – I organise and run the crafts and the council help us.

We are still very active in the Car light trail and went outside last year – (Covid) and sang and offered refreshments to the minibuses with the people in – it was a wonderful evening.

Another activity we set up was the council working alongside myself – to offer Children's activity sessions at the church for 1 day in each holiday – we would take care of the children – it was a lovely time. During Covid, each holiday time we stood outside the church and gave out free craft bags for the children instead. Due to staffing changes with the council – this was not able to continue.

The Snapdragon festival in Hinckley is a huge and exciting event for families in August. We got involved a few years ago and served the refreshments to the families at the event. Last year I was asked to organise and run the craft areas for the event – which was an amazing opportunity and this year we have been asked to do the same – we also asked for support at Churches Together. We have also been asked to do crafts at the St Georges Day event in town – so fun times ahead.

Looking ahead – if you are able to help at St Georges Day (23rd April 10am -2pm), Snapdragon Festival (3rd - 5th Aug 11am-3pm) – please look out for more info and sign-up sheets.

Please pray for this growing relationship and these missional activities.

Rachel

Christian Aid News



Christian Aid Fayre will be held at St. Mary's church on Saturday April 30th between the hours of 9.30 until 1.30. Please note change of date and operating hours. Please see if you have any good bric-a-brac (no clothes or electrical items), unwanted new items, jigsaw puzzles, toys and garden plants for the different stalls and if you can help to staff the stall on the Saturday, please contact *Malcolm Hooke*.

CA Quiz. Quiz sheets are now available at the back of the church. The theme this year is: 'find the shopping trolley items'. A suggested minimum donation of £1 per sheet. Closing date Monday 23rd May.

CA week from Sunday 15th May until Saturday 21st May. As a church we no longer take part in the 'house to house' collections but we will have a church collection and envelopes for your donations will be available within the church or in the copy of the magazine. Envelopes will be available throughout May and can be brought to church and placed in the basket provided. Please sign up for the gift aid.

Last year the Methodist churches delivered 'Delivery only envelopes' that could be returned to a given address. This turned out to be a great success and raised almost the same amount as the previous house to house collections. *Malcolm Hooke*

*Come, sinners, to the gospel feast;
Let every soul be Jesu's guest;
You need not one be left behind,
For God has called all humankind.*

*His love is mighty to compel;
His conquering love consent to feel;
Yield to his love's resistless power,
And fight against your God no more.*

*Sent by my Lord, on you I call;
The invitation is to all;
Come, all the world and witness how
All things in Christ are ready now.*

*See Him set forth before your eyes,
Behold the bleeding sacrifice!
His offered benefits embrace,
And freely now be saved by grace!*

*Come, all you souls by sin
oppressed,
You restless wanderers after rest;
You poor, and maimed, and sick, and
blind,
In Christ a hearty welcome find.*

*This is the time; no more delay!
This is the Lord's accepted day;
Come in, this moment, at his call,
And live for Him who died for all.*

Charles Wesley (alt)

Demystifying Worship

Build your confidence in planning worship
at an interactive development day led by **Lesley Moseley**

Saturday 2 April 10.00am-3.30pm
at Christ Church URC, Leicester

A **free one-day workshop** for:

- elders and members who are occasionally asked to lead worship or parts of worship
- all those who would like to know more about putting a service together
- anyone who thinks God might be calling them to help with praying or preaching in their own church

Take the worry out of worship-leading at this friendly, interactive workshop, kindly led for us by the **Revd Lesley Moseley**. Lesley will lead you through the essentials of structuring a service before guiding you in how to choose readings and hymns. Try your hand at producing and populating an Order of Service and progress to writing a prayer or even the outline of a sermon.

There will be tea, coffee and of course times of worship to enjoy. By the end of the workshop, you will have a sound grasp of the basics and be bolstered to go back to your church and play a part in leading its people in praise.

If you have ever been asked to consider preparing worship, or worried you wouldn't know how to go about it, our **Demystifying Worship** day is designed for you. It will be held in careful compliance with whatever health guidance may apply at the time. To register for your place, free of charge, please email trainingpa@urc5.org.uk .

William Sangster (1900-1960) was a prominent Methodist minister, and from 1939 to 1955 was Minister of Methodist Central Hall, Westminster. In 1958, Sangster was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease. Over the course of two and a half years he experienced the gradual paralysis of his muscles, which left him with no voice and able to move only two fingers. With them he communicated with others by writing, but eventually even that became illegible. On Easter morning, just a few weeks before his death, he managed to write: "How terrible to wake up on Easter and have no voice to shout, 'He is risen!' Far worse, to have a voice and not want to shout".

Recalling the Ministry for February - March 2022

(As largely seen on the Church Web Site as THE WEDNESDAY WORD)

-----OOO-----

In reflection on the message from Sunday 20th February 2022,
A Song by Chris Tomin: **Good, Good Father** welcomed those present.

Call to Worship: Mark 10, v13-16: **The Little Children and Jesus.**

v13: **People were bringing little children to Jesus**

for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them.

v14: **When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them,**

“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them,

For the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

v15: **Truly, I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God
like a little child will never enter it.”**

v16: **And he took the children in his arms,
placed his hands on them and blessed them.**

The Celebration of Dedication and Blessing of Tavonga took place.

A song by Matthew West: **Walking Miracles** was played

Extracts from Bible Reading from John 19, v38-42, **The Burial of Jesus.**

v38: **Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus.**

**Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, because he feared the
Jews.**

With Pilate’s permission, he came and took the body away.

v39f: **He was accompanied by Nicodemus...who brought a mixture
of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds.**

**Taking Jesus’ body, the two of them wrapped it with the spices...
in accordance with Jewish burial customs.**

v41f: **At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden,
and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid.**

Because it was the day of Preparation... they laid Jesus there.

The Address drew on the reading, highlighting that Joseph and Nicodemus were heroes who came forward, despite fearing the wrath of the Jews, to provide the Jewish burial customs. There are many modern heroes who secretly do good works, including those who are secret Christians who worship in countries where their faith is forbidden.

Jesus is a hero for his sacrifice, dying on the cross for our sins, which we remembered during our **Communion Celebration**.

-----OOO-----

In reflection on the message from Sunday 27th February 2022,

Extracts from Bible Readings from Psalm 46 and Proverbs 18, v10-11

Psalm 46, v1f: **God is our refuge and strength,
ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear.**

Proverbs 18, v10: **The name of the LORD is a fortified tower;
the righteous run to it and are safe.**

v11: **The wealth of the rich is their fortified city;
they imagine it a wall too high to scale.**

Psalm 46, v7: **The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our
fortress.**

v8f: **Come and see what the LORD has done... He makes wars cease...
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear.**

v10: **He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among
the nations."**

v11: **The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Sermon: **Life with a Future.**

The two verses from Proverbs show us we have a choice for living our lives.
Verse 11 suggests we might try to rely just on our own resources, but this can
be a struggle. Verse 10 tells us that with the LORD in our life we will be safe.

The Psalm tells us more.

-----OOO-----

In reflection on the message from Sunday 6th March 2022,

Call to worship, Psalm 99, v1: **The LORD reigns, let the nations tremble;
he sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.**

v2: **Great is the LORD in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations.**

v5: **Exalt the LORD our God and worship at his footstall; he is holy.**

v9: **Exalt the LORD our God and worship at his holy mountain;
for the LORD our God is holy.**

Extracts from Bible Reading from Psalm 100, **Grateful Praise**

v1: **Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.**

v2: **Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.**

v3: **Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

v4f: **Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give
thanks to him**

**and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

Sermon: **What make us to be church 2?** The hymn after the sermon told us:

"The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord."

The sermon illustrated how the Old Testament God-centred world, where the Tabernacle (“church”) dealt with worship, sins and their redemption by burnt offerings, whereas, this is reflected in the Christian world of Church where God the Father is reached through the teachings of Jesus the Son, who died for the forgiveness of our sins, and all is recorded in the Word of God, The Bible. (“**The LORD reigns**”)

-----OOO-----

In reflection on the message from Sunday 13th March 2022

Extracts from Bible Reading from Philippians 3, 17 – 4, 1. **Following Paul’s Example**

Paul writes: v17: **Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters**

and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do.

v18: **For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears,**

many live as enemies of the cross of Christ.

v19f: **Their destiny is destruction...but our citizenship is heaven.**

And we eagerly await a Saviour...the Lord Jesus Christ.

4, v1: Therefore...you whom I love and long for... stand firm in the Lord.

Extracts from Luke’s Gospel, 13, 31-35, **Jesus’ Sorrow for Jerusalem**

v31: **At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, “Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you.”**

v32: **He replied, “Go tell that fox, I will keep driving out demons and healing people**

today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.”

v34f: **“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you,**

how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing...You will not see me again until you say,

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Address: Entitled “**Heart**” - Godly Living: we should do more to follow Paul’s example e.g.

Heart. Loving like Jesus: the people in our community.

Head. Thinking like Jesus: reading scriptures and praying.

Hand. Acting like Jesus: helping the needy.

Many thanks to Brian Beagley for putting this summary together.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 2nd April	Worship Workshop - Christ Church URC
Sunday 3rd April	Church Meeting after morning worship
Thursday 14th April	7.00pm Maundy Thursday Communion
Friday 15th April	Good Friday Walk of Witness
Saturday 30th April	Christian Aid Fayre, St Mary's Church
Saturday 21st May	Free Church Choirs Festival - Lichfield Cathedral

Regular Meetings

Every **Monday** Chat and Prayer session on Zoom - log in after 6.45pm for a 7.00pm start and ending about 8.00pm

Tuesday Weekly Bible Study Group – see Richard Benham for details

Wednesday-at-One – Wednesday 1.00pm

Wednesday Monthly House Group – meeting via Zoom.

Next meeting Wednesday 6th April 7.30pm.

Thursday – Prayer meeting for future of the church 11.00 Front Foyer

Friday prayer group 10.00am (in the church).

If you need any help using Zoom please contact Tony Thomas.

Please submit material for the May edition of Contact by Sunday 17th April. Articles can be emailed to dghc1@btinternet.com. The next edition of Contact will be available on Sunday 24th April.

Thank you to everybody who has submitted articles this month.