



St Andrew's

Roundhay April 2023



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Easter life: **beyond the grave**

Just before Easter, we based the theme of our Sunday morning worship around one of the shortest quotes in the Bible – 'Jesus wept' – from John 11:1-45. It tells the sad story about Jesus friend, Lazarus, who died. Yet through this story we remembered that it's OK to be sad or to grieve – it's natural. This is a story about the death of someone Jesus loved very much. And it's about how much death hurts the friends and family left behind. Talking about death is never easy – whether the deaths we see on our screens, or our own personal experiences.

In March, Rachel and I went to funeral of a dear friend and colleague, someone I hadn't seen for too many years, who was my best friend when we trained at college together to be ministers, and who was my best-man at our wedding. His name was Paul and we had great fun together, like a pair of big kids, causing mischief at college, playing Scalextric, climbing mountains, sampling fine ale or whisky, or watching old Dr Who episodes on the college VHS player when everyone else was in bed. Paul died peacefully, but unexpectedly, in his sleep, and was only a year older than me. I miss him. And it hurts. But I think that's OK that it hurts, because it shows that we both lived and loved one another.

Some of you will have had people very close to you die. But, one of the huge benefits of being people of a living faith is that it should be easier for us to create a safe space in which we can explore and share our thoughts about **death** and dying. I'm not sure that we talk about death enough – I don't mean in a morbid way. But do you reflect on how much you feel when you've been to a funeral? Do you think about what was helpful and what was difficult about it? And how do we relate our experiences to our Christian belief in resurrection?

Don't think for a moment that this makes the story of the raising of Lazarus some kind of prequel to Easter, or a resurrection-lite! What is happening here to a group of family and friends is something very different. But it can give us a window into understanding the meaning of what comes beyond the grave of Good Friday and Holy Saturday. At Easter Jesus show us life beyond the grave...



That story about Jesus and his friends – Lazarus, Martha & Mary – is about reflecting on the experience of loss. There has been a great deal of loss in recent times: the pandemic, war in Ukraine, devastating natural disasters and more. And, of course, there is always the personal loss that every family experiences from time to time when a loved one dies. As I grieve for my dear friend Paul, it is not too difficult to imagine how Martha and Mary would have felt. And yet beyond the sadness (and even some anger) I know there is happiness to be found in life beyond death.

Jesus said: *"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."* Mary and Martha believed this. My friend Paul believed this. And I believe it, especially at Easter!

(A prayer from ROOTS)

A sorrow shared is a sorrow halved.
We have seen the closeness of Lazarus and his sisters,
to each other and to you, Lord Jesus.
We thank you that, through you,
we too can have that shared experience.
Thank you that in our time of grief,
however long it takes, you are there.
Thank you that you can bring new life to us.
And thank you most of all for the gift of eternal life. Amen.

Our Lord is risen!
God bless you.

Front cover photograph taken by Mandy Grant in Stoke
Gabriel, Devon

Pastoral News as of 23rd March 2023

Congratulations to:

Isabelle (Izzy) Irwin, David and Bronwen Robinson's oldest grandchild who lives with her family in South Carolina and has been awarded an academic and sports scholarship to Lander University in Greenwood, SC.

Unwell in recent weeks or convalescing after being unwell, or in hospital:

Max Dudley, Jean Henderson, Derek Scott-Taylor, Hilary Thackray, Claire Westgarth and Kath Wolfe

Almighty God,

Bless us this Eastertide and forgive us when we do not respond to others in the way we ought. Let everything that has breath praise you. Our hearts trust in you and we believe you will be there to help us and so we praise you, our Saviour and Lord.

Amen

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition of St Andrew's magazine. The deadline for contributions to the May magazine is 20 April please. Articles may be emailed to magazine@standrews.cc For handwritten or typed articles please contact the Editor (Claire Westgarth) - details in the directory

All information correct at time of publication



Thank you!

With your support I raised £164
throughout 2022 for

St Andrew's Christmas charities.

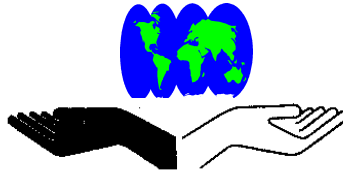
I will continue with my fundraising this
year so please get in touch if you want
to find out more

Rachel Lowe
Independent Partner - ID
46690
rachel.lowe21@btinternet.com



Prayer for Change

*printed simultaneously in the magazines of
Lidgett Park, St Andrew's and St Edmund's churches*



Eternal God, you are the creator of all that is, yet in you we live and move and have our being (Acts 17:28)

So, when we feel alone and helpless, when we are overwhelmed by the immensity of your creation, when we quail in the face of the suffering we see around us in this world, small and vulnerable though we are, help us to remember that you are a God of love who cares for each and every part of your creation.

As we look forward to the celebration of Easter when Jesus was raised to new life with you, whatever our circumstances help us to remember that we too have the promise of a new creation where we can share in your eternal life.

Amen

Prayer Times

Tuesday Evening Prayer Time

7 for 7.15pm via Zoom

Meeting ID: 892 9702 1135

Passcode: 973783

Thursday Morning Prayer Time

9.15 - 10am via Zoom

Meeting ID: 827 1953 9585



GREEN CHRISTIAN JOINS THE BIG ONE PROTEST

**APRIL 21-24
100,000 PEOPLE
HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT**



No Faith in Fossil Fuels Service and Pilgrimage to Parliament

Green Christian is joining forces with many other charities in supporting The Big One climate protest with a Christian service and pilgrimage to Westminster on Friday 21 April.

Our ask is our prayer: No more fossil fuels. Amen.

If you do one thing for God's Creation this year, this is it – just be there. And bring your churches, family, friends with you.

- From 11am – Gather in the garden at St John's Waterloo (or inside if wet) for Music from Engage Worship and hopefully The Salvation Army
- 12 noon – Christian service
- 1pm – Pilgrimage to Parliament Square (this will be step-free)
- 2pm – prayers for government and blessing on the protest at Westminster.

The family-friendly protest continues over the weekend (21-24 April, ending at 6pm each day). Christian Climate Action is holding a prayer vigil throughout and organising different activities for public worship. See Christian Climate Action's website for the latest plan.

This is the moment for ordinary, law-abiding people to come out in support of what groups like Extinction Rebellion and Just Stop Oil are saying about how serious the situation is, but without resorting to their methods. The science is clear – the head of the UN says we are “firmly on track toward an unliveable world”. The International Energy Agency has said there can be no new oil and gas development. Yet our government is opening new oil, gas, and even coal mines. As Christians it is our job to care about this, to be prophetic, to call out our government's flagrant dereliction of duty and to demand action. Dietrich Bonhoeffer said:

Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act.

Speak and act with us on 21 April!



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023 - TAIWAN

The symbol of the Women's World Day of Prayer was designed by an Irish nun in 1982 and adapted as the international logo.

The design comprises arrows converging from the four points of the compass, four figures kneeling in prayer, the Celtic cross and a circle representing the world and our unity through all our diversity.

Ladies in **Taiwan** formed committees to begin planning the 2023 service back in 2019 and of course, Taiwan has featured in our news in recent months. It is unbelievable how often this has happened. Many countries are in need of our prayers but often one stands out a little bit more than others, and this has happened with Taiwan.

The theme chosen by ladies in Taiwan, was **“I have heard about your faith”** – Paul’s words in Ephesians chapter 1.

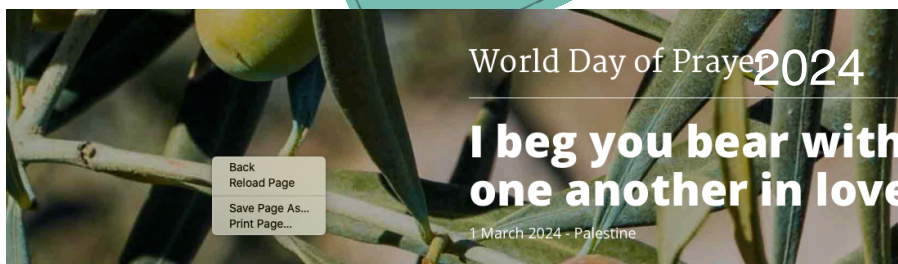


On Friday 3rd March the world was encircled in prayer as over 3 million Christian men and women came together to observe a day of prayer. In the UK alone, over 5,000 services took place. There were 4 services in our local area: Lidgett Park Methodist with participation by ladies from St Edmund's and St Andrew's; St George's Church hosted by the Lighthouse Community in the presence of the Lord and Lady Mayor; Shadwell Methodist and in the evening, Trinity United.



Each service was the same with everyone following the same format, hymns, songs and readings. The message as described by Paul was to focus on the greatness of God's power, still available to us today and it is this power which enables us to achieve great things and encourages us to share the gospel with the message entrusted to us. The ladies of Taiwan asked us to write a letter or a message of support to someone we care about. They wanted us to encourage them to take care of themselves and one another, to uphold the faith in Christ, to be a testimony of the power of God, and to share the love of Jesus. Will we take up their challenge?

Sheana Dudley





Sylvia has celebrated her 84th birthday!

Having achieved 40 years of service to the poor and disadvantaged of India, Sylvia has handed over her projects to a new leader. This difficult decision has been handled with sensitivity and a great deal of prayer. The Trustees are to be congratulated.

In April Tony Allinson (Chairman) and Anthony Gilpin (Trustee) are going to India and will bring Sylvia back to Leeds with them. They will be invaluable in what will be an emotional time for Sylvia.. In Leeds they will help her to settle into her new home. We will be having our next committee meeting at St Andrew's on Thursday 13 April at which Sylvia will be present.

Her successor in India is John Rajkumar. He is eminently suitable to succeed Sylvia as Manager having 25 years' successful experience of running a large charitable institution based in Chennai. It provides lifetime care for children with special needs. Sylvia and John have been working together to ensure a smooth handover of all the SWT projects. Earlier this year John and his wife stayed in Leeds (as the house guests of Tony Allinson and his wife) so we had the opportunity to meet them. They are both very suitable to manage the SWT so the its future is in safe hands.

*Sylvia Wright
(centre) at the
ceremony to mark
the handover to
new CEO John
Rajkumar. He
stands immediately
to her right.*



HELEN COCKERILL 03 JUNE 1946 - 11 FEBRUARY 2023

Helen was born in Loveday Street Hospital in Birmingham to parents Phyllis and Frank Mather. She grew up in Kings Heath with her two siblings, Kaye and Paul. They all attended Colmore Road Primary School until all moving to Stourbridge in Worcestershire in 1957 where they attended The Grange Secondary Modern School. Helen then went on to Old Bury Tech at age thirteen.

From 1964 - 1967 Helen did a teacher training course at St Osyth's College in Clacton-on-Sea in Essex, before moving to join her sister Kaye, who was also doing a teacher training course in Leeds. It was here Helen began her teaching career. Helen loved travelling and spent a year travelling and teaching in Australia in 1970.

Back in Leeds where she had settled, Helen met Steve Cockerill and they were married in 1975. They went on to have four children, Tanya, Bevan, John and Adam. Helen was a primary school teacher and taught at a number of schools in Leeds, for the longest at Scholes and Elmet Primary school.. She loved young children and was passionate about them getting the best starts in life specialising in Additional Educational Needs and Behaviour. As well as teaching, for years she gave up her time to host a hospital radio show at St James' called Record Requests.

Helen was enormously proud of her family and delighted in becoming a grandmother to Ezrae, Zeren, Farley, Bowen and Orin.

Helen had been a member of St Andrew's for thirty-seven years, attending regularly until her health deteriorated with Parkinson's. She had fully embraced several Pilgrimages organised by David Pickering to Islay, Jura, Bute and Lindisfarne. It was on the pilgrimages that her love and skill of photography shone through.

Helen was a lovely person and she will be remembered for many things, especially for her stoicism in the face of her last illness, for her lovely smile, fun sense of humour, her compassion and love of children. We give thanks for her life well lived.



The format for the tea parties for our seniors does not vary all that much because what is put on by the Pastoral Care Group ticks all the boxes – food, fun and fellowship! We would not want to lose any of those ingredients. The Snowdrop Tea this year took place on Saturday 25 February when the snowdrops were still in full bloom. It was a pleasant, sunny day with no concerns of ice and snow.

It is always a pleasure to see people meeting up with others they may not have seen for some time and conversations flowing although some are keen to get stuck in with answering the quiz. After all, stakes are high – a box of Matchmakers for the winner!

For the first time, entertainment was provided by Junior RoCo who have just restarted in January this year after a break of a few years. This was to be their first gig. Some of the children's parents came to watch their offspring perform a few excerpts from Shakespeare's plays. They did really well and we can all look forward to attending future performances by this enthusiastic group of budding actors. Big thank you to Alice Rayner and Mary Shalvey for all their help and work in training the children to perform so well.

All too soon, carriages (or cars in this case) were arriving to take our guests home after an enjoyable afternoon.

Afterwards, one of the guests wrote,

"The sandwiches, sausage rolls and various cakes were lovely. I am pleased that my favourite cream cheese & date sandwiches were still on the menu!

The quiz tested our brains and memories and was great. Also the Junior RoCo performances were most enjoyable. A couple of the performers will I am sure progress to senior level. "

Thank you also to the Pastoral Care Group for their baking, preparation and support in this happy, enjoyable event.

Sheana Dudley

Pastoral Care Convener





CLOCKTOWER CAFE

A warm welcome awaits



Every Wednesday 10:00 - 12:00



St Andrew's Roundhay, Shaftesbury Avenue, LS8 1DS

Commitment for Life

Life-giving Faith | Defiant Hope | Generous Love

Spring Update Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory

Safe spaces for children and families

In Palestine there are very few safe spaces for children to spend quality time with their peers and parents in a public place.

Christian Aid partners with the YWCA of Palestine, working in the West Bank with vulnerable communities. In 2022 the YWCA hosted workshops for communities in Alshweikeh and Kufur Nimeh to help them identify key vulnerabilities and needs within their communities and worked with them to develop strategies for addressing these needs. Both communities highlighted the need for spaces for their children and families.

Children in Alshweikeh lacked a space to meet and play safely and do joint activities with their parents after school and on holidays. The community's priority was to repurpose a piece of land adjacent to the local youth club, covering it with grass and providing playground toys for local children and families to use.

Youth in Kufur Nimeh are very interested in sports, yet the only youth club in the village lacked the seating for youth and parents to sit and watch the games. Through YWCA workshops, the community decided to upgrade their facilities and encourage the youth to visit the club by putting in seating for families to sit and watch and improving their cafeteria. The club will also be able to host football games with other clubs and teams



Children playing football in Kufur Nimeh

to enhance youth exchange and utilise the space to its full potential.

The head of Kafr Ni'ma Village Council, Rafat said, 'Now, the number of visitors has increased, and young players are motivated by

**'Now, the number of
visitors has increased'**

the presence of their families to encourage them in training and games.'

By putting the voices of the communities central to both projects, each community gets to determine its own needs.

**Thank you for your support through
Commitment for Life.**

Time to make polluters pay

COP27, like many UN conferences of the past left mixed feelings. Whilst there was a real lack of commitment to phase out fossil fuels, a deal was agreed to create a fund to compensate those most impacted by climate disasters. Joab Okanda, Christian Aid's Pan African Policy Advisor, said: "This is a victory for climate vulnerable countries who have been demanding this."

Right now though, all we have is an empty bucket. We need those responsible for the climate crisis to step up and provide the money urgently needed to help communities on the frontlines of the crisis.

It's time to make polluters pay for the damage they've caused. Join the campaign at aid.org.uk/riseuppayup

www.bit.ly/URCFL
Facebook @comm4life
Commitment for Life, 86 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RT
Tel 020 7916 8638

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Worship Dates

April

Sunday	2	10.30am	Palm Sunday worship and Holy Communion	Rev Angela Hughes
Monday	3	7.30pm	Reflective Service	
Tuesday	4	7.30pm	Reflective Service	
Wed	5	7.30pm	Reflective Service	
Thurs	6	7.30pm	Maundy Communion at Lidgett Park	
Friday	7	10.00am	Good Friday CTR Walk of Witness	
			starting at Lidgett Park, ending at St Andrew's	
		7.30pm	Good Friday Reflective Service	
				Rev Tim Lowe
Saturday	8	3.30-5.30	Messy Church	
Sunday	9	19.30am	Easter Day Communion	
				Rev Tim Lowe
Sunday	16	10.30am	Family Worship	
Sunday	23	10.30am	Cafe Style Worship	Rev Tim Love
			and The Worship Group	
Sunday	30	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev Nicola Robinson

May

Sunday	7	10.30am	Family Worship with Holy Communion	Rev Tim Lowe
Saturday	13	3.30-5.30	Messy Church	
Sunday	14	10.30am	Family Worship	Ann Coats
		6.30pm	Evening Service	Rev Tim Lowe
Sunday	21	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev Geoff Ellis
Sunday	28	10.30am	Cafe Style Worship, Church Parade	
			Rev Tim Lowe & The Worship Group	
		6.30pm	Ecumenical Evening Service at	
			Lidgett Park	

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The
**United
Reformed
Church**

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