

NEWS

Sunday 14 February 2021

St Mark 
St Andrew
SERVING JESUS, EACH OTHER, OUR WORLD

Come and Join us ONLINE

We live-stream Sunday at 10.30 from St Mark's.

If you are unable to access our worship online

we are open for a few people to join us socially distanced in person.

Dear friends

"Will you not revive us again,
that your people may rejoice in you?" [Psalm 85:6]

Many of us are understandably feeling the burden of these days. When the psalmist faced such difficulties, he cried out to the Lord for God's people to be restored and revived. It is what we all need isn't it? Much as we should pray for protection and for God's sustaining hand to get us through another day, it is also right that we should be praying for the Lord to be sending revival upon us. It would be just like the Lord to come to us when we are at our weakest and lowest ebb, so that when His power is made known it is obvious to everyone that it is due to God and not to us.

Our city will be praying for revival on 28 February when we will join together with Christians in Salisbury. See p.3

Lent starts on Ash Wednesday and we will be providing a short service at which I'll preach. It will be accessible any time after 8am Wednesday 17th February in You Tube. Will plan also to provide some resources for families in Lent and will publish them in Torchlight and Facebook.

I leave you with a song '[Abide with me](#)' sung by Kristyn Getty from the Getty's latest project 'Evensong'.

Yours in Christ, Andy.

VERSE for 2021:

"Fixing our eyes on Jesus." Hebrews 12:2 (NIVUK)



ONLINE SUNDAY

Breakfast@9 LIVE

9.00 - 9.45 in [Zoom1](#)

10.30 Livestreamed

A Joint Parish Service is broadcast live via our [website](#) and [YouTube](#) and as a recording afterwards.

Followed by [CoffeeChat](#) at 11.30-12.00 in Zoom1

IN THE WEEK

ZOOM daily social

Mon - Sat 4pm in Zoom1

Weds 'Morning Prayer'

9.30am. Bible readings and a short time to pray. In Zoom1 or join by phone see p3.

Ash Wednesday Service

Available from 8am on 17 Feb [here](#).



Church Connect

...Pick up a Phone...Care, Share and Prayer Who will you encourage this week? Contact a churchwarden if you need help to get started.

www.stmarkstandrew.org



Please click the logo above for a full Spring term programme.

14 February Sunday before Lent

Signs & Sayings:

Deuteronomy 8:1-14

John 6:25-59 [Torchlight](#)

Lectionary readings:

Mark 9:2-9 [worksheet](#)

2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalms 50:1-6

Collect:

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen



In February, DailyHOPE will be offering material around the whole area of sleep, and how it has been affected in the lockdown.

Breakfast@9 with Diane

At Breakfast@9 we've been looking at the signs and sayings in the book of John, which was written 'that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.' (John 20:31). Today we come on to the first of Jesus' sayings, 'I am the Bread of Life.'

We live in a time and culture where there are so many different food options we don't get the importance of this statement. Two thousand years ago the metaphor of bread spoke volumes to those who heard Jesus' words.

Here, Jesus is addressing the crowds who were following him. The previous day they had seen him feed 5000+ people with 5 loaves and 2 fish. They were looking for another miracle that would satisfy their immediate need, using the time when God gave the Israelites manna as they wandered in the wilderness as an example. This prompted Jesus to say, 'I am the bread of life.'

Through his grace God does meet our present needs. But greater and far more important is that he gives us eternal life, abundant life. It's a gift from God, not something we can attain ourselves. We simply have to believe that Jesus is the Son of God, come down from heaven for us.

'Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty...For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."' (John 6:35,40)

Peter Ensor on John 6.22-35: Jesus is 'the Bread of Life'

So far in our series on the signs and sayings of Jesus in John's Gospel we have been reflecting on the first five signs: the turning of water into wine (ch.2), the healing of the official's son (ch.4), the healing of the man at the pool of Bethesda (ch.5), the feeding of the multitude and Jesus' walking on water (both in ch.6). This Sunday we reflect on the sayings of Jesus (also in ch.6) which reveal him as 'the Bread of Life'.

Jesus' discourse on this theme flows from the events which preceded it: some of those whom Jesus had fed in the wilderness had stayed in that vicinity overnight and the next day started looking for Jesus. Their search brought them to Capernaum, the fishing village on the north shore of the sea of Galilee which Jesus used as the main base for his Galilean ministry.

When Jesus meets them, he discerns their true motive: they are not really interested in his teaching, but are just looking for more bread to eat, so he tells them to change their priorities by searching for 'the food which endures for eternal life' rather than (merely) 'the food that perishes'.

Jesus' challenge leads to a conversation in which he responds to their misunderstandings and clarifies what he means. The 'bread of life', he says, is God's free gift to humanity, delivered through Jesus himself, which satisfies our deepest needs and leads to a new quality of life, a life which begins now and lasts for ever. It may be received simply by coming to Jesus and trusting in him.

In our materialistic age, in which goals are often limited to purely earthly and temporal ends, these words could hardly have more relevance.

What's on...

Online Groups running January - Easter

Click the [link](#) for list of groups or contact the office.

Citywide Day of Prayer Sunday 28th February

To pray for **spiritual breakthrough**, that many in our city will turn to God, and **physical breakthrough**, for our hospital and those that are sick. Local prayer times then concluding all together at 7.30pm on zoom. *You can watch a short video about the event from Simon Redmill from Grace Church [here](#).*

Join Zoom meeting link [here](#): Meeting ID: 885 2020 3054
Passcode: 423050

SOME LENT RESOURCES

Lent Books: 'An Ocean of Grace' & 'Hope in the face of Suffering'

Lent starts on Ash Wednesday 17th February 2021.



You may be looking for a suggestion for some devotional reading for this season. Tim Chester has a very helpful selection of daily prayers entitled 'An Ocean of Grace' - £7 through the church office. Jeremy Marshall has compiled 20 daily devotions for tough times 'Hope in the face of Suffering'. If you click the [link](#) you can read a chapter each week.

Steps for making Ash [link](#)

Lent resources for children [link](#) and [booklet](#)

Holy Land Pilgrimage with Barry Blackford



Have you ever thought of going on a pilgrimage to give thanks to God and reflect upon your faith and life, especially after these times of pandemic?

As mentioned in his recent sermon, Barry is leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land during Lent next year (22nd - 31st March) visiting Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Dead Sea and the Jordan Valley as well as Galilee. For further details, speak to Barry (01722 410568) or click on the link above.

Light a candle online at Salisbury Cathedral



A new website has been created to give a platform for people to light a candle and pray while the cathedral is closed. Anyone can share a message [here](#) and a candle will be lit for them inside the cathedral and their prayer added to the daily prayer list.

News & Notices In brief

The Barrington Centre (Bishopdown)

Available for "Work Space During Lockdown"

Wifi and mini kitchen available for you to work alone or with your bubble. No charge, but donations welcome.

Please apply to:
office@stmarkstandrew.org

Join Zoom events by phone



For those who can't use zoom you can join by telephone on **0330 088 5830** then put the ID number below in on your keypad followed by # when prompted.

Meeting ID 251 131 0154
For all events in Zoom1

To the church family of St Mark's and St Andrew's,

We'd like to say a **big** thank you for your quarterly donation to our work across the schools, which has now been received. We are so grateful for your generosity and prayers. This has been a strange time for us, as it has for so many. We were back and busy in most schools up until Christmas but, for now, we are waiting news that means we might be able to head back in. Your financial support really does make such a difference to the work that we do and we look forward to updating you in due course! Every blessing and thanks again from everyone at **The Bridge**.

Mission News

February Focus: Alabaré

Helen from Alabaré writes in her email... As we approach Lent, I am writing to request your prayers for our work. Here at Alabaré the pressures are great, but we are delighted that all our homes remain open, so that our residents are still receiving the support and care that they need, but our staff and residents remain under a lot of pressure, with individuals having to self-isolate and everyone coping with the demands that lockdown and the virus are causing.

GIVING

It costs more to run Sunday services in **Covid-19** - an extra £195 a week for our music and technology. Thank you for your extra donations. You can still use the link below, your usual method of giving, or speak to a treasurer.



Do you know someone who would value receiving this newsletter? Please encourage them to subscribe using [this link](#).

Contacts

All enquiries and requests for support to Jane Holme: church@stmarkstandrew.org or by calling 07933 952171
Prayer Chain: prayer@stmarkstandrew.org
Items for the Newsheet: news@stmarkstandrew.org
Parish Administrator Jane Holme: office@stmarkstandrew.org

Vicar - Andy Bousfield (07866 434117) vicar@stmarkstandrew.org
Churchwardens, St Mark's - Jo King (07771 858547), Sarah Hardy sarahhardy40@gmail.com
Churchwardens, St Andrew's - Sue Gallagher (332619), Russell Jugg (07703 170308) russell.jugg@ntlworld.com

Our Mission Partners

*Yei Diocese
David and Shelley Stokes
The Bridge Project
Alabaré
Salisbury Street Pastors
Salisbury Food Bank*

Please Join Alabaré for the [Big Sleep at Home!](#) Friday 5th March

Please pray for **David and Shelley Stokes** for safe travel to Salta in preparation for returning to the UK when possible and saying farewells.

Zoom links

Zoom1

Meeting ID 251 131 0154
Passcode zoom2020
Phone 0330 088 5830

Zoom2

Meeting ID 923 007 5605
Passcode 0GmyyD

Our Zoom rooms are available for your use - to avoid any clash please let the church office know in advance.

ZOOM daily social

Join us for a social chat on Monday - Saturday 4pm in **Zoom1**.

PRAYER POINTS

- **Jill & Peter and Diane** leading and preaching today.
- **Our Treasurers Debi, Maureen and Mike**
- For those on our **Prayer Chain: Russell Jugg** recovering after hip surgery; **Joan & family** -recently bereaved; **Teresa Donaldson & family;** **Gordon** (Alma's Brother); **Trevne Reeves & family;** **Gerry & Barbara Spice;** **Alec & Jean Jordan, James & Sarah; Peter & Janet Dominy.**
- **Alabaré (see insert)**
- **Wider Church Leadership** For Godly leadership & faithfulness from Bishops & all church leaders, in city, diocese and nation.

The Hospital needs extra volunteers. Do pray for them and follow [link](#) for details.

PRAYER CHAIN

If you would value prayer for anything please send requests to our prayer chain. This will be shared with home group leaders and passed to our dedicated pray-ers. All details will be treated respectfully. prayer@stmarkstandrew.org

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Do pray for us and contact the office with suggestions.

MALT 25th Feb 7:30pm

SALT, MALT and PCC have their meetings in **Zoom1**



TORCHLIGHT

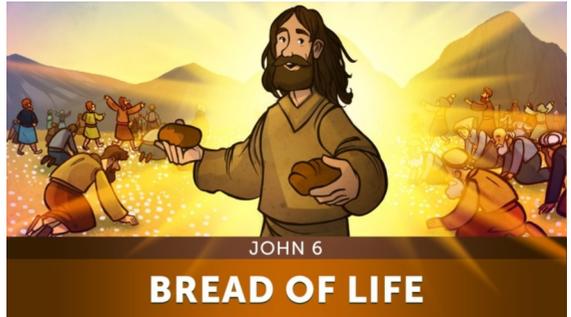
14/02/21

THEME: I AM THE BREAD

Hi Torchlighters!

John 6:25-59

Verses 25-27 When they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, "Rabbi, when did You come here?" Jesus answered them and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. Do not labour for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him."



When did You come here? Jesus did not answer this question. The answer would have been, "I walked over the Sea of Galilee in the night time to help my disciples, then I miraculously transported our boat across the remaining distance of the Sea. That's when and how I came here."

You seek me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled: Instead of telling them when and why He came, Jesus told them why they came – because they wanted more food miraculously provided by Jesus.

Often we can learn more from understanding the reason we ask God a question than from the answer to the question itself. This was the case with those who followed Jesus around the Galilee and asked the question. They wanted the bread, but more than just the bread; they also wanted the display of the miraculous and a miracle king to lead them against their Roman oppressors. They were quite unaffected by the wisdom of His words and the beauty of His deeds, but a miracle that found food precisely met their wants, and so there was an excited but impure enthusiasm, very unwelcome to Jesus.

Do not labour for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures for everlasting life: Those asking this question of Jesus went to a lot of trouble to follow and find Him. Yet their work was for the food which perishes – things that fill a stomach and rule and earthly kingdoms. Jesus wanted to them labour for the food which endures for everlasting life.

Jesus made a contrast between material things and spiritual things. It is almost universally true that people are more attracted to material things than spiritual things. A sign that says free money and free food will get a bigger crowd than one that says spiritual fulfilment and eternal life. They were rightly impressed at the miracle of bread worked through Jesus; but He wanted them to be more impressed for the spiritual food He brings by a miracle.

Verses 28-29 Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

The sense behind their question seemed to be, "Just tell us what to do so we can get what we want from You. We want Your miracle bread and for You to be our Miracle King; tell us what to do to get it." Those who questioned Jesus seemed sure that if only Jesus told them what to do, they could please God by their works of God. For these people, as with many people today, pleasing God is found in the right formula for performing works that will please God.

This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent: Jesus first and foremost commanded them (and us) not to do, but to trust. If we want to do the work of God, it begins with trusting Jesus. A parent does not only want obedience from their child; a relationship of trust and love is even more important to the parent. The hope is that obedience grows out of that relationship of trust and love. God wants the same pattern in our relationship with Him.

The first work is to believe in Him whom He sent. Our faith in Him is not a substitute for works; our faith is the foundation for works that truly please God.

See pages 7-8 for a poster to colour in and some puzzles to do.

By Jo King

I am the Bread of Life.
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry.

John 6:35

4/12/2015

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry.



WORD SEARCH

WORD LIST

AWAY
BOAT
BREAD
DAY
DISCIPLES
EAT
FATHER
FOUND
GOD
GONE
JESUS
LOAVES
RABBI
SAW
SEA
SEALED
SEEK
TIBERIAS



John 6:22-40

JESUS, the BREAD of LIFE

CROSSWORD

USING THE UNDERLINED WORDS BELOW, FILL IN THE BOXES ON THE NEXT PAGE.

"AND JESUS SAID UNTO THEM, I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE: HE THAT COMETH TO ME SHALL NEVER HUNGER: AND HE THAT BELIEVETH ON ME SHALL NEVER THIRST."

"BUT I SAID UNTO YOU, THAT YE ALSO HAVE SEEN ME, AND BELIEVE NOT."

"ALL THAT THE FATHER GIVETH ME SHALL COME TO ME: AND HIM THAT COMETH TO ME I WILL IN NO WISE CAST OUT."

John 6:35-37

