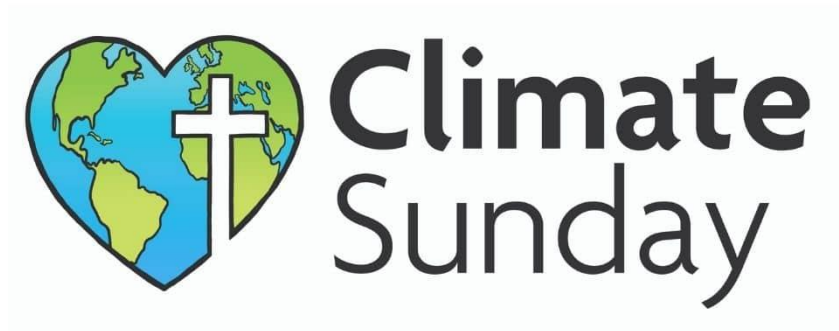


Sunday February 28th 2021

Lent 2 Climate Service for all the Church Family



This Sunday you have the choice of viewing the whole service on this link:

[https://youtu.be/ https://youtu.be/hyAmWBSAniM](https://youtu.be/https://youtu.be/hyAmWBSAniM)

Or Search on YouTube on your Tv for Climate Sunday amsndb

Or following the service on the service sheet below:

(Notices and Zoom info at the end of this service sheet:)



**Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the Earth**

Hymn 1 God of the Sparrow

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oqhq1MhVoHY> God of the Sparrow

Sunday February 28th 2021

Lent 2 Climate Service for all the Church Family

Welcome Steven

Welcome to our Joint Benefice service here at St Peters Chapel.
Today we are thinking about Climate Sunday which is an ecumenical initiative of the Environmental Issues Network of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, of which USPG is a part. Climate Sunday encourages us to hold a climate-focused service, to explore the theological and scientific basis of creation care and action on climate, to pray, and to commit to action.

Greeting

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

**From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lord, fill us with the knowledge of your will
that we may bear fruit in every good work.

Collect for Creationtide

**Source of all life,
we give thanks to you for your wondrous creation
made manifest in the environment that surrounds us;
strengthen us in the mission of stewardship
and care towards nature, the work of your hands,
encouraging us to preserve life in all its precious forms.
All this we ask through Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

Saying sorry to God

Confession

Oh God who have chosen to be with us as one of us
All Your help and your tenderness heal our wounds
Your kindness and your generosity enrich our poverty
All Your protection set us free from fear

Lent 2 Climate Service for all the Church Family

Your strength dynamizes and encourages when we feel weak

All Your generous love satisfies our needs

Your richness fills us when we have got nothing

All Calm the thirsty we have on you.

Comfort our sadness's

All Soften our sufferings

Heal our diseases

All You, who attend the poor's cry

Mother of all us, great on mercy

All We ask you

Drag us all into the living water of our gifts

All Pour your favours on the people who belong to you

Here we are

All At your presence of generosity

Exposed to the winds of your huge kindness

All Felt in love with you...

All Hallelujah!

Father, forgive us:

All save us and help us.

May the God of all healing and forgiveness

draw you to himself,

and cleanse you from all our sins

that we may behold the glory of his Son,

the Word made flesh,

Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Praise

Blessed is the Lord

All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

All and in our song we will praise our God.

We now sing the hymn **If the Fields are Parched**

Hymn 2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-LsqrROrAcM>

Lent 2 Climate Service for all the Church Family

Reading by Revd Brigid

The beginning

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **2** Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

3 And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. **4** God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. **5** God called the light 'day', and the darkness he called 'night'. And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.

6 And God said, 'Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water.' **7** So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. **8** God called the vault 'sky'. And there was evening, and there was morning – the second day.

9 And God said, 'Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.' And it was so. **10** God called the dry ground 'land', and the gathered waters he called 'seas'. And God saw that it was good.

11 Then God said, 'Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.' And it was so. **12** The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. **13** And there was evening, and there was morning – the third day.

14 And God said, 'Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, **15** and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.' And it was so. **16** God made two great lights – the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. **17** God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, **18** to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. **19** And there was evening, and there was morning – the fourth day.

20 And God said, 'Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.' **21** So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. **22** God blessed them and said, 'Be fruitful and increase in

Lent 2 Climate Service for all the Church Family

number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.' ²³ And there was evening, and there was morning – the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, 'Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.' And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals,^[a] and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'

²⁹ Then God said, 'I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.' And it was so.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reading: by Laurie

Psalm 104

²⁴ How many are your works, LORD!
In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁵ There is the sea, vast and spacious,
teeming with creatures beyond number—
living things both large and small.

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²⁶ There the ships go to and fro,
and Leviathan, which you formed to frolic there.

²⁷ All creatures look to you
to give them their food at the proper time.

²⁸ When you give it to them,
they gather it up;
when you open your hand,
they are satisfied with good things.

²⁹ When you hide your face,
they are terrified;
when you take away their breath,
they die and return to the dust.

³⁰ When you send your Spirit,
they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.

Praise the LORD, my soul.

Praise the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We now sing the hymn **This is my father's world**

Hymn 3 This is my Fathers world

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3ZVL0LMRMw>

Today's Gospel read by Richard

Mark 8:31-38

Jesus predicts his death

³¹ He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. 'Get behind me, Satan!' he said. 'You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.'

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The way of the cross

³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save their life^{la} will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶ What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? ³⁷ Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ³⁸ If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: By Revd Steven Poss

Mark 8: 31-end - Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection
Sermon – Climate Sunday – www.climatesunday.org

Welcome to our service today. In today's service we are thinking about the Earth's climate and time for creation. Environmental issues are rising fast up the agenda and the Church of England's General Synod has set an ambitious target of becoming net zero carbon by 2030.

Outside the church, all people but especially young people are concerned about the im-pact of climate change and the crisis nature is facing. This past year we've recognised our need to spend time in nature for our own mental and physical health. Also, the UK government is hosting the world as it gathers in Glasgow in November's global climate conference, known as COP26.

The Climate Sunday initiative is calling on all local churches across Great Britain & Ire-land to hold a climate-focused service on any Sunday before 5 September 2021. At this service, congregations are encouraged to make a commitment to greater action to address climate change in their own place of worship and community and to use their voice to tell politicians we want a cleaner, greener, fairer future at the heart of plans agreed during COP26.

Our vision is to leave a lasting legacy of thousands of UK churches better equipped to address this critical issue as part of their normal discipleship and

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mission; and to make a very significant contribution to civil society efforts to secure adequate national and inter-national action at the start of this most critical decade.

By participating in the initiative, churches will also be able to raise a loud and united Christian voice for bolder action by governments in the run up to the COP26. This relates to the Global and Community Engagement sections of the Eco Church programme.

A Rocha UK supports churches advancing on their Eco Church journey and how Eco Churches can make a significant contribution to the bold and timely aims of Climate Sunday in the critical year ahead. Churches will be asked to commit to a suitable long term action on climate as a congregation (for example, to get to the next stage of Eco Church within a particular time frame), and to raise their voice with others by signing a common in a call for the UK government to get the UK on track to meet its targets to cut carbon emissions and become 'net zero'.

You can join the mailing list for updates and find ideas on ways to get your church in-volved by visiting the Climate Sunday website.

Here we are at St Peter's Chapel filming our service today, which is not only one of the oldest Christian church's in England today, but also one that uses one of the least amount of carbon fuels. Climate Sunday wants to raise three challenges with us today:-

- Climate change is already hitting people in poverty the hardest.
- God calls us to love our neighbours and speak up for them.
- You can make a difference by signing the declaration and by praying.

I would love to introduce you to Orbisa. She's 35 and lives in Ethiopia with her children. She and her family work hard rearing goats and cattle to make a living, but in the past few years nine of her ten cows and nearly half of her goats have all died. That's because the rains aren't coming when they used to, and droughts in the region are getting more severe. As the climate changes, it's pushing Orbisa's family deeper into poverty. In the Bible, Jesus tells us the most important commandments are to love God, and to love our neighbours.

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Tackling the climate crisis is vital to both of these – honouring God by protecting his creation and loving our global neighbours who are hit first and worst by what is now a climate emergency.

Our reading from Psalm 104 demonstrates an intimate knowledge of creation. The psalmist describes the beauty of creation, declaring, ‘O Lord, what a variety of things you have made! In wisdom you have made them all.’ The author understood how creation works. They knew where the bird’s nest, and where the mountain goats live, the great skill of a lion as it hunts its prey, and the vast array of creatures living in the water. They knew creation intimately: they must have spent time observing and learning how all things fit together, and they were inspired to worship as a result! In verse 31 of the psalm, just after the part we’ve heard this morning, it says God rejoices in his creation. The beauty and variety of all he’s made brings God joy!

Whether it’s plastic pollution littering seas and the poorest communities, or species going extinct at record rates, or the climate crisis making droughts, floods and storms more frequent and severe, we’ve misused and damaged this beautiful gift of God. We’re feeling some of the effects in the UK, but the impacts are hitting people in poverty the hardest. It’s hard to grasp what that really means: it’s big and abstract.

Tearfund is running the Reboot campaign this year, and together with The Climate Coalition they are calling on the UK government to lead the world in delivering a post-Covid recovery that is healthier, greener and fairer and which puts us on track to tackle climate change. If you could go online at www.tearfund.org/reboot In this Reboot campaign, they are calling for greater support for people in poverty who are most vulnerable to climate change, and for more investment in renewable energy around the world. We really are at a turning point in history, and the decisions we make now will affect our economy, society and the climate for decades to come. If you have a look through, you’ll see there’s a place for you to add your name to The Climate Coalition’s declaration by writing your name and address. When we speak up together we can make a real difference. We can stand alongside Orbis and call on the government to take action. Can I give you a moment to do that now.

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In our Gospel reading, Jesus asks us to take up our cross and follow him. God delights in his creation, which includes us and wants us to follow his ways in looking after our-selves, each other and our world. This challenge also includes trying to follow God's ways explained to us in the Bible and this includes being stewards of his creation which is part of our discipleship and following God's justice. Whilst these challenges will be different for us all, we can all make the same changes by trying to reduce the Earth's climate and achieving net zero carbon by 2030. One thing we all can do is switch to a renewable electricity provider and there are lots of renewable energy providers out there.

During this Lent, let us be honest with ourselves and pray to God to help and guide us how best we can do this in our lives. We have a deep and unshakeable hope because of what Jesus has done for us, and what he continues to do in the world. Our first response should be to fix our eyes on God and to pray.

Let us Pray.

Father God, we thank you that you are a God of justice. Thank you that you know Orbisa and her family, and all those already impacted by climate change. Jesus, we are sorry for the ways we've damaged your creation. Help us make changes in our church's and in our own lives to love our global neighbours well. Holy Spirit, would you stir the hearts of members of our government, Guide them in all their decision-making, and inspire them to protect the most vulnerable. **Amen.**

Revd Brigid

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

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Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith.

We believe and trust in one God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

We now sing the Hymn **Weave Us Together**

Hymn 4 Weave Us Together <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiTS6RPYTNE>

Prayers of Intercession: by: Debbie

Let us Pray

Intercessions for Creationtide

This is Christ's commandment: to love one another as he loved us. With contrite spirits and respect for all humanity, let us pray to God that we may learn to care for not only our brothers and sisters, but for all God's creation shown forth in the wonder of nature that maintains our common life.

We pray for all in the Far and Middle East, Africa and South America where there is disturbance, unrest and persecution. Have compassion on all who suffer from trials and pain, especially the victims of natural disasters caused by our own greed and negligence. Grant them their needed relief and the help of your children in their daily struggles.

Inspire us to love the whole of creation.

Kindle the hearts of the leaders in your Church; especially John, our bishop, Steven, our priest, Brigid and all at Othona, St Nicholas, St Lawrence, St Thomas' and St James' communities. Reveal in them the example of your Christ, who revered and cared for the fullness of your creation.

Inspire us to love the whole of creation.

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Inspire all civil authorities to dedicate their resources and efforts to the building of a better world for all your people. May they govern with respect and balance toward nature through policies that seek to relieve the environmental calamity that surrounds us.

Inspire us to love the whole of creation.

Remembering:

Sadie Russell

Dede Starsmeare

Fr Lionel Webber and Jean Webber

Fr Stan Swift's and Sally's Grandson Elliott

Beryl Dixon

Sue Wilson

Ernest Norman

We pray for all those in our communities and all that we might know, that are unwell at this time, they may recover and be aware of your healing powers.

We are very pleased to hear from Tom and Hayley, that **Pascal** who was seriously ill with the Corona Virus and pneumonia and who we have been praying for for many weeks is now recovering well and has finally at home.

Have mercy on your children suffering from illness, granting them healing and comfort from their afflictions. Equip us to serve all who are ill as we would serve Christ.

Inspire us to love the whole of creation.

We pray for the families of those who have passed away,

For **Tony Hutson** We pray for his wife Haley and for Sophia and Luke at this difficult time.

For **Freda Howard** who's funeral is on 4th March.

Bring to your glorious presence all those faithful who have departed this world with faith in Jesus Christ. Grant them eternal rest in the company of the Virgin Mary, apostles, martyrs, and all your saints.

Inspire us to love the whole of creation.

Receive the prayers we now offer you as a sign of our immense gratitude for the world we live in, for the many blessings you have given us, and above all for the life in nature that continues to flourish despite our carelessness. Grant that

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we may return your love in acts of charity and compassion toward the world that you created and all of its creatures.

Inspire us to love the whole of creation.

Creator of all, whose Son came to reconcile all creation to you: inspire in us a reverence for your creatures in this world and accept the prayers that we now offer; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We now say together **The Lord's Prayer**

**All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Final Blessing by **Revd Steven**

Go out into the world rejoicing,
and encounter the Creator who waits to meet you there;
savour its richness and diversity
and live as those who praise God for its bounty;
and the blessing of the Creator God,
the Eternal Father,
the Risen Son and the Promised Holy Spirit
be upon you, that you might be a blessing
to others today and always.

All Amen.

Blessing, honour and glory be ours,
here and everywhere,
now and for ever.

All Amen.

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Thankyou for joining our Service this week, please keep safe.

If you need any help or support at this time please contact your local church for us to help.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

We now sing the hymn Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

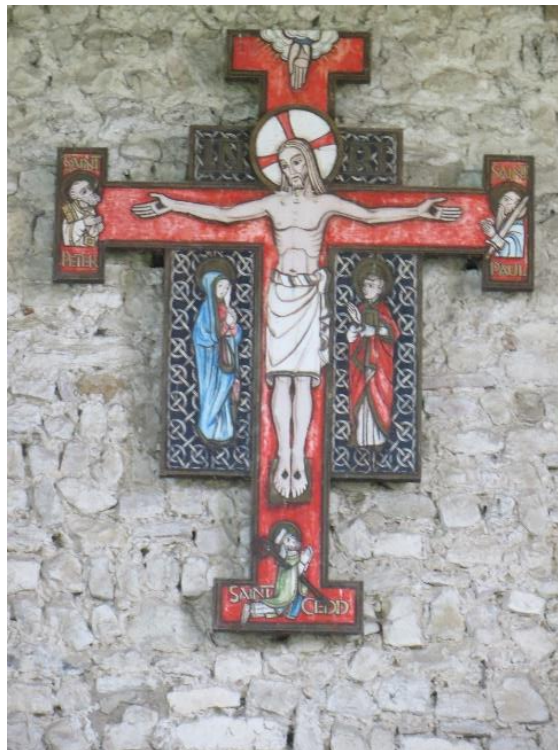
Hymn 5: Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVufsn9RILM>

Revd Brigid

While we listen to this music, we contemplate the cross and say:

‘Dear Lord we are not ashamed to know and Love you’



Lent Contemplation: *Dear Lord we are not ashamed to know and Love you:*

Erik Satie - Gymnopédies, 1. Lent et douloureux

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FyUNbrgLezl>

A service from New Patterns for Worship. Compilation copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2002.

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Notices

Spiritual Communion

Steven Poss is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Spiritual Communion

Time: Feb 28, 2021 10:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85110162701?pwd=U0xsWG9SRERlaUR6akFNTFlYRiNGZz09>

Meeting ID: 851 1016 2701

Passcode: 193011

International Women's Day Choose To Challenge – Zoom Service – 3pm on Friday 5 March

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85342023056?pwd=RVdLUE1rQ29CM0tScms2TmdpQWVXZz09>

Meeting ID: 853 4202 3056

Passcode: 609839

A collection of books chosen to celebrate International Women's Day.

What is International Women's Day?

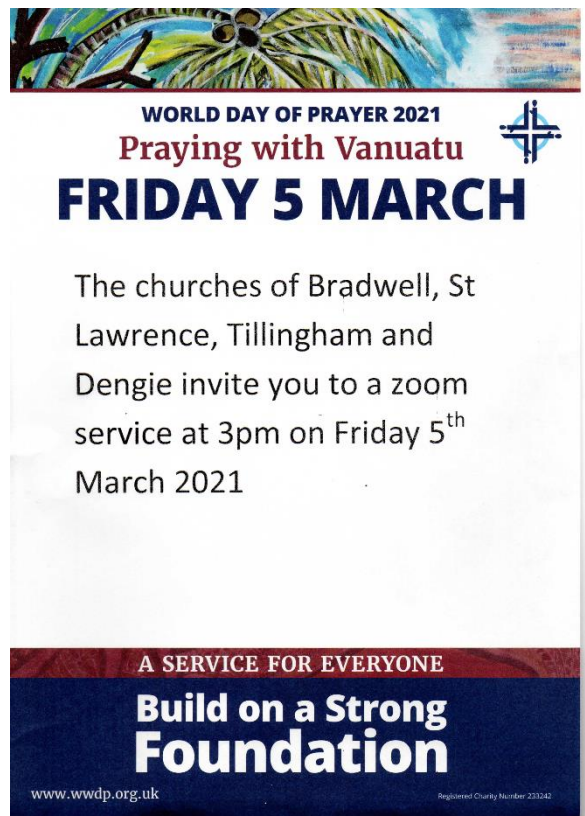
International Women's Day (8 March) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. This year's theme is: #ChooseToChallenge - 'From challenge comes change, so let's all choose to challenge'.

To find out more,

visit: <https://www.internationalwomensday.com/>

10% off all titles below.

[International Women's Day \(hymnsam.co.uk\)](http://hymnsam.co.uk)



The poster features a tropical scene with palm trees and a blue sky at the top. Below the image, the text reads: "WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2021 Praying with Vanuatu" in red and black, followed by a blue cross icon. The main title "FRIDAY 5 MARCH" is in large, bold, blue letters. The text below states: "The churches of Bradwell, St Lawrence, Tillingham and Dengie invite you to a zoom service at 3pm on Friday 5th March 2021". At the bottom, a dark blue banner contains the text "A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE" in white, "Build on a Strong Foundation" in large white letters, and the website "www.wwdp.org.uk" and "Registered Charity Number 233242" in small white text.

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Bible Study

Steven Poss is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Bible Study - Ezekiel Chapters 47 and 48

Time: Mar 1, 2021 07:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88326723900?pwd=MTRmSU5tUHRFWDJDQVRQdzZxeHJ2QT09>

Meeting ID: 883 2672 3900

Passcode: 332824

Lent Course – Where is God?

I am doing the following course – ‘Where is God?’. The times of the sessions and the link to order the booklet is here:-

[Where is God...? - York Courses](#)

Where is God ...?

2. when we face suffering? – 2-4pm Monday 1 March & 7.30pm-9.30pm – Thursday 4 March
3. when we make decisions? – 10-12 Monday 8 March & 7.30pm-9pm – Thursday 11 March
4. when we contemplate death? – 10-12 Monday 15 March & 2pm-4.30pm – Thursday 18 March
5. when we try to make sense of life? – 12-2 Monday 22 March & 2pm-4.30pm – Thursday 25 March

Lent Course – Where is God? – Session 2 (A) – Monday 1 March – 2-4pm

Steven Poss is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Lent Course - Session 2 (2-4pm)

Time: Mar 1, 2021 02:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87257307685?pwd=MTI3ZkMxTWgwTWdSVkNpeFBaUW9NUT09>

Meeting ID: 872 5730 7685

Passcode: 499786

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Lent Course – Where is God? – Session 2 (B) – Thursday 4 March – 7.30pm-9pm

Steven Poss is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Lent Course - Session 2 (7.30pm-9pm)

Time: Mar 4, 2021 07:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89925097255?pwd=ZGVmRlpBbFdEWHJJeDRHb3ZsQ3NZZz09>

Meeting ID: 899 2509 7255

Passcode: 382912

St Lawrence Virtual Coffee Meeting

Steven Poss is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: St Lawrence Virtual Coffee Meeting

Time: Mar 3, 2021 02:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83949616489?pwd=UjhMdUloYINVWVhZTVBZL1BtUThUdz09>

Meeting ID: 839 4961 6489

Passcode: 550996

Easter Eggs

This is to let you know that I have ordered 18 (3 boxes) of Easter Eggs, from the Meaningful Chocolate Company, today. As I can't quite remember everyone who has ordered in the past I am sending this to our PCC plus a few others. If you would like one of these eggs please let me know and I will start a list (first come first serve).

Cheers,

Theresa

To: tanddreed@gmail.com

Happy Collection Bag Items

Tea, coffee, biscuits, toiletries, cakes and chocolate.

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Join the Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell in conversation with Adrian Chiles on 'Dear England' - WEDNESDAY 3 MARCH 2021, 7PM. This is a FREE online event, view details of how to register here:
<https://chbookshop.hymnsam.co.uk/events/2021/march/dear-england-book-launch>

Lent Resources for all ages

Lent is the time in the church year when we begin to prepare for Easter. A time to reflect and say sorry. It is often a time when people give things up or take up new things to focus on their commitment to God. We have drawn together a whole selection of resources, books and ideas for people to do at home.

A Lent family challenge from Together at Home

[View the challenge and download](#)

Lots of Lent ideas from Flame Creative

[View ideas from Flame creative](#)

Helpful activity ideas on giving, fasting and praying with children

[View the resource](#)

Ideas and resources such as an Easter Countdown calendar from God Venture

[View and download the resource](#)

Growing Together Pages are a collection of resources for households (people of all ages) to explore or nurture Christian faith in their own time and at their own pace. The following pages have been written in direct response to the challenges brought by Covid-19. [Click here for more information.](#)

Deanery Verger's Course

The Deanery is looking to run a course for anyone who is interested in becoming a Verger. A Verger usually assists the Vicar in services such as Funerals and Weddings, meeting and greeting guests and generally assisting that the service runs smoothly. If you are interested in this, please speak to Revd Steven.

Chelmsford Cathedral - We're really excited to be launching a new community art project with a group of textile artists,
[The Material Girls](#)

. Called Good Lament and Hard Hope the project explores the challenges of the pandemic and wants to help enable people to express their grief and hope through hand-made fabric postcards. The postcards will then be used as part of an art installation in the Cathedral in the summer of 2021.

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Everyone is invited to get involved and send us their postcards. The Material Girls have made an incredible start already, check out their website helpful tips and inspiration <http://www.the-materialgirls.co.uk/community-project.html> You can download a how-to make a fabric postcard help sheet from our website, <https://drive.google.com/.../1pXzcyxZjvPqelTsyh92jAK.../view>, and we'll be sharing pictures of the wonderful creations we've already received very soon!

The Retreat House, Pleshey

are running three online retreats exploring how people have seen and found hope in these troubled times, and how this hope may resource ourselves and our communities. Come and share in Good News stories from Church, NHS and parish communities, and see how we are all being called to be part of something new! Find out more and book at <http://ow.ly/f2IL50DnD67>

Diocesan and Parish Finance, 16 March, 7.30pm Join Interim Chief Operations Officer, Maureen Cole and our new Finance Director, Michaela Southworth for an overview of diocesan and parish finance. Register [here](#).

Recordings of our first two Generous God, Generous Disciples webinars can now be watched [here](#).

Generous God, Generous Disciples Lent Bible Studies Throughout Lent, we'll be hosting a series of bible studies on the theme of stewardship and giving as part of Christian discipleship. For further information, please click [here](#).

Supporting good mental health resources

The effects of mental health problems are huge, and given the challenging times we are living in with coronavirus, it's more important than ever that we take steps to support good mental health. For more information, click below:-

[Supporting good mental health | The Church of England](#)

LGBT+ History Month: A message from the Archbishops 11/02/2021

A message from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York on LGBT+ History Month



Across the United Kingdom, for a number of years, February has been associated with LGBT+ History Month and many throughout our parishes, up and down the country will be marking this.

LGBT+ history month is about acknowledging and learning from past hurt, and building a society where LGBT people can and must live their lives free from hate and violence. We welcome this observation of the place and contribution of LGBT people in our society and in our church, and assure people of our prayers.