



**24th March 2024**  
We extend a warm welcome to  
all our members, friends and  
visitors



---

**For meditation:** *Day and night, we confess your name, O Lord, and proclaim your glory.  
In wisdom you have made all things and by your Spirit you sustain them.  
From sunrise to sunset you reveal your majesty, speak peace to our hearts  
and protect your people. With unending praise, with all your saints, we rejoice  
in the gift of salvation. North African liturgy (3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> century)*

---

### **NEWS AND VIEWS**

Today is Palm Sunday- the first day of Holy Week. In Spain the day is called *Pascua Florida*- a name which in turn was given to the American state of Florida because it was discovered on Palm Sunday by Spanish explorers. We will receive small palm crosses today to remind us both of the joy of the first Palm Sunday and of what was to happen on the Friday of the same week. Tomorrow is Lady Day- a day that commemorates the ‘Annunciation’ – the day exactly 9 months before Christmas Day, which marks the archangel Gabriel’s visit to Mary to tell her she is to be the mother of Jesus. **Easter Cross**- look out for the cross on the railings this week – and be prepared to deck it with flowers as we remember the death of our Lord Jesus and celebrate his resurrection on Easter Sunday.

---

### **POINTS FOR PRAYER**

From the “Unbounded Love” liturgy for this week:  
“Unbounded God, we thank you that you rode humbly into Jerusalem that day, knowing what pain and misery lay before you. You received short-lived praise from the crowd who spread their cloaks before you, but would soon reject you, and condemn you to death. Lord Jesus, we place a coat at the cross to remind us that we need to let go of things that bring us status in this world. Help us to stay true to you, knowing that you are the source of life. Holy God, we cast our crowns before thee.”  
In the circuit we pray for the congregation at Chew Stoke and we remember the students at Chapel House.

---

### **LECTIONARY READINGS** – 31 March

Isaiah 25: 6-9      Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24  
Mark 16: 1-8  
Acts 10: 34-43

---

### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

The attitude you should have is one that Christ Jesus had: He always had the nature of God, but he did not think that by force he should try to become equal with God. Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like man and appeared in human likeness. He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death- his death on the cross. Philippians 2: 5-8

---

### **DIARY**

#### **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Home Group meeting 7.00pm  
at Helen’s to discuss the formation on a new group. Please speak to Helen if you would like to know more.

#### **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Café + Soup 9.30 – 1.30pm  
All welcome. Soup served at noon.

#### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March** (Easter Sunday)

Morning worship 11.00am  
Rev Katy Thomas (Kingswood School Chaplain) will lead a service including Holy Communion.

Lord Jesus Christ:

Who in the days of thy flesh  
Didst steadfastly set thy face  
To go to Jerusalem;  
Didst suffer the agony in the garden,  
And dereliction of the cross....

Who yet, for the joy that was set before thee,  
Didst endure the cross,  
Despising the shame,  
And art set down  
At the right hand of God.

Strengthen us,

When we shrink from unknown ways,  
Hold us firmly when we are afraid;  
Help us to follow thee without swerving,  
To the end;  
Out of weakness, make us strong;  
Lighten our darkness,  
And beat down Satan under our feet;  
And finally bring us unto everlasting life.

Anonymous

*Prayer is the peace of the spirit, the stillness of our thoughts, the evenness of our recollection, the sea of our meditation, the rest of our cares, the calm of our tempest.*  
Jeremy Taylor

