

14th April 2024

We extend a warm welcome to Rev Simon Topping, and to all our members, friends and visitors



For meditation:

Everywhere and always, O Christ, let us feel your presence, the gift of grace upholding us, the gift of faith strengthening us, our hope fortified and our love reborn.

Marie Bernarde Soubirous (1844 – 1879)

NEWS AND VIEWS

The month of April reaches its mid point and the rain seems to keep coming! The temperatures slowly increase, though, and the extra daylight is a welcome bonus. The Spring flowers are a special pleasure- a good year it seems for primroses and now there are bluebells too – and pear, cherry and apple blossom. Wednesday 17th is World Haiku Poetry Day –

Fantastic Spring
The breath of life for all things

Awakes my soul. Toshie Nohara

POINTS FOR PRAYER

Almighty God, we read the stories of old, of psalmists and prophets, of disciples and apostles, of followers and onlookers, and ask ourselves 'Why did they do that, why did they make so many mistakes, why did they do bad things, wrong things?' Help us to see that we too do things that are wrong, that are not good or right. Help us to see that we make mistakes, take wrong decisions because they somehow seemed the easiest things to do at the time. As you have forgiven those of old, so too, when we confess our failings, when we look at what we have really done and seen what we could have done better, you forgive us, you cleanse us and set us free. Amen.

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In the circuit we pray today for the congregations at Keynsham Victoria and Queen's Road and the students at Chapel House, Walcot.

LECTIONARY READINGS – 21st April

Acts 4: 5-12 Psalm 23 John 10: 11-18

1 John 3: 16 -24

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

My dear friends, we are now God's children, but it is not yet clear what we shall become. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he really is. Everyone who has this hope in Christ keeps himself pure, just as Christ is pure. 1 John 3: 2-3

DIARY

Thursday 18th April

<u>Café</u> + Soup 9.30 – 1.30pm The soup will be served at around noon

Sunday 21st April

Morning worship 11.00am led by Rupert Kaye- Chaplain at the Ammerdown Retreat Centre near Radstock

There are times when the dough is dull, soggy and unattractive.

Like life, at times

It has lost its sheen, the gold of the grain, the Pure whiteness of the flour.

It looks – and it is- flat, it looks dead.

But secret things are happening

The exciting things are happening,

The bread is rising

The bread is rising... I have seen the Lord.

I have seen the Lord!

The cup is full of blood-red wine
Made from the crushing and bruising of
The grapes.

By the loss of life,

By the cutting down and the pressing,

The Spirit is set free;

Allowed to ferment, the Spirit is at work.

Remember me.

Remember me, my crushing, my bruising.

My three-day fermenting.

My rising...

This is the wine that makes glad the hearts Of all.

Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again. Allelulia.

Do this in remembrance of me.

David Adam