Box Methodist Church
www.boxmethodist.org

5th May 2024

For meditation: *Blessed be God's great name to all eternity. Blessed, praised, honoured, exalted, extolled, glorifgied and adored be the name of the Holy Blessed One. Blessed be God beyond all earthly words and songs of blessing, praise and comfort.*
From the Jewish Kaddish (c1000)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Thursday this week is Ascension Day – it comes at the end of 'the Forty Glorious Days', the period of rejoicing that follows Easter and counter-balances Lent. It is a feast of great antiquity – St Augustine spoke of it as originating in the time of the first apostles. In various countries in Europe it is a National Holiday.

POINTS FOR PRAYER

Come into God's presence. Leave behind worries. Leave behind cares. Leave behind prejudice and preference. Come to God, who accepts all, who receives all and who loves all. Come and worship our surprising God. © ROOTS for Churches Ltd). Reproduced with permission

In the circuit we pray today for the congregations at Peasedown St John and Timsbury and the students at Chapel House, Walcot.

LECTIONARY READINGS – 12th May

Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1
John 17: 6-19
1 John 5: 9 -13

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

And God, who knows the thoughts of everyone, showed his approval of the Gentiles by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he had to us. He made no difference between us and them; he forgave their sins because they believed. So then, why do you now want to put God to the test by laying a load on the backs of the believers which neither our ancestors nor we ourselves were able to carry? No! We believe and are saved by the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they are. John 15: 8-11

'A cloud received him out of their sight', but perhaps the disciples were already beginning to know that out of their reach he would never be. During 40 days they had been given glimpses of the risen presence, and gradually they were learning that what was true for them in those great hours must always be true …. The risen Lord would always be there; it was only a cloud that veiled him from their sight. Behind the cloud he would be with them all the days.

Francis B James

DIARY

Wednesday 8th May
Grace 3.30pm- 4.30pm
Fun and games for school age children with an adult. Helpers welcome.

Thursday 9th May
Café 9.30 – 12 noon
All welcome

Friday 10th May
Prayer Vigil 7.00 – 8.00pm

Sunday 12th May
Morning worship 11.00am
led by Rev Simon and including Holy Communion

Hail, the day that sees him rise,
Ravished from our wistful eyes!
Christ, awhile to mortals given,
Reascends his native heaven.

There the glorious triumph waits:
Lift our heads, eternal gates:
Wide unfold the radiant scene;
Take the King of Glory in!

Him though highest heaven receives,
Still he loves the earth he leaves;
Though returning to his throne,
Still he calls mankind his own.

See! He lifts his hands above;
See! He shows the prints of love;
Hark! His gracious lips bestow,
Blessings on his church below.

Master, parted from our sight,
High above yon azure height;
Grant our hearts may thither rise,
Following thee beyond the skies.

There we shall with thee remain,
Partners of thy endless reign.
There thy face forever see,
Find our heaven of heavens in thee!

Charles Wesley