



The Baptist Church,
Brierfield

April 2021



We meet in a warm, friendly atmosphere to praise and worship the Lord Jesus Christ.

Please do join us.

Sunday Services

We have limited capacity in church with Social Distancing and masks are mandatory for anyone inside the building. The services start at 10:30 am and are also being streamed live on YouTube - check our website for the service link.

<https://www.brierfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk>

Midweek Activities as announced.

Secretary – Mrs Angela Higgin

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Do you have something you would like to be included in next months newsletter? Please hand anything you would like adding to Richard I'Anson, or by email to newsletter@brierfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk



Not My Way But Yours

(A short message by Philip Rowland)

12 months ago we were asked to isolate for 3 months and we all thought that the emergency would be over before the three months. How wrong we were ! when the first lockdown began local radio's broadcast a Christian service at 8-00a.m. every Sunday morning.

We listen to Radio Lancashire so we were pleased by this development, indeed we are hoping it will continue long after the pandemic is over. There are many differences with the services some are quite traditional while others are very modern.

Last Sunday they were marking the 12 month anniversary and they looked at Noah. I was rather surprised when it began but as the service unfolded I could see the relevance. Noah had a lock down, if we think ours is bad consider what Noah's would be like with all those animals to feed and clean out. He just like us had no idea how long the lockdown would continue. When the ark came to rest on the land Noah sent out a raven which flew back and forth until the water had dried up. Then he sent out a dove to see if the water had receded but it returned as it could find nowhere to rest. 7 Days later he sent the dove out and it returned with an olive leaf he knew that there was dry land. Again 7 days on he sent the dove out and it did not return. After along wait God eventually told Noah that he could leave the Ark. What patience Noah showed after spending so much time locked down. We like Noah should trust God to give us patience during these difficult times.

We are now going to spend our second Easter in lockdown and so our celebrations of this Glorious event must be curtailed. It is good that we can have a service streamed to us on Good Friday when we think of the agony of the cross and on Sunday this year we can meet together in Church but without singing and following strict precautions. We of course can shout Hallelujah that Christ has risen and because He lives we can live for eternity. I do hope you will be joining us for this service and on the following Sundays. Sunday school will be open as well. May God give you His richest blessing at this Easter Time.

David

Offering Envelopes and Financial Year End

As already announced in chapel over the last couple of week, the financial year end (5th April 2021) is fast approaching. At the moment expenses are ahead of income for this year. If you cannot bring your remaining offering envelopes for 2020/21 to chapel before 5th April and would like them to be collected from your home, please contact either Janice or Angela who will arrange to collect them.

Good Friday, Easter Day and Weekly Chapel Services

This year's Good Friday service will be broadcast at 10.30 a.m. We are pleased to announce that the Easter Day service (10.30 a.m.) will be held in chapel, Masks and Social Distancing must be followed. Communion will follow the Easter Day service. Also we will be once again holding services in chapel at 10.30 a.m., each Sunday from Easter Day, again Masks and Social Distancing must be followed, until notified otherwise.

Gift Day 2021 - 23rd May

Due to the recent lockdown, the Gift Day for 2021 has been re-arranged for 23rd MAY, which is also our Anniversary Day as well.

New Chapel Cleaner

We are pleased to announce that we have a new Chapel Cleaner - Peter Lewis. Sarah Greaves has stepped down due to other commitments and we would like to thank her for the work she has done for us in the past, and wish her well for the future. By the time you read this Peter will have already started this new job and thank him for taking on this very worthwhile job within our fellowship.

Do You Need Help?

Could we remind any member of our church family, that should you need any help, to please contact any of the Church Elders or Officers who will do their best to help or will try and put you in contact with someone who can.

Quiz Nights and Prayer Meetings

We are continuing to have prayer meetings and quiz nights on Zoom.
The details are as follows:

Quiz Night	Prayer Night
6th April	
	13th April
20th April	
	27th April
4th May	
	11th May
18th May	
	25th May
1st June	

All meetings start at 7:30pm.

If you wish to join in with any of the above, please let Elizabeth have your contact details and she can then invite you to join in.

Prayer Matters

Easter represents the removal of the fear of death. Christ died, and overcame death as He rose from the grave to prove His ability as the supreme Life-giver. We may still fear the manner of our death, but the gateway beyond opens up for us through Jesus Christ as He welcomes us to the place He has prepared for us to be with Him eternally.

As the Apostle Paul put it in 1 Corinthians 15, v54ff “Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O Death, is your victory? Where, O Grave, is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the Law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

To whom is this gateway open? To all those who believe in the redeeming work of our Lord Jesus Christ. As Jesus said, “God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”

So Let's Pray...

- That we may know afresh our sins forgiven in His Name as we trust in Him and Him alone;
- That reinvigorated we may be able to grow as individuals and as a people in the Lord and in His grace;
- That all our friends and family would likewise put their trust in the Lord;
- And that the Lord will have mercy on the world in stopping this Covid plague from continuing, and heal the nations; may they repent from their sinful ways.

May I remind you that if you have an urgent need for prayer, such as sickness, or one of the problems of life, please contact Philip on:

Email: philip.rowland@virginmedia.com

- or by Mobile Text (please do not ring me): 07546 350 409
- or by phoning Kath on 01282 697005.

Your request for prayer will then be passed on to the other members of the Prayer Chain.



An Easter Story by Kath Rowland

Phyllis and Gertrude were reminiscing about how at Easter you had a competition on who could make the best Easter bonnet.

Phyllis said that one year, she had made one to look like a crown. It had greenery going round it, and flowers that looked like precious stones. It had a bird sitting on the top, and a big bow that fastened under your chin.

“It looked so beautiful,” she said, “even if I do say it myself. I was so proud of it. I even won first prize!”

Gertrude said, “I was never any good at making things, especially Easter bonnets. I did make one once, but it wasn’t like yours. It didn’t have any flowers in it or ribbons around it. It was just made out of twigs and thorns, and it didn’t half hurt my hands – the thorns made my hands bleed! I don’t think anyone would ever wear one like mine.”

Someone did wear a crown like the one Gertrude had made, and that was Jesus. When it was placed on His head, it made it bleed. Isaiah chapter 53: “He had no beauty to attract us to him; nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised, and we esteemed him not.”

Phyllis’ Easter bonnet may have been made into a beautiful crown and won a prize, but it would die and be forgotten about. Gertrude’s one would never be forgotten because it represented the crown of thorns that was placed on Jesus’ when He went to the cross and died for our sins – and because of Christ’s death we will one day receive our crown.

Isaiah 51, v11. “The ransomed of the lord will return. They will enter Zion with singing. Everlasting joy will crown their heads; gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

		Preacher	Door Steward	Morning Service Leader
4th April EASTER DAY	10.30 a.m.	Howard Ellison	A. Higgin	E. Lord
	Vestry Prayers:	Nigel		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
11 th April	10.30 a.m.	Howard Ellison	S. Dunham	G. Fogg
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
18 th April	10.30 a.m.	Daniel Parkinson	J. Greenwood	N. Leeming
	Vestry Prayers:	David		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
25 th April	10.30 a.m.	Mark Heaton	C. Leeming	M. Lewis
	Vestry Prayers:	Philip		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
2nd May	10.30 a.m.	John Caddy	A. Higgin	E. Lord
	Vestry Prayers:	Nigel		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
9 th May	10.30 a.m.	John Haynes	E. Wilkes	M. Lewis
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
16 th May	10.30 a.m.	Daniel Parkinson	C. I'Anson	B. Baldwin
	Vestry Prayers:	David		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
23rd May ANNIVERS ARY	10.30 a.m.	Danny Cliff	G. Leeming	G. Fogg
	Vestry Prayers:	Philip		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
30th May	10.30 a.m.	Paul Carter	D. Driver	K. Rowland
	Vestry Prayers:	Nigel		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
PLEASE NOTE ANY PART OF THIS PAGE MAY CHANGE AT SHORT NOTICE				

If preaching and/ or you have reading in advance, please forward to Nigel so we can arrange readings to be read and recorded by other volunteers.