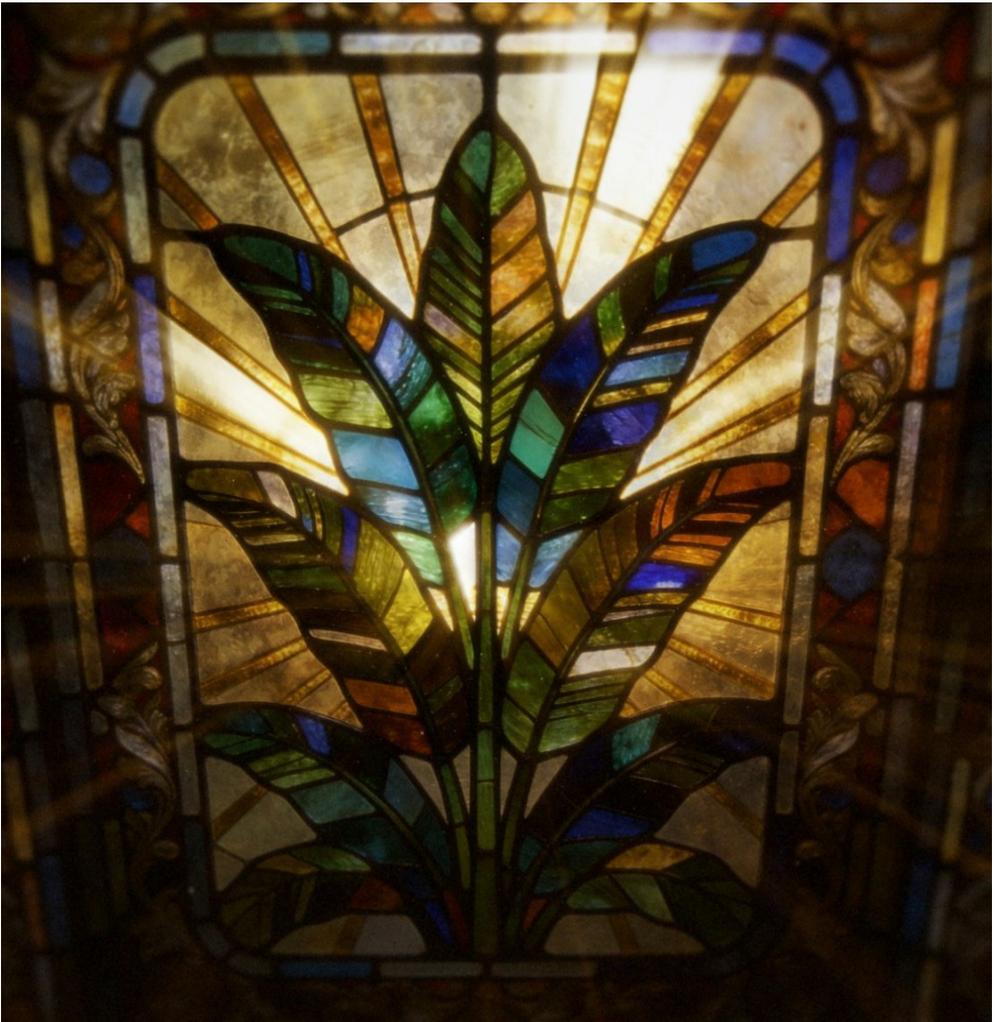




The Baptist Church,
Brierfield

March 2026





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

Please do join us.

Sunday Services

We are in Chapel each Sunday and ask that you join us to worship our Lord Jesus Christ together and to share in the fellowship of the Church family.

The services start at 10:30 am and are also streamed live on YouTube - check our website for the service link.

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

Midweek Activities as announced.

Secretary – Mr Mark Wilkes

35 Simpson Street, Hapton, Burnley, BB12 7LJ

telephone: 01282 774847 email: markwilkes35@btinternet.com

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

Listen To The Word Of God

(a short message by Nigel Leeming)

We Are All Called to Serve

It's very easy to conclude that we are not capable of undertaking roles in the Church. But remember—Jesus did not choose only those we might consider the most obvious candidates. Some of His disciples were simple, uneducated fishermen.

Let's remember that we are all works in progress as we strive to become more like Jesus. Even the great disciple Peter had many failures as well as great successes in his service to the Lord. In the coming weeks, we will read again how Peter, in a moment of fear and weakness, disowned Jesus before the cockerel crowed. The important point is that Peter later repented and was restored.

In Luke chapter 5, we see the beginning of Peter's journey with Jesus—his recruitment, if you will. Using Peter's boat as a pulpit, Jesus taught the crowd (v.3). Hearing the Word of God through Jesus transformed Peter's life. That morning, Peter not only caught a large number of fish, but he also caught a powerful vision of what God could do with his life. Three years later, Peter preached a sermon through which 3,000 people were converted in one day. He laid the foundations of a faith that today is professed by over two billion people around the world.

Lessons from Peter's Recruitment

1. The potential is vast

At first, they had caught nothing, yet the lake was full of fish waiting to be found. The primary task of the Church is mission, as we were reminded recently. Jesus said, *"Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch"* (v.4). There are so many people who still need to hear the message of Jesus.

2. Nothing is impossible with Jesus

Peter's first reaction was one of doubt and fatigue: *"We've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything"* (v.5a). Yet, after a pause, he said, *"But because you say so, I will let down the nets"* (v.5b). When they obeyed, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break (v.6). With Jesus, the impossible becomes possible.

3. It cannot be done alone—it requires partnership

"They signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink" (v.7). Partnership is essential to mission. Disunity discourages, but unity is powerful and deeply attractive to the world.

4. It is a vision worth pursuing

When Peter witnessed the miracle, his first reaction was humility: *"Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!"* (v.8). Yet Jesus reassured him: *"Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people"* (v.10). Peter and his companions saw the vision was worth giving everything for—*"They pulled their boats up on shore, left everything, and followed Him"* (v.11).

A Final Encouragement

Let us remember—and act on—the truth that there is a role for everyone in God's plan. No matter our background, education, or past mistakes, Jesus calls each of us to serve Him faithfully and to take part in His great mission.

Nigel

Items of Interest & Dates for your Diary

Bible Studies/Prayer Meetings

Please pray for these and attend if at all possible, starting at 7:30 pm.

March	3 rd , 17 th & 31 st
April	14 th & 28 th

Friendship Group: Meet on Wednesday 11th March when we will be having a Bag Beatle followed by a light supper. Then on April 15th, we will be having a Quiz Night, The Friendship Group is open to any adults and if you would like to join us just come along or speak to a member of the Friendship Group.

Evening Services: The next Evening Service will be on the 29th March leader to be announced and then the 26th April. When Leroy Bowtell of Rose Hill Baptists, will be talking about his recent BMS visit to Lebanon. Evening Services are followed by Holy Communion.

Music Group Rehearsals: Music group rehearsals will continue after the Sunday Service for now. If you can play an Instrument or Sing and would like to join the group then speak to Melanie, for more details.

Maintenance Team: We are back on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. for a couple of hours to carry out maintenance work on the Church building, if you have any DIY skills, or can pick up a paint brush, then please come along and give us a hand. For more information speak to Grahame or David.



Nelson Food Bank: If you missed the last Church Meeting, it was brought to our attention by Angela that the Food Bank in Nelson was closing and re-opening as a Community Pantry. Instead of those in need getting food parcels, going forwards there would be a purchase points system, and those that had signed up would be able to purchase items based on the points system. It was felt that as a church we wanted to support Nelson Food Bank, but it was also felt that food donated shouldn't then be sold. Therefore the meeting decided to do the following. Nelson Food Bank would get a monetary donation at regular intervals from the Communion Fund and all food donations would be given to the Methodist Church Food Bank, here in Brierfield, which also serves our immediate local community more. So please continue to bring your food donations to Church and Angela will continue to deliver them to the Methodist Church Food Bank on our behalf. Thank You.

Nursing Home Visit: Our next Nursing Home Visit will be on 22nd March at 2:30p.m. when we visit Brierfield House. Please put the date in your diaries and come along and join us.

Dates further ahead:

Family Praise Services: Dates for 2026 Praise & Munch Dates are on the notice board in the primary room and you can put your name down on the list if you can help organise one of the lunches.

Praise & Munch Rota 2026		
Date	Menu	Organiser
5th April	Easter Breakfast	Glenys / Elizabeth
26th April	Pie & Peas	
7th June	Anniversary Buffet	Janice
28th June	Bacon & Sausage Butties & Sweet	Hannah
26th July	Pie & Peas	
30th August	BBQ (Indoors)	Elaine / Anne
27th September	Harvest Ploughman's Lunch	Elizabeth
25th October	Pie & Peas	
29th November	Soup & Sweets	Angela
20th December	Christmas Buffet Lunch / Party	

Easter Dates:

- 2nd April** Maundy Thursday Communion 7:30pm
- 3rd April** Good Friday Service Preacher Howard Ellison 10:30am
- 5th April** Easter Sunday Service Preacher Ashley Stansfield 10:30pm

Puzzles

BIBLE CROSSWORD XI

Across

1 Dealt with money in the temple (8)

5 Sacrifices (6)

10 Burial perfume (5)

11 Lamenting (9)

12 Assembly (9)

13 Blast of sound (5)

14 Blossoming tree (6)

15 Endures (7)

18 Prepares to sleep outdoors (7)

20 As the Amorites did, like bees (6)

22 Can be stony, clean or wicked (5)

24 Re-establish (9)

25 Synagogue chief (9)

26 Of God, still and small (5)

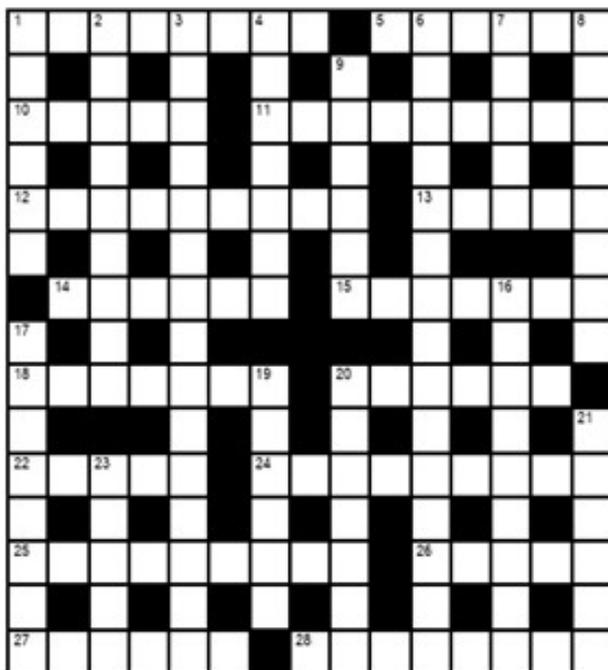
27 Shot as a sign by Jonathan (6)

28 Often gated (8)

Down

1 Appoint (6)

2 Relating to the disciples (9)



by Philologus

© BiblePuzzles.com

3 The opening of a new covenant (6,2,7)

4 Haggai and Zechariah's call to the Jews (7)

6 Jewish festival (5,2,8)

7 Manassite warrior (5)

8 Roadside marker (8)

9 Idols (6)

16 Pinnacle (9)

17 "House of mercy" (8)

19 Sacred place (6)

20 Deep red (7)

21 Worship (6)

23 Son of Korah (5)

PALM SUNDAY

L W B N F Z T B M M B X J U M Y G D U F
F P A U Y C E H P O R P O S G N O S K N
W C R O W D K D F S M R Y F I O A B P O
M X R G N I S I A R P C F T S Z Y N T I
O Q I C E K I V I J Y E U W I J A O S S
D D V M Z S P B D J S O L Y P B S I C S
Q Q A D E H U Z A E H D P B Q B M T C E
B J L J P L L U L S H U F A H P I A Y C
T B N C M L A P W U I T I I D J M R K O
A I L P P J I S Q S F S S B S I O B T R
G N O E W C X H U B E H A M O T B E P P
T P F R S B O S O R I E T I C H I L J I
L R P I H S R O W O E D H I B T G E C O
K K D G A B E L X D S J V P A T E C H D
I I E N C I S D R R M S S O M F O J O A
I B N A O P N Q O H U X J I P A R H X O
B A C G I P F S W N J K S I S O E V T E
G Z P Q G T G U D P K L B O H Q L S M H
M B F X J B R A N C H E S K S G S V P Y
C S X P B G Y R A O I Y Y N U D B N C B

ARRIVAL

BLESSED

BRANCHES

CELEBRATION

CROWD

DISCIPLES

DONKEY

FAITHFUL

HOSANNA

JERUSALEM

JESUS

JOYFUL

KING

PALM

PRAISING

PROCESSION

PROPHECY

SHOUTING

SONGS

SUNDAY

VICTORY

WORSHIP

People welcome Jesus to Jerusalem.

Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44



Last Months ANSWERS

BIBLE CROSSWORD X - SOLUTION



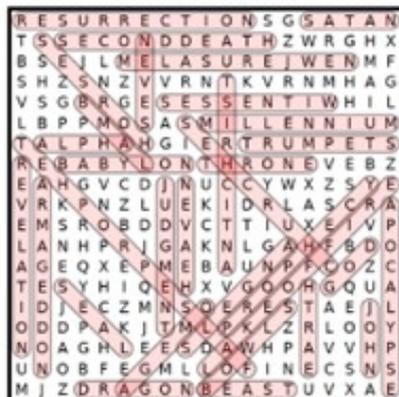
Across: 1 Breath, 5 Lystra, 10 Encamps, 11 Messiah, 12 Spring, 15 Priest, 20 Path, 22 Spot, 25 Sneezed, 27 Elisha, 28 Sister, 31 Tempest, 32 Madness, 33 Shadow, 34 Remote.

Down: 2 Records, 3 Almond, 4 Host, 5 Lamp, 6 Sisera, 7 Raiment, 8 Censer, 9 Whiter, 13 Gehenna, 14 Adviser, 15 Pennies, 20 Plenty, 21 Triumph, 23 Patient, 24 Thresh, 25 Shield, 26 Diadem, 29 Stew, 30 Omer.

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.org.uk

THE BOOK OF REVELATION WORD SEARCH

SOLUTION



Prayer Matters

Season of Lent

This month we find ourselves in the middle of Lent, preparing ourselves for Easter. Some people avoid certain things during the weeks of Lent but one thing Christians will not give up and that is prayer. Prayer does matter and we have much to pray for. We are continually praying for our church family. We are all called upon to pray for friends and family, our local community and the world as a whole.

We also remember the events of the first Easter. The temptation, trial and cruel death of Jesus. May God be with us as we prepare ourselves for our own trials and temptations.

As the hymn writer says “What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer”

Kathryn

*If you have anything you would like to be added to the prayer chain,
please send it to Kathryn:*

Email: bbprayer@outlook.com

Mobile: 07305 541647

Please leave a message if there is no immediate answer





Ardi with his wife and daughters in Indonesia

Jesus prays for...

Unity of the global Church

I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. *John 17: 11*

Pray for: Ardi Wiradinata, with The Asia Pacific Baptist Federation

Ardi Wiradinata serves in Indonesia as Director of Mission at the Asia Pacific Baptist Federation (APBF), a long-term partner of BMS. Ardi is responsible for connecting APBF's sixty-five Baptist convention member nations – a huge task, and just a small slice of the unity that Jesus prays about for all his followers! Ardi's vision is to reach all nations and people groups in Asia and the Pacific by 2040.

"We're truly one family in Christ – no matter if we're serving in the UK, Indonesia, or elsewhere, our lives are knit together by his grace and our shared mission to make Jesus known." Ardi Wiradinata

1. Thank God for his vision of a global Church united under Jesus and bound together by the Holy Spirit.
2. Ask the Lord to fulfil Ardi's vision to see all nations and people groups in the Asia-Pacific region reached with the gospel by 2040.
3. Pray for the Church across the UK, that we can be united for God in thought word and deed, and that we can be globally connected in our unity.
4. Reflect on if there are any ways you are not united with your local church context. Are there people that God is calling you to reconcile with?

**DAY OF
PRAYER**



Learn more
about Ardi here.

Weekly Service Rota

March			April		
1st	Preacher Service Leader Door Steward Evening Service Communion End Of Service	Cathy Browne Mark Wilkes Glenys Leeming No Service Mark Wilkes	5th <small>Easter Sunday</small>	Preacher Service Leader Door Steward Evening Service Communion Before Breakfast	Ashley Stansfield Jack Wellman Bernice Baldwin No Service Grahame Baldwin
8th	Preacher Service Leader Door Steward Evening Service Communion On Return	Susan Western Cynthia I'Anson Mark Wilkes No Service Nigel Leeming	12th	Preacher Service Leader Door Steward Evening Service Communion Start Of Service	Baptismal Service Janice Greenwood Janice Greenwood No Service Peter Lewis
15th	Preacher Service Leader Door Steward Evening Service Communion End Of Service	Derek Lawrance Michael Patterson Anne Kellow No Service Cynthia I'Anson	19th	Preacher Service Leader Door Steward Evening Service Communion End Of Service	Greg Eldon Glenys Leeming Angela Higgin No Service David Leeming
22nd	Preacher Service Leader Door Steward Evening Service Communion End Of Service	Mark Wilkes Bernice Baldwin Jack Wellman No Service Neil Binns	26th	Preacher Service Leader Door Steward Evening Service Communion Evening Service	Nigel Lawrence Nigel Leeming Glenys Leeming Leroy Bowtel Mark Wilkes
29th	Preacher Service Leader Door Steward Evening Service Communion Evening Service	Miles Alderson Neil Binns Neil Binns Michael Paterson Janice Green wood			
PLEASE NOTE ANY PART OF THIS ROTA MAY CHANGE AT SHORT NOTICE					

Vestry Prayers

March			April		
1st	David	Mark	5th	Cynthia	Mark
6th	Nigel	Kathryn	12th	David	Kathryn
15th	Cynthia	Neil	19th	Nigel	Neil
22nd	David	Janice	26th	Cynthia	Janice
29th	Nigel	Peter			
PLEASE NOTE ANY PART OF THIS ROTA MAY CHANGE AT SHORT NOTICE					