

Welcome to

ST. JAMES THE GREAT BLENDON

Please join us for private prayer, meditation and worship on the Second Sunday before Lent.

Jesus is the Light of the World, a light no darkness can ever put out.

Today's readings:

Proverbs 8:1,22-31

Psalms 104:26-end

Colossians 1:15-20

John 1:1-14

For the knitters: 1st size baby cardigans and Moses size blankets are needed by a charity with a branch in Bromley. Details at <https://baby-basics.org.uk/> If you need baby wool, Mandy has quite a lot of spare!



Recipe book: As a bit of a winter/spring endeavour, we are in the process of putting together a recipe book for St. James featuring everybody's favourite recipes. This will then be available as either an electronic version or paper copy for a donation to the church. We know one was done quite a while ago so it seems like a good opportunity to have a new, fresh one. So, please, think about all of that wonderful baking/cooking etc you have been doing over the various lockdowns and send us your recipes. Many thanks to those who have already contributed.

Marmalade: In the past some folk have expressed disappointment when they have come to order something that has been made by a member of our community only to find we have run out. Consequently, if you want some delicious marmalade for your breakfast toast (or wherever you use marmalade) we are down to last knockings!!

Morsbags: We have complete kits for anyone wanting to make a Morsbag, including labels!! Please contact Mandy or Ian if you want one. We recently delivered over 100 to our local foodbank who love them!!

Prayer list: Doreen, Isaac, Dan, Gerald, Kay, Emma, Ann C, Hugo, George & Marie B, Ian, Mandy, Stephen R.

From the Book of Remembrance: we give thanks for the lives of:

Samuel Pettigrew, Harold Hanes, Peter Simmons, Connie Clark, Phyllis Thomas, Ann Koudmani, Charles Amey.

Please pray for our church members and their families: this week we remember: Chris & Theresa A and all those who live and work in The Avenue.

Mission Partner: This week we pray for the work of Open Doors. This week we are asked to pray for persecuted Christians in Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, China, Malaysia and Nepal.

Lord, how can we ever thank You enough? You endured more pain, more shame, more sorrow, more grief than we can possibly fathom. Help us remember why You gave Your life. Because of love. Because of mercy. Because we desperately need them both. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Father, thank you for intervening in my life and allowing me to have a personal relationship with you. Thank you for your love for me today and forever.

Thank you for the blessings you've given me and my family. Help us to use those blessings to bless others. May I live a life of true joy as I see you at work around me today! In Jesus' name. Amen.

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for each new day of life. Help us to be a light of hope to those in need, to be an example of your love and mercy, and to tell others of your great grace and glory.

Loving God you invite us to spend time with you personally and alone. During this 'extra' time we find we have, help us to draw closer to you, to sit at your feet not rushing away, spending time in your presence and sensing your wonderful peace. Whether time seems to have slowed down or quickened during lockdown, help us to put you first at the start of each day and rest in your presence at the end of each day. May the ticking of a clock be our constant reminder to bring all our worries and joys to you.

Sovereign God, ruler of all creation, you sent Jesus to testify to the truth: that you alone are the Lord of life. Help us to listen always to his voice so that we may proclaim his kingdom of justice, peace, and endless love; through Christ, who reigns forever.

Father God,

We pray for all people around the world who are unable to work or who have lost jobs due to the pandemic. We pray that you will provide for them in their time of need. Thank you for various Charity partners and churches around the world who have been able to reach so many people with vital support. Please continue to guide them to those who are most in need.

Creator God, forgive our moments of ingratitude,
the spiritual blindness that prevents us from appreciating the wonder that is this world,
the endless cycle of nature, of life and death and rebirth.
Forgive us for taking without giving, reaping without sowing.
Open our eyes to see, our lips to praise, our hands to share.
May our feet tread lightly on the path we tread
and our footsteps be worthy of following
for they lead to you.

Creator God, this earth is miraculous and beautiful. Forgive our confusion and inaction as we confront the challenges of climate change. In the light of your truth, seen so clearly in the life and teaching of Jesus, help us to re-examine ourselves and our lifestyle choices and see clearly the implications of how we live on all that sustains life on this earth. May we follow your lead in caring for every aspect of this precious world, which you made and love. We pray for world leaders to find new, just and radical agreements that will protect our fragile world for future generations.

Throughout history you have moved people to do amazing things for the sake of their neighbours. Inspire us now to work together, as your people, to change priorities in the way we live, so that we build a fair and safe world for all your creation; a world where your will is done as it is in heaven. We pray in Jesus' name.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay;
give new courage to your people who trust in your love.
By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom,
on earth as in heaven,
where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit,
one God for ever. Amen.

Heavenly Father, thank you for loving me; thank you for forgiving me. Thank you for showing me my worthiness and for pursuing me. I am in awe of you Lord! I submit my heart to you Lord. May your Holy Spirit transform me and make me like you. In Jesus' name.