

## Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021

## ABC ONLINE – TWICE A WEEK – EVERY WEEK

Following the Government's new guidelines and the subsequent advice from the Baptist Union, the church will be closed for at least the next few weeks. None of us want our church to be closed as we all enjoy meeting together as we listen to God's word – but we have to be sensible and keep safe. Consequently, our services will now only be available online. This week, Clive will be reminding us of "The certainty of God's promises" based on Hebrews 6:13-20. No doubt he will also be reminding us that it is Valentine's day and urging us to make sure we tell our loved ones how much we appreciate them. Of course, I am sure he will be reminding us of the Father's love for us revealed so clearly at the cross. Don't miss this. Derek. Our Sunday morning service will go "live" at 6pm on a Saturday evening. However, if possible, we would like you to join us on Sunday in prayer at around 10.20am before watching the service at 10.30am as normal. Again, this week, please pray for your church family, many of whom are unwell and for people who are struggling with the loss of close family members. Especially pray for the children of church members all of whom are finding "home schooling" a bit of a struggle. As one youngster said to me today, "Being at home all the time is BORING! I want to see my friends!" I think we can all echo that sentiment.

Please <u>click here</u> to go directly to the current service page. You can then watch the entire service through the without interruption by following the simple instructions on that page.

In our midweek series this week we will reach the culmination of our series on the "I will" statements of Jesus. This week, Derek will be preaching on the "I will of glory" based on John 17. In this book we get a chance to listen in on Jesus' prayer on the night before the crucifixion. His prayer is aimed directly at "believers" and contains a very important message for us all about our role in God's plan to save the world. This is a really important reminder to us all so do make sure you join in with our midweek worship service. We must always remember that when Jesus says, "I will do ..."., He really means it. He means He is able and willing to do it. There is no evidence in Scripture of Jesus saying that He will do something and then not doing it. Consequently the "I will" statements of Jesus are really important in our understanding of what is to come.

This service be accessed using the same link as above from 4pm on Tuesday. In the following week we will be beginning a new 8-part midweek series based on the importance of Christian unity, entitled, "United we stand, divided we fall."

**CHURCH FINANCES** – A huge thank you to all of you who have been regularly giving to the church over the past 10 months. Your generosity is keeping the church in a sound financial position during this enforced lockdown. Of course, we would always welcome others who would like to give regularly. This can be by direct debit or cheque. Talk to me if you want to any advice on how to do this. Derek

**ADVANCED NOTICE** – King's Gate Church (formally CCF) will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary over the weekend of March 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>. Due to the current restrictions this will be online on the Saturday from 9.30am to 4pm where Ben Leney, amongst others, will be bringing some highlights from his transcriptions of the Roger Price's Fellowship Life Studies. On the Sunday, there will be a special zoom service to help us mark 50 years of faithful witness for Jesus. Ben's suggests you put the dates in your diary now.

In his poem this week, Arthur reminds us that God's fingerprints are everywhere in creation if we only look.

## "His Voice"

God speaks to us through the masterpiece of His creation. In the work of His hands we see His dedication. His voice goes out to all the earth in the wonders that we see, The fingerprints of God's beauty in this glorious mystery. Yes, God speaks to us every day when we see the sun and the moon and the glorious Milky Way, or when we see a rainbow on a rainy day. The Heavens speak the glory of God. The artist of creation. His almighty power, Far beyond our imagination.

Arthur McGee

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** – It's Emily's birthday on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February, so why not send her best wishes or join me by shouting out at the top of your voice, "Happy Birthday Emily!"

WHEN IS YOUR BIRTHDAY?- It would really help me if you could let me know in advance the date of your birthday. No, you don't have to tell me how old you are – unless, of course, you want to! Derek

**AN UPDATE ON KAY AND KEN TUCKER** – Ken went for his operation on Friday but his surgeon decided after a lengthy investigation that Ken should not have the operation at this time. The doctor, however, was worried about Ken's rise in his blood sugar level and so have adjusted his medication. Please continue to pray for Ken's ongoing health issues and also for Kay who is not in the best of health herself and says she is really tired.

**AN UPDATE ON MARION** - Marion is still feel unwell and is feeling particularly vulnerable but now faces another problem. Marion's husband, Bill, is suffering from chronic vertigo and is unable to get out of bed. Consequently, Marion is having to act as Bill's carer at present which is adding to her stress levels.. Please pray for both Bill and Marion. **HAVING A BREAK** – Simon will be having a few days off next week to spend with his family. Please pray that He finds time to relax as well as enjoying some quality family time. Please pray too for Nicky and the girls!

**URGENT PRAYER REQUESTS** - If you have, or know of, an urgent need for prayer then please contact me next week as first responder and I will then activate the prayer chain.

**URGENT PRAYER REQUEST** - Daphne's friend Angela's husband, Chris, whom we have been praying for as a church for a long time, has quite unexpectedly taken a turn for the worse as his lung cancer has returned. It is also in his lymph glands and he is now extremely poorly. Please pray for Chris, Angela and also for Daphne.

**URGENT PRAYER REQUEST** - Please pray for Janice Sprules as she is still suffering with her legs, but she says is she is feeling a little better day by day.

**URGENT PRAYER REQUEST** – Please continue to pray for Mavis who is grieving over the recent loss of her sister. Mavis is very upset and needs our prayer support.

**URGENT PRAYER REQUEST** - Joy Brown is still tired and weak and remains confined to bed. She does say she is feeling a little better this week. Please pray for strength and peace for Joy and her family.

**URGENT PRAYER REQUEST** - Tony is now in Abbots Lawn Nursing home and is doing well. His daughter phoned yesterday and he was quite lucid but it does change from day to day. The phone number is (01243) 823288.

PLEASE ALSO CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR – Avinash and Shibali, Vivienne Newman, Mavis Eade, Hazel Lodge, Hilary Naesmith, Rosanne Gould, Jean Shaw, Mick Parker, Michelle and Jon Crane, Arthur and Eileen McGee, Jean Houlston, Bridget Long, Marion Bryant, Chris Grant, Mary Edwards, Kate Moss, Joy Smith, Pam Brown, Stella Filby, Joan Brett, Joy Puffett, Val Collett, Pam Ryan, Tony Brock, and for any others in our fellowship who are unwell at this time

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## **Contact and Church office information**