

ABC NEWS

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Sunday 17th November 2024

Series: 'Living as Exiles: Hope, Holiness, and Honour'

Part 3: Living stones and a holy priesthood

1 Peter 2:4-10

Derek Robinson

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE – Simon together with Band 2 be leading this service which sees us return to our series based on 1 Peter entitled, 'Living as Exiles: Hope, Holiness, and Honour.' Today we reach part 3, 'Living Stones and a Holy priesthood'. My talk is based on 1 Peter 2:4-10 where we discover how God calls us to be His living stones, building a spiritual house and serving as His holy priesthood, reflecting His light in a dark world. This is quite a challenge, so don't miss this important talk.

We do hope you can join us for the service in the church but if you can't actually join us, you will be able to access the service at any time by going to:

<https://www.alldwickbaptist.co.uk/category/current-sermons>.

TODAY'S FLOWERS - The flowers today have been donated by Peter and Margaret Vincent to celebrate her birthday on Saturday.

NEXT SUNDAY – Clive's band will be leading worship as we welcome back our dear friend, Stuart Filby to bring us God's word. Stuart will be looking ahead to the forthcoming advent season as he reminds us of the importance of 'Being Ready' for Jesus' return.

KAY TUCKER – Kay's cremation service will be held on Monday 25th November at Arun Crematorium, Grevatts Lane - BN18 0LW (Not Chichester) at 12 noon. This will be led by Simon. This will be followed by a service of celebration for Kay's life here at ABC – starting at around 1 pm. This service will be led by me. This will be followed by refreshments. The family would like you all to attend either or both services.

SIMON DOWNING – Simon is now going through a phased return to work under guidelines given to us by the Baptist Union. This means that he will gradually take on more responsibilities as his strength and his health improves. This is being carefully monitored by Simon, Nicky and the leadership team to make sure that Simon doesn't overextend himself in his enthusiasm to return. Please do not add any extra burdens into Simon during this period.

FIRST RESPONDER – As Simon is now beginning a phased return to ministry, I will continue to act as first responder for the time being, so please don't try to contact him, instead contact me in the case of emergencies. For less urgent problems, please use our pastoral care system by contacting your pastoral group coordinator.

IF YOU NEED HELP? – Do contact one of the leadership team. Clive (01243 930756), Brenda (01243 265984), John or Joy (01243 837181) or Derek (075994 73691).

This week's poem

This week Arthur's poem reminds that church isn't a building, it's the whole world full of God's amazing creation.

"My Church"

I see my church in a beautiful garden
On a summer's day.
And when I look up
To the stars in the Milky Way.
How it takes my breath away.

I see my church in God's devotion,
In the towering mountains
And in the restless ocean.
I find my church by a tranquil stream
In that quiet place
Where I can pray and dream.

I find my church when I walk
Through the valleys and the hills.
Where in the spring
I saw the golden daffodils.

I see my church
When I see a rainbow.
In the summer showers
And when I see the wonderful flowers.

My God the artist of creation.
His power beyond imagination.
How my heart sings
When I see all these things.

Arthur Magee

SEBA HOME MISSION FOCUS FOR NOVEMBER 2024 - Every month we receive a Home Mission Focus from Paul Kerley which is usually in the form of a short video from one of our Home Mission supported churches. This month the SEBA Focus is on Westvale Community Church, where their minister in training is Miranda Odysseos-Beaumont. The Link for the video on the SEBA Web Site https://www.seba-baptist.org.uk/?show_media=332131&show_file=371990
Or through YouTube Link - https://youtu.be/D_6-REcAISQ

... and finally Prayer Board

Please pray for Hazel's mum as she is going to have surgery next week and is really struggling at the moment. God bless Jason

Please pray for Jon who is now at home but still struggling with an irregular heart beat and is totally exhausted after all of his recent tests. Please pray for me too as I am suffering with my colitis at the moment. Thank you Michele.

Please pray for Ian Surrell who is back at home but still in a lot of pain. Thank God that despite of his problems Ian remains cheerful. Thank you. Brenda

Please pray for Kay's family as they face up to the loss of their dear mum. Pray too for clarity and strength as they plan Kay's funeral.

Please pray for Frank who has really been in the wars lately. He is slowly recovering from a fall in the night which left on the floor for 5 hours unable to call for help. Pray too for healing for other pressing health issues.

Please pray too for Molly Hawkins, Mary Bullock, Pam McClaren, Val Colette, Mo Howland, Arthur Magee, Vivienne Newman, Hazel Bell - all of whom need our prayers. Do thank God that Simon has been able to rejoin us in church. Do pray for a gradual return to full health.