



ABC NEWS

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See what God has already done... and what He is still doing

Sunday 25th May 2025

Series: Glimpsing God's vision for the Church

Part 1- Blessings

Reading: Ephesians 1:1-14

Derek Robinson

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE – Brenda's band will be leading worship as I introduce a new series; "Glimpsing God's vision for the Church" as the Apostle Paul reveals the great purpose and plan of God for His church as recorded in book of Ephesians. We begin in Chapter 1 verses 1-14 where Paul reminds us of all the blessings we have through our relationship with Jesus. Don't miss this as the first verses are simple breathtaking. Derek.

Memory verse: **"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ."**

— *Ephesians 1:3 (NIV)*

Of course, 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>.

NEXT WEEKEND'S FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE 1st June 2025 – Simon's band will be leading worship as John masterminds another family service which will no doubt challenge us and yet make us smile. This service is based on Jesus' words when He said, 'I am the light'. It will be preceded by Breakfast Time which is open to all ages from 9.30am. Breakfast time is a place to encourage Christians and non-Christians alike, to share in some food together, before the family services begin. It is about using the gifts of relationships, hospitality, generosity, and kindness to make people feel valued. It is about helping people feel that they 'belong.' As relationships develop, the sharing of one's faith may also emerge in time. Don't miss this opportunity.

CHICHESTER AREA TALKING NEWS (CATN) – This is for anyone who has sight loss. Every two weeks we take articles from The Observer Series of Newspapers and record them onto a memory stick, and post them to our listeners. In this way we help the visually impaired within our community, keep in touch with local news, views, and events.

Currently we have nearly 400 listeners, and several nursing homes, keeping their residents in touch too. This is a totally free service. For more information please see Chriss or Chris Mustchin or phone 01243 828982.

ROD GREENWOOD'S THANKSGIVING SERVICE – This will place on Wednesday 28th May at 10.30am here at ABC. It is being organised and run by the Eastergate Christian Fellowship. It will be followed by his cremation.

IMPORTANT NOTICE – Sorry but there will be no **COFFEE TIME** on Thursday 29th May through staff shortages.

FIRST RESPONDER – As Simon will be taking a break next week, I will be acting as first responder in the event of emergencies. For less urgent matters, please speak to your pastoral lead or one of the deacons.

**"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you."
—Isaiah 43:2 (NIV)**

In seasons of sorrow or strain, when the waters of life feel deep and the way ahead uncertain, we can take heart in God's faithful promise: *"I will be with you."* This week's poem, inspired by the imagery of *"Bridge Over Troubled Water,"* reimagines that truth as if God Himself is speaking directly to us—offering peace, presence, and the unfailing strength of the cross.

I Will Be Your Bridge

When you are weary, bowed and torn,
And shadows gather in the storm,
I will be there, your faithful guide,
A bridge of grace on which to ride.

When fears arise like rising tide,
And all your strength has slipped aside,
Lean on My love, so strong, so wide—
I'll carry you to the other side.

Though roads may twist and dreams may fall,
I hear your cries—I know them all.
My hands will hold, My peace restore,
My mercy flows from shore to shore.

So walk with Me, though storms may rage;
Your story rests on every page.
Through every fire, each rising flood,
My cross remains your bridge of blood.

T.A.B.

(The Aldwick Bard)

LET'S NOT FORGET A LOCAL HERO – A few weeks ago John Smith spoke very movingly about Lieutenant Walter Erskine Prior who died defusing a bomb. The plaque commemorating this has now been repaired and placed on the wall at the end of Dark Lane. It will be rededicated on Saturday 31st May. Perhaps you might like to go along.

GARY EGGINGTON – Pam writes, 'Gary will soon be going into the Hospice. He is suffering tremendously with pain, and it is getting more difficult to manage. He is very uncomfortable and cannot drink or eat very much. Gary and Pam have asked us to continue to pray for him so that he has the energy to keep fighting. Thank you all. Pam.' Please do pray for Gary, Pam and the family at this very difficult time. [Pam is Vivienne's daughter and Gary her son-in-law]. Derek

... and finally

Prayer Board

Please do continue to pray for Michele who is very ill with Tonsillitis. She's been on ice cream and soup for six days and is now on antibiotics. Please pray for a speedy recovery as she is exhausted through looking after her Aunt and Jon.

Please do pray for Marie who earlier this week had a nasty fall and ended up in hospital for treatment. She but is in a lot of pain and aches all over. As always, she remains cheerful! Do thank God for her faithfulness and please pray for pain relief, peace of mind and healing.

Please do pray for ladies currently living in care homes. Pray for Molly Hawkins at Burlington. Mary Bullock and Pam McClaren at Arun Lodge, Mo Howland at Westergate House and Pam Brown at Cherington's. They all miss coming to worship the Lord as members of His family. Please don't forget them.

Please pray for Simon and his family as they take a well deserved break next week. Please pray for rest, peace of mind and for recuperation of body and mind.

Contact and Church office information

Head of the Church	Jesus Christ
Minister	Simon Downing (Tel. 07411 919928)
Church Secretary:	Clive Bennett (Tel: 01243 930756)
Treasurer/Elder	Derek Robinson (Tel: 01243 866238)
Deacons	Brenda (01243 265984), John & Joy (01243 837181)
Church	email – contact@gmail.com Tel: 07743 257860