

# Welcome to the Chapel In the Valley

JESUS HAS TOLD THIS CHURCH TO GO AND  
MAKE DISCIPLES AND TEACH THEM TO OBEY  
HIM.

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021



This  
Sunday at 11.00 am ...  
... we will meet online  
(but not in church this week or  
until we are clear about the Covid  
rules for church worship)  
This Sunday - 'words from Clare'  
Please note...  
In addition and as usual we will  
have our online prayer meeting on  
Sunday morning at 9.30 am

Collect for the day  
O God,  
who by the leading of a star  
manifested your only Son to the  
peoples of the earth:  
mercifully grant that we,  
who know you now by faith,  
may at last behold your glory face to  
face;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever

This coming week

Monday

Zoom prayer meeting at 7.30 pm

Tuesday

'Zooming' on with...

Jill's Bible study

at 7.30 pm

and

Lesley's final Bible study

in the Book of Jeremiah

at 7.00 pm

Thursday - Chat Café

Our Zoom Chat Café will continue on  
Thursday 14th January 2021

If you would like a Zoom invitation to any  
of our activities, please get in touch.

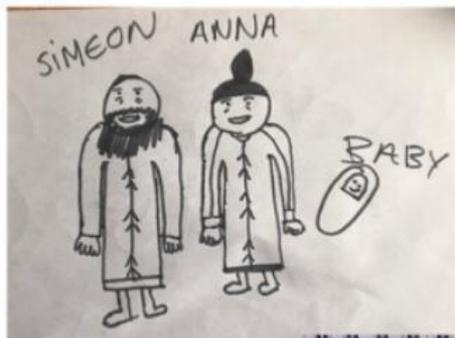
## LET US PRAY...

- With worship for our great God
- For all those who are working in the NHS, and those who are working on 'front-line' positions - especially those whom we know.
- For our friends and neighbours - for Rob and Elaine; and for all of those who are dear to us personally; for the friendships we share with some of our other churches, for the WRU churches at New Swannington, Moira, Ellistown and Ibstock
- For the Good News Hospital at Mandritsara; especially for Bako the language teacher - that doors which have opened will bring relief and joy with access to eye surgery; for abundant rain to save the harvest.

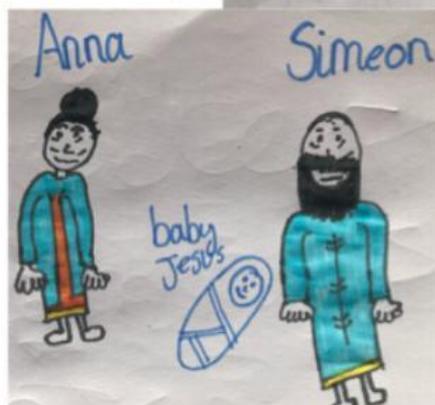
When the thought of you awakens in us  
God our heavenly Father,  
when the thought of you wakes in our hearts,  
let its awakening not be like a startled bird that flies about in fear.  
Instead, let it be like a child waking from sleep with a heavenly smile.  
(Søren Kierkegaard)

## Pictures from sunday school

Waiting



Joy



Messiah

Exodus 20 Then God gave the people all these instructions:

<sup>2</sup> "I am the LORD your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery.

<sup>3</sup> "You must not have any other god but me.

<sup>4</sup> "You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. <sup>5</sup> You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations of those who reject me. <sup>6</sup> But I lavish unfailing love for a thousand generations on those <sup>[b]</sup> who love me and obey my commands.

<sup>7</sup> "You must not misuse the name of the LORD your God. The LORD will not let you go unpunished if you misuse his name.

<sup>8</sup> "Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. <sup>9</sup> You have six days each week for your ordinary work, <sup>10</sup> but the seventh day is a Sabbath day of rest dedicated to the LORD your God. On that day no one in your household may do any work. This includes you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, your livestock, and any foreigners living among you. <sup>11</sup> For in six days the LORD made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and everything in them; but on the seventh day he rested. That is why the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart as holy.

<sup>12</sup> "Honour your father and mother. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup> "You must not murder.

<sup>14</sup> "You must not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup> "You must not steal.

<sup>16</sup> "You must not testify falsely against your neighbour.

<sup>17</sup> "You must not covet your neighbour's house. You must not covet your neighbour's wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbour."

## Music from last Sunday

<https://sovereigngracemusic.org/2020/12/all-of-our-tomorrows/>

### Signs of spring...?

I seem to spend a lot of time these days gazing out of windows. I would like to say that it's in search of profound inspiration, but actually it's mainly just to see what's going on out there.

And such it is today. There is a blackbird on the hedge and there are birds of all sizes and shapes whizzing around. I wonder if, even though the days are cold, they have some inkling that better weather is coming.

And if that's true of our feathered friends, could we equally say the same?

Of course we would all like to say it about Covid-19 and the anticipation of vaccination to come, but I wonder too if it might be that if we were to look outside of ourselves we would also see a brighter horizon?

We've just finished a series of Bible studies with Lesley on the prophet Jeremiah, sometimes known as 'the weeping prophet'. Throughout the whole of his life he was surrounded by disaster, both national (living in a country invaded and overrun from all sides) and personally (he was thrown into a well and left to die, and it is said that he was eventually stoned to death).

And yet, he could hear that God had said to him and to those around him, *"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me"*. (Jeremiah 29)

We don't know how this new year will turn out, and yet, a bit like that blackbird anticipating the coming of spring, we too can look beyond our current circumstances to the One *"...who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think"* (Ephesians 3:20).

Littlehalls sunrise

## A Call to Prayer and Repentance

Dear friends,

This last year has been incredibly challenging for all of us. It has been painful in all sorts of ways. Not being able to gather in the way we used to, not being able to say goodbye to those we have lost and wondering what the future holds for us. At moments like these it is so important for us to remember that what we face now is not forever and that there is an eternity to come where we will be face to face with our Creator and Saviour.

It is also a time for us to earnestly pray for ourselves, for our communities and for our Union of churches.

The 10th of January 2021 has been set aside as a day of prayer and repentance. This is for us to do together and individually. You will find some prayer pointers and scriptures below to help guide you. We are asking you to listen and to hear from God and to feedback anything that you feel God is saying. We need to hear His voice. For those who are able, fasting is an incredibly valuable discipline at times like this, so we would encourage you to make this part of your prayer in the run up to the 10th of January. If you need any guidance or assistance in this then please let us know.

Every blessing to you in Jesus name.

Alina (WRU Administrator)

### [A Call to Prayer and Repentance](#)

**2 Chronicles 7:14** *“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”*

This is a call to prayer and repentance.

We are setting aside **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January** as a day of prayer and repentance.

#### **Repentance**

Call out on behalf of our nation and communities

Call out on behalf of our churches

Pray for forgiveness and healing

#### **Prayer for the spiritual direction of the Union**

What is our sense of spiritual direction for the Union?

How can the Union give a spiritual lead to local churches?

What is God saying to us and how does that influence our local church and Union?

How do we move forward as the priesthood of all believers? Each member matters and has a part to play.

**Hebrews 10:24** *“Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.”*

