

*A MESSAGE FROM DANIEL YOVAN*

**JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD**

“Jesus Christ the Son of God” is frequently proclaimed during worship. This was the belief held by the disciples: that Jesus is the Messiah, the anointed one sent to save. It was not until they witnessed Jesus’ transfiguration and heard the Father’s voice from the cloud that they fully grasped the profound nature of Jesus. Matthew records (in Ch 17) that “they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.” This reaction suggests they were taken by surprise and deeply moved by an unprecedented event. Despite having lived alongside Jesus for a few years, nothing had prepared them for such a moment, which left them astonished and physically overwhelmed.

John, known as the beloved disciple, had a comparable encounter after Jesus’ resurrection. His relationship with Jesus was intimate - akin to that of a close friend or brother. Yet, as described in Revelation (Rev 1:12–20), John fell at Jesus’ feet, recognizing the privilege of witnessing Jesus’ true identity. This prompts reflection: Do we genuinely comprehend whom we worship? Who is Jesus to us individually? He is the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last. There is none before him and none after; the entire universe exists through and for him. Our lives are concealed within him. Thus, it is essential to consider how we perceive Jesus during worship.

It is also important to evaluate our attitude and relationship toward Jesus. Is our interaction merely transactional, sought only when in need, or do we offer worship and adoration for his intrinsic nature? I encourage a thoughtful self-examination of our relationship with Jesus. During Lent, let us seek a deeper revelation of Jesus so that our worship may be marked by appropriate honour and reverence. We must avoid reducing Jesus to simply being one among us. While he became human and shared in our experiences, he remained divine, transcending human limitations and wisdom.

Numerous hymns, poems, and essays have explored the mystery and nature of Jesus. It is my hope that the Spirit of God grants us clarity as we sing and reflect upon scripture. Many New Testament writers, notably St. John and St. Paul, endeavoured to articulate Jesus’ divinity. In Colossians, Paul presents the supremacy of Christ, describing him as “the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created... He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together” (Col 1:15–17).

Peter talks about giving a prominent place in our hearts for Jesus: **...in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect**”. (1 Peter 3: 15).

Cont....

Peter, astonished by the transfiguration and the presence of Moses and Elijah, sought to establish a permanent dwelling on the mountain. Nevertheless, Jesus guided them back to their daily ministry. Our fellowship with Jesus is not only for us to enjoy, but to be shared with all humanity. Let us make use of all the resources available to get to know Jesus and shine his light through our lives.

Friends, as Christians, our role is twofold. One: to revere Jesus as Lord in our hearts and the second is to reflect the love of the one who lives in your hearts through our daily interactions with others. This is an honourable life-long calling of each and every one of us.



My prayer for myself and all of us during this Lent is that the Holy Spirit will continue to draw us close to the light of Jesus. May the receiving and giving of this light be a part of our daily life. May the radiant light of Jesus, the true Light of the World, shine ever more brightly upon you. As you journey through Lent and beyond, may the Holy Spirit guide your steps, deepen your understanding, and fill your heart with renewed hope and faith. May you reflect the glory and love of Christ in all you do, sharing his grace with those around you. Go in peace, carrying his light into the world, and may his presence be your strength and comfort, now and always. AMEN



#### IN REPORTER THIS MONTH:

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#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Thurs 5th March: Thinking Lunch. Page 5

Wed 11th March: Salvation Army Cafe'. Page 7

Wed 1st April: Burial of the ashes of Rev Peter Hudson. Page 7

Sunday 5th April: Easter Sunrise Service. Page 6

#### Circuit Lent Course

All Thursdays in Lent at SJPB and at Ludwick Way.

All Saturdays in Lent by Zoom.

## NEWS FROM THE CIRCUIT



### REV BRUCE ANDERSON

We are sorry to report that Rev Bruce Anderson, who was in this Circuit from 2018 to 2022, has passed away. He was Minister for DVC, Oxlease, DVC, Birchwood and Ludwick Way.

Bruce left due to poor health, and returned to his native New Zealand. His son Josh contacted Rev Nick Young (Bruce's predecessor) who passed on the sad news to the Circuit. Bruce was with us during Covid, and worked hard to ensure that services went ahead as far as possible. All our prayers are with Bruce and his family - he will be much missed.



### CIRCUIT QUIET DAY AT BIRCHWOOD

About 20 people from round the Circuit attended this Quiet Day, which was led for us by Rev Dr Sheryl Anderson. The topic was 'Penitence'. We were encouraged to think more deeply about what this actually means. If we have hurt someone, or done something which we regret, merely saying 'Sorry' is not enough. We must repent, and feel genuine remorse. And we must nail our remorse to the cross of Christ.

There were periods of quiet, when we could move to other rooms in the Birchwood building, and be alone. As I sat and contemplated, the words of the hymn 'O Jesus, I have promised' came into my mind:

*"O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,  
Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me, to hasten, or control;  
O speak, and make me listen, thou Guardian of my soul."*

We were very grateful to Sheryl for leading this thought-provoking morning, and the picture shows her receiving the small gift, presented by Stuart Johnson, to show our appreciation.

DIANA HOLT



**THE SEASON OF LENT**  
*In his latest Pastoral Letter, David Jebb  
gives some thoughts  
for each Sunday during Lent.*

**First Sunday – 22nd February**

In the wilderness with Jesus, we learn that prayer is our bread sustaining us daily. *"One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."*

**Second Sunday – 1st March**

On the mountain of Transfiguration, we hear, *"Listen to him."* Prayer begins with listening not filling the silence, but attending to God who speaks.

**Third Sunday – 8th March**

At the well with the Samaritan woman, Jesus offers living water, *"a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."* Prayer is that spring within us, meeting our deepest thirst.

**Fourth Sunday – 15th March**

The man born blind gains sight and insight. Praying without ceasing means seeing with new eyes recognising Christ in every moment.

**Fifth Sunday – 22nd March**

At the tomb of Lazarus, Jesus weeps and cries out. Our unceasing prayer joins His, trusting God is at work even in darkness.

**Palm Sunday – 29th March**

Jesus enters Jerusalem amid shouts of *"Hosanna!"* and later *"Crucify him!"* Prayer keeps us present with Him through joy, betrayal, and sorrow.

**Easter Sunday – 5th April**

The tomb is empty! Death is defeated. Unceasing prayer becomes unceasing praise as we rejoice that Christ is risen.

**May this season of Lent be a time of blessing, reflection, and renewal for all our congregations. Thank you for your ministry and for joining together in prayer across our circuit.**  
**With every blessing, David Jebb**

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**CIRCUIT LENT COURSE**

Following the book "Who is the Christ" by Anne Calver, the Lent Course is on Thursdays at 10am at St John's, Potters Bar, and at 12pm at Ludwick Way Methodist Church.

Or you can join on line on Saturday mornings from 9 -10am. To receive the link, go to [circuitastaandw@gmail.com](mailto:circuitastaandw@gmail.com)



# Thinking Lunch



**Thursday 5th March 2026**  
**Reverend Emmanuel Onabanjo:**  
**'Nigeria past and present:**  
**Hoping for A Better Tomorrow'**

At Marlborough Road Methodist Church from 12.30 to 1.30pm.  
Please bring your own lunch and drinks. Half an hour talk, and then discussion.  
Donations will be gratefully received to cover expenses, with any profits given to the speaker for a charity of their choice.

## FROM THE CHURCHES



### OXLEASE METHODIST CHURCH

Richard Seddon sent us these pictures of Oxlease's recent Valentine Dinner, and the beautiful way the room was decorated for the event. He writes:

On Saturday 14th February, we held our Valentine Dinner. It was a very successful evening and every dinner placing was occupied. Three courses were provided and everyone enjoyed the meal. After the meal we enjoyed a time of fellowship, culminating in a Bible Quiz.

The dinner was a fund raising event on the one part but it also played a part of our outreach to the community in which we serve.

It's such events as these that we hold that are bringing people in, and they tend to stay with us. Watch out for our next event and come along and join us. RICHARD

## SHENLEY METHODIST CHURCH



This year, Easter Sunday's sunrise is at 5:58 am, and the service will begin at 6am in the Walled Garden, Shenley. This special and cherished occasion draws people from across the community. Last year, they were delighted to welcome 55 attendees at this early morning service, and they expect it to be just as uplifting this year. Do come along and join us.

## RADLETT

On Saturday 13th December Radlett UFC held a Christmas Tree Festival where we invited local organisations/families to enter decorated trees or any interpretation of a tree. We had a few organisations, the Scouts, Guides and nursery who entered with the nursery tree winning the public vote on the day. We advertised the event for anyone to come along, with refreshments on sale, and ended with a family nativity service. We plan to run again next year hoping to increase numbers of trees and visitors to the Church.

PETER  
GLOVER



## HOW DO I TO SEND SOMETHING FOR INCLUSION IN REPORTER?

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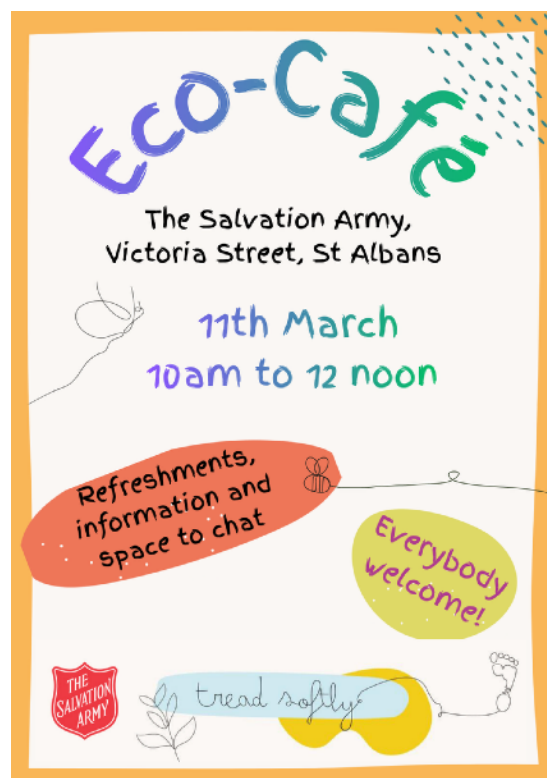
## AND IN OTHER NEWS.....

### FREE CHURCHES AT ST ALBANS ABBEY, IN THE LADY CHAPEL AT 11am

**Wednesday 1st April:  
The Reverend Kevin Walton,  
Canon Chancellor, St Albans  
Cathedral.**

**NB: this service will precede a  
service of burial of the ashes of  
the Revd Peter Hudson**

**Wednesday 6th May,  
The Reverend Ian Green,  
Minister of Amersham  
Free Church.**



### Fund for Human Need

Registered Charity No. 208856



Where a little means a lot

The Fund for Human Need is launching a 40-day generosity challenge - building habits, deepening faith, and reflecting the heart of Jesus through everyday acts.

You can find more information at :

<http://www.fundforhumanneed.org.uk/>

## AND FINALLY.....



**The Temptations of Christ,**  
*Painting by Eric Armusik,*  
*Eric Armusik, all rights reserved*

This beautiful and moving painting was the one featured on the Christian Art website to illustrating Matthew 4, 1 - 11. Father Patrick van der Vorst, author of Christian Art writes: *“In our canvas Armusik presents the desert encounter not simply as a narrative moment but as an intense psychological struggle. Christ sits calm and resolute at the centre. He is surrounded by the very scary, shadowy figure of the devil, who falsely puts his arm around Jesus. The devil and black birds suggest the seductive and disorienting nature of temptation. Rather than portraying temptation as spectacle, Armusik invites us into a quiet interior moment of reflection... a reminder that the real battleground is not what necessarily what surrounds us, but the human heart, where trust in God must be chosen again and again.”*

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