

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

Isaiah 43.1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8.14-17; Luke 3.15-17- 22

AND NEXT.... Isaiah 62.1-5; Psalm 36.5-10; 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a; John 2.1-11



WELLSPRING

Jan 9th 2022

Minister: Revd Kevin Price 01629 823020

kevin@wellspringchurchwirksworth.co.uk

Zoom Room: <https://zoom.us/j/6241909980>

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"I HAVE ENGRAVED YOUR NAME ON THE PALM OF MY HAND"

We continue to hold in our prayers and thoughts.... Gladys, Ethel, Ann Watson, Phil & Bridget, Claire, Tracey, Melanie & Riley, Valerie, Revd Stephen & Ruth, Margaret & John, Joy, Rosie, and Craig, Sally, Kyla and family. And for all who have lost loved ones.

For Prayer

Pray for our continued response to the Coronavirus Pandemic as the challenges of the Omicron variant are met. We pray that this year will see vaccinations offered to the whole world, and the impact of this virus recede.

Give thanks for our builders, Derwent Valley Construction, and pray for completion of our Annexe building works this month.

Prayer Zone

We will meet again on **Tuesday 11th** at 9.30 a.m. using our church link: <https://zoom.us/j/6241909980>

Stories

Another (new year) batch of five stories from Paul Heppleston is now available at this link

<https://www.wellspringchurchwirksworth.co.uk/stories.html>

Trustees

This year we welcome David Butlin and James Hinnells back as co-opted Trustees, with thanks. Pray for our Trustees as we begin this New Year.

Foodbank

There is a collection box in St Mary's (accessed via the north door).

All material for the next Newssheet to Jenny by Tuesday 11th Jan please
821846 few.jenny@gmail.com

Covenant



Image by Salvation Army

Lord, you have been our dwelling-place
in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the; world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God. Psalm 90 vs 1,2

The hand of God encircles us:
God of our beginnings hold us firm
The feet of Christ walk before us:
God of our journeying showing u the way
The wings of the sprit lift us up:
God who is our company our energy our joy

Dorothy McRae-McMahon in Liturgies for the Journey of Life

Covenant

Over the New Year I watched an adaption of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* based on a medieval poem Lesley had once studied. I have to confess I didn't understand much of it! There was one repeated word that stood out though: *Covenant*, which in this context referred to an unbreakable bond of chivalry between two knights, but may have a deeper religious meaning.

Covenant is a very old idea common in ancient civilisation; '*You will be my people and I will be your God*' is an oft repeated phrase in the Old Testament. As Christians we are people of the *New Covenant*, the new agreement between God and humanity made through the death of Jesus Christ, and every year we repeat a promise to serve God together. This last phrase reveals an important aspect of Christian Covenant, that we bind ourselves both to God and to one another - as the early Baptists stated: '*We do solemnly promise in the presence of the Lord and His holy angels to walk with the Lord and with one another in the observation of all gospel ordinances and in the performance of all relative duties in this Church as the Lord shall enable us.*'

This is our prayer as we begin 2022, so as we renew our Covenant today let us be mindful of the relationships we have with each other both within our church and in the wider Christian community, and remember that we are bound together in the love of Christ.

Happy New Year Kevin

Coming Up

18th-25th Jan Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Daily prayer online & gathered worship on Sunday 23rd
23rd Jan Afternoon service at Waltham House - 4.00 p.m.
24th Jan Annexe Open Day planning meeting (venue tbc)

Covenant Service - Sunday 9th January at 10.30.a.m.

We are grateful that St Mary's have enabled us to hold this important service in Wirksworth at The Maltings. For those who are unable to join us in person a copy of the Methodist Covenant Service together with our songs is attached or included with this news sheet - it would be good if you are able to follow this on Sunday morning, and share in Communion. .

Annexe

We have been advised by our builders that completion is now anticipated on 21st January and consequently we will not be able to hold a worship service in our chapel until February. We do, however, have a variety of options for gathered worship - see below for details.

Sunday Services

Jan 9th Wellspring Covenant Service at The Maltings - 10.30 a.m.

Jan 16th Shared worship at Cromford Methodist Church - 10.30 a.m.

Jan 23rd Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

8.45 a.m. St Teresa's - Mass

9.30 a.m. St Mary's - Eucharist

10.00 a.m. URC - Morning worship

4.00 p.m. Service at Waltham House

6.00 p.m. United service at URC

Jan 30th Shared worship at Cromford Methodist Church - 10.30 a.m.

Additionally we have an open invitation to join in worship with the URC (at 10.00 a.m.) during these weeks before we regather at Wellspring.

Used postage stamps: Lindsey is continuing to collect these to raise funds for the RNIB in support of blind and partially sighted people. Please leave a centimetre of envelope around each stamp. Lindsey is also happy to receive them at 9 Steeple Grange or to collect them from you. Thank you!

Looking back with thanks...

Anne Taylor writes to thank everyone who supported the **Raise Your Voices Carol Concert** on Dec.7th .135 people attended and we were able to present a cheque for £500 to David Truby for the church Fabric Fund. Despite the cold we all really enjoyed singing.

To Churches Together for hosting the Springs Dance Company **Journey of the Magi**, which truly was a magical experience

To Sue, Robert and Jane for the beautiful Nativity scene outside Wellspring

And forward in anticipation...

To the New Year, whatever it brings, and especially to the end of our nomadic wanderings when our building is finally reopened!

'The hand of God encircles us: God of our beginnings, hold us firm'