



Ruislip Manor Methodist Church

Sunday 22nd November

www.rmmc.org.uk Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/tempRMMC/

For this week a reflection from the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity (LICC) (you can sign up to receive their regular blogs):

It dominated every front page and conversation. It had people glued to their phones, constantly refreshing feeds to find out any updates. It sidelined all other news, such that a vote in Parliament about a national lockdown barely got mentioned.

But why, in a country over 3,500 miles away from where the action was unfolding, did Britons seem to care so much about the US presidential election?

Joe Biden won't be our president, and though a post-Brexit trade deal will be important, his victory probably won't dramatically change our lives. We don't normally take an interest in elections in foreign countries, even when we have a 'special relationship' with them, so why the exception now?

Perhaps an answer lies in an unlikely place: the book of Judges. Here, we find a nation who is oppressed, fearful, facing uncertainty. In desperation, Israel cries out for a leader who can deliver them.

Fast forward to 2020, and our world feels in a similar place. We're under oppressive restrictions, fearful of the future, and facing an uncertain journey back to normality. Who, we may wonder, will deliver us? The hope for a political saviour can loom large.

But judges fail. Israel's corruption continued. 'The time when the judges ruled' (Ruth 1:1) served as a byword for moral and spiritual decline.

No human leader, Trump and Biden included, can save us, and we shouldn't expect them to. That would amount to political idolatry, to looking for a saviour in the wrong place. Whichever side of the Atlantic we're on, and no matter how good our leaders are, this winter will probably be tough, division will likely course through our cultural veins, and COVID will continue to dominate our lives and newsfeeds.

About a millennium after the time of the judges, Israel once again found themselves oppressed by foreign forces and crying out for a charismatic political leader. Yet the saviour didn't come in the form of some general or revolutionary, but as a baby. In Bethlehem's dark streets shone an everlasting light.

That baby grew up to be the only man ever to walk the earth who could sustain the weight of our hopes and fears – even in 2020 – and never leave us disappointed. There is light in our darkness. Though we misplace our trust and misdirect our cries, the truth remains 2000 years later: we all need a king like Jesus.

(Matt Jolley, Centre for Culture & Discipleship | Research & Development, LICC)

Prayer for the nation

You will recall that, as a church family, we use resources produced by Thy Kingdom Come during the ten days of prayer between Ascension Day and Pentecost. At that time we especially focus on praying for five people known to us who do not yet know Jesus.

As England has moved into its second period of lockdown, Thy Kingdom Come is promoting a month of prayer, asking Christians to stop and pray at 6pm every day, working through a seven-day cycle in which each day focuses on a particular area of life:

Sunday - Family, friends and loved ones

Monday - Schools and colleges, children and young people

Tuesday - Elderly, isolated and vulnerable

Wednesday - Businesses, the workplace and economic wellbeing

Thursday - The NHS and other key workers

Friday - National and Local government

Saturday - All who are grieving, and all suffering with physical and mental ill-health

Further information is available on TKC's website at: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/stories/prayerforthenation>

My apologies for getting the 6pm zoom code wrong last week – I hadn't realised the old one had expired.

6pm Sunday Evening Service. Roger Dunlop

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81332285563?pwd=ZVB5YTk2bWVlQUx0RmFsbkxYlg2dz09>

Meeting ID: 813 3228 5563. Passcode: 018864 Landline: 0203 051 2874

CIRCUIT ZOOM SERVICE- 10.45am each Sunday morning.

The Circuit Zoom service this Sunday 22nd will be led by Revd Andrew Pottage. Log into Zoom using the following details www.zoom.us/join Meeting ID: 827 0254 0378 Passcode: 947280

Circuit Junior Church Zoom service 10.00am

Zoom Junior Church – Junior church will now start at **10am** and finish at 10.35am so that members can join the Circuit Zoom Service. The host might show as 'Little Acorn Services' so don't let that confuse you! Young members can join Junior Church using the link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85288281958?pwd=dkl1Vi80TIVEQQJnYVFESh0UVljUT09>

If prompted the **Meeting ID:** 852 8828 1958 and **Passcode:** 487813

Prayer Course – next session: 'Contemplation'. 7.30pm Monday 14th December. All welcome!

The next 'Journeys' Zoom meeting will be on Thurs 26 November at 7.30pm. Everyone is very welcome.

Marion will be leading the session and we will be looking at some of the parables in Matthew, using the letters that have been sent by David Bidnell. If anyone would like these letters in advance of the meeting, please let Val know : valgraham@btinternet.com

Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83240142993?pwd=QURzZ3QycGh3a0NZVUFuWVBFcWkvdz09>

Meeting ID: 832 4014 2993 Passcode: 409982 Landline: 0203 051 2874

Information about our New Minister

As you will all know Revd Roger Dunlop will be leaving the Circuit next July.

We are very pleased to announce that Revd Donghwan Kim will be joining the Circuit next September and will be the minister for Ruislip Manor and Ruislip and responsible for the Lighthouse Centre at South Ruislip. Dong is Korean and is at present studying in Korea, he has previously worked as a Circuit Minister in Kingston upon Thames and in Islington and Camden. We look forward to welcoming him and his family next September.

International Bible Reading Association

During this time of social distancing, separation and restrictions, loneliness can be experienced by many. We can feel more connected and bring God into our everyday lives by using daily Bible Reading notes.

'Fresh from The Word 2021' which contains a weekly theme, a daily reading, a daily prayer and daily action. The cost is £9.99. If you wish to order a copy (or copies) please email me:-

junebriggs03@gmail.com Thank you June Briggs

Community Bible Study – 2 of my churches in the past have had CBS groups that were appreciated. You can now try CBS online. See <https://cbsuk.org/>

Charity Christmas cards catalogues time of year has come around again and I have received details of those from Karibuni Children .Karibuni Children Hand-made banana leaf / fabric or batik Christmas cards. 6 cards (mix of 3 designs) £4 including postage. Available to order online- <https://www.karibuni.org.uk/shop/?add-to-cart=6624>

Or at

Karibuni Children
Stoke Mandeville Methodist Church
Eskdale Road, Stoke Mandeville Aylesbury
Bucks
HP22 5UJ, UK

Telephone 01296 614887

Latest news from Kenya, with video of thanks -

<https://www.karibuni.org.uk/covid-19-update-in-kenya/>



Greetings to Church Friends

The Stewards are very sorry but the Christmas card exchange rack will not be available this year. Even if the church could open, we could not take the risk of people gathering to chat and picking up envelopes addressed to others. We would like you to consider sending one greeting to all your church friends rather than a lot of individual cards. Some people usually do this by pinning a single card on the notice board, for all to see.

This Christmas we will try a new way for people to exchange their greetings. We will produce a special edition of the news sheet just for Christmas greetings. This will be sent as a printed booklet to everyone on the church roll, so that nobody will be forgotten. Your greeting can be in the form of an actual Christmas card, a message, picture, prayer, poem, quotation, artwork, or news you want to share. Groups can also send a Christmas greeting if they wish. Please mark it "Christmas Greetings to Church Friends" and either post it through the church letterbox (in the hall door), or email it to Janet newsletter@rmmc.org.uk

Please be assured that if you need to send an individual card and you have not got the address to send it to, the stewards will do our best to get them there. If necessary church funds will be used for the postage.

Please speak to Janet F, Eileen, Andrew, or Jess if you would like more information, or can help with putting the booklet together or delivering it.

All the greetings sent in by Sunday 6th December will be included in the booklet. Grateful thanks to anyone able to send theirs any earlier.

Best wishes from the Stewards Team

The Government is calling for your views on the government's engagement with faith groups- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/call-for-views-to-support-comprehensive-faith-engagement-review>
"An independent review is calling for views from people of all faiths on the effectiveness of government's engagement with faith groups.

The responses to the call for evidence, will provide vital feedback from across England's multi-faith society to inform the root-and-branch review by Faith Engagement Adviser, Colin Bloom. The call for evidence will close on Friday 11 December."

For anyone feeling the need of confidential and anonymous support at this time (in addition to our own pastoral support) with a Christian perspective there is Premier Lifeline

"Premier Lifeline: the National Christian Helpline is a confidential telephone helpline offering a listening ear, emotional and spiritual support from a Christian perspective, prayer and signposting.

Premier Lifeline is open 9am to midnight every day of the year. Our telephone number is **0300 111 0101** (Landline Rate - included in call packages where landline calls are included). If you would like someone to talk to and pray for you, give us a call."

"Premier Lifeline aims to be a listening ear at the end of your telephone line, providing a confidential anonymous place for you to talk about whatever you wish without fear of judgement or rejection.

Premier Lifeline is a space for you to express your concerns, discuss your uncertainties and work through your problems.

Premier Lifeline is staffed by Christian volunteers who are able to offer emotional and spiritual support.

Premier Lifeline offers a response to the challenges of life from a Christian perspective and a willingness to take issues to God in prayer.

Premier Lifeline is a place to explore faith, forgiveness and reconciliation. Whether a person is seeking God for the first time, looking to return to faith, or struggling with doubt, our team are there to come alongside on the phone to support you in your journey of faith."

Prayer Requests

Please continue to pray for :-

anyone suffering from mental issues and from loneliness because of isolation.

all those who have contracted Coronavirus and thank God for all who have survived.

Prayers and Blessings to all at Ruislip Manor and beyond - stay safe.

Friday 13th November:

This week we pray for North Harrow Methodist Church

We bring 1st Ruislip Manor Brownies & Guides, 3rd Ruislip Manor Rainbows and the Rangers to God in prayer.

We also pray for the people who live in Dartmouth Road and Dawlish Drive

We wish many happy returns to all who celebrate a birthday in November



Items for the News sheet for Friday 27th November to **Janet Miles** , by email

newsletter@rmmc.org.uk by **Wednesday 25th November**, please