



St Paul's Church

Dear all,

I am no singer, but I think we all know that singing can be good for you – music in general is therapeutic. Many people from amongst our community sing in local choirs and it is always interesting to see programmes that appear on the subject on television. One such programme, called Our Dementia Choir, has been on the BBC just recently promoting the benefits of singing amongst those suffering from dementia.

Singing is an important part of church worship as it signifies a desire to connect with God as a means of praise in recognition that He is the one who inspires and sustains us week by week. Such singing might come in the form of traditional hymns such as Amazing Grace, Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer, Great is Thy Faithfulness and so on, equally it might be with modern worship songs, and different people will have their preferences, but the purpose is the same – as it says in the Psalms;

Psalm 96:1 Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Psalm 13:6 I will sing to the LORD, for He has been good to me.

Psalm 33:3 Sing to Him a new song; play skillfully with a shout of joy.

Psalm 105:2 Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wonders.

Psalm 149:1 Praise the LORD. Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of his faithful people.

It is clear from these verses the part that singing plays in worship, and I take my hat off to all those who lead us with their God given skills that they have as organists, musicians, singers, worship leaders and choirs. May we continue to be truly blessed through all that they give so that we can worship as we have been called to do.

Blessings,
Rev Chris

p.s. The following prayer was part of the Church of England daily prayer on Thursday this week;
GIVE US THE MUSIC OF YOUR PRAISE, LORD,
MORNING, NOON AND NIGHT,
THAT OUR LIVES MAY BE FRUITFUL
AND OUR LIPS CONFESS YOU AS
THE TRUE AND ONLY GOD

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

All services are in church, zoom is available for some services.

SUNDAY 23rd OCTOBER – LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Chris (Zoom)

SUNDAY 30th OCTOBER – 4th SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT – ALL SAINT'S DAY

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Anthea (Zoom)

SUNDAY 6th NOVEMBER – 3rd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

10 am Café Service – Gwyn

SUNDAY 13th NOVEMBER – 2nd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Chris (Zoom)

SUNDAY 20th NOVEMBER – SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT - CHRIST THE KING

10 am Experimental Sunday – Rev Anthea (Zoom)

EVENTS

FRIDAY 28th OCTOBER

7-9 pm Craft Group – church

FRIDAY 4th NOVEMBER

St Paul's Baby & Toddler Group

THURSDAY 10th NOVEMBER

2 pm MOTHERS UNION – 'Maidstone & Me' – Robin Williamson

THURSDAY 17th NOVEMBER

2 pm FELLOWSHIP – Entertainment – Joskins, Duo

FOOD BANK

The next delivery will be on 28th October.

PRAYER RESOURCE

week beginning Sunday, 23rd October 2022

'Father God, thank you for the examples you have given in your word to help us pray.'

This week we give thanks for:

- This season, with nature changing around us and Autumn colours emerging.
- Those at St Paul's who quietly, in the background, pastorally care for others; pray for all who show us love and kindness.

Please pray for:

- Our town: that God would give each one of us grace and wisdom to make the best use of the resources, skills and experience that He has given us in order to share the gospel and His love with the people we meet in our daily lives.
- Volunteers and staff of Maidstone Winter Shelter, preparing to open this Winter; for shelters and foodbanks around the country, caring and supporting all who are struggling to make ends meet.
- The street where you live: that you may show care, concern and respect for your neighbours and the people who walk by your door.
- Our Parish: that God's blessing will fill our schools, businesses and homes, and touch all who drive or walk through the Parish.
- Our Church: that all who use our building will sense God's love within its walls and see Jesus in each of us.
- Our Church family, especially all who are struggling; and for Gilly, Hazel, Edith, Pat, Alice, Jill, Trevor, Tony, Maureen, Carol and Margaret; and for Ruth, Helen, Meaghan, Libby and Richard.

You may like to use this prayer during the week:

God of community, thank you for all who build me up and encourage me. Make me humble and open in my fellowship and keep me faithful to the work you are doing in me. Amen.