

# Prayer Diary

January 2021

‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.’

Luke 2:14



**Vicar:** Martin Lane

**Churchwardens:** Geoff Martin, Tony Simons

**Assistants to the Churchwardens:** Greig Burgoyne, Mick Farrier

**Deanery Synod Representatives:** Michael Davis, Hilary Drury, Carol Eldridge

**PCC:** Lisa Bonham (Secretary), Jamie Coussens, Michael Davis, Hilary Drury, Carol Eldridge, Caleb Kilby, Geoff Martin, Martin Lane, Cynthia Lovett, Rowena Pelling, Tony Simons

**Treasurer:** Carol Eldridge

**Safeguarding Officer:** Rowena Pelling

**Administrator:** Lisa Bonham

**Digital Media and Publicity Officer:** Naomi Wade

**Finance Committee:** Carol Eldridge, Martin Lane

**Buildings Committee:** Mick Farrier, Martin Lane

**Staff Team:** Lisa Bonham, Hilary Drury, Martin Lane

**Preaching Team:** Jamie Coussens, Michael Davis, Nigel Harvey, Glen Kilby, Martin Lane

**Families Worker:** Hilary Drury

**Sunday Club Supervisor:** Lisa Bonham

**Sunday Club Leaders:** Lisa Bonham, Hilary Drury, Tony Simons

**Sunday Club Helpers:** Jamie Coussens, Michael Davis, Jen Farrier, Nicky Goddin, Carol Eldridge, Cynthia Lovett, Wanda Owen, Annette Wells

**Crèche Team:** Beckie Akroyd, Thelma Frogley, Mena Martin, Chloe Newman, Jen & Bruce Steadman

# Our Mission

Our mission is to help people of our town and local community become fully-committed followers of Jesus.

# Our Vision

Imagine a church that's flooding its local community with the light of the gospel and making a visible difference to the lives of all kinds of people: that's what we long to see at Emmanuel Church, on the West Hill of Hastings, to the glory of God.

As we look to the future we envision a growing and dynamic, **gospel-hearted** church, full of men, women, and children who find their identity in Christ and rejoice in living for him. It's a church with multiple, vibrant gospel ministries for all ages with trained and trustworthy leaders; where faithful bible teaching is valued and expected; where the gospel is proclaimed with urgency and purpose. It's a church of disciple-making disciples; where members are experiencing the life-changing power of the gospel and helping others to experience it too.

It's an **others-focused** church where we cherish one another in Christ; a family of believers who think of one another before themselves and gladly accept sacrifice for each other's sake; where we love one another in practical ways and everyone gives and receives. It's a church in which relationships are loyal, supportive and accountable; where names are remembered and absence is noticed; where we join together to laugh and cry, challenge and encourage, pray and praise.

It's an **outward-looking** church that works for the good of our local community and seeks the lost with the gospel of grace in creative and relevant ways; a place where the needy find help, the broken find healing, the lonely find friendship, and all hear the offer of new life in Christ. It's a church that's committed to supporting other gospel ministries, in the UK and overseas, by giving its money and sending its people to serve in various ways.

This is our dream. We believe, under God, it will soon be reality, and we invite you to be part of it.

# *Dear Friends*

It's not the start to the new year we wanted, but despite the ongoing challenges we face, God remains totally constant. It's a good time to return to Psalm 91, which gives us great words of encouragement to draw on. Verse 1: **Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.**

God is the **Most High**. However high our troubles may be piling up around us, God is high above it all, like a towering fortress. He is in control. He is **Almighty**. Whatever the scale of the troubles we might face, he's more than a match for them. So Psalm 91 invites us to come and rest in his shadow: it's a place of safety, security and peace. And the language becomes very personal. Verse 2: **I will say of the LORD, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'**

The psalmist calls God by his name, YAHWEH or **the LORD**. It's the covenant name of the God who promises always to be with his people, no matter what. As we enter a new year, God is in it with us. He knows each one of us personally. He loves us dearly. In Christ we are all precious to him. And he is alongside us. He doesn't promise to protect us from all the dangers of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, but he does promise—in every situation—to be with us, to provide for our daily needs, to give us strength and perseverance, and to keep us spiritually safe, until that glorious day when we are home with him.

This psalm is an invitation to come and find shelter in the shadow of our God, through faith in Jesus. And it's an invitation to trust him and bring our worries and anxieties to him in prayer.

*With love,*  
*Martin*

Each day of the week has:

- some Emmanuel people and ministries (see inside cover)
- some streets in our parish to pray for our community
- an external ministry or organisation we support (see back cover) and/or some countries where Christians are facing persecution
- something to pray for specifically related to the Coronavirus
- a Bible verse to pray for our church family

You could choose to pray through each section every day, or spread them out across the month. We hope this will continue to be a useful aid to prayer.

## **Fridays** (1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th)

### *Emmanuel Ministry*

- Our Deanery Synod Representatives
- Administrator, Lisa Bonham
- The Buttons Team and the children, parents, grandparents and carers who come along
- The Welcoming Team

### *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on Albert Road, Alpine Road, Ann Street, Becket Close, Bembrook Road, Calvert Road and Castle Gardens.

### *The World*

- Michael and Sarah Farrier (Emmanuel, St Nicholas & Grace Church, Bath)
- The work of Evangelical Alliance

### *COVID-19*

- Those who are especially vulnerable to disease: that the sickness would pass over them and that they would rely on others for help.

### *Bible Focus - Acts 4:12*

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

- That Emmanuel will boldly share Jesus, the only way and hope.

## **Saturdays** (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th)

### *Emmanuel Ministry*

- Treasurer, Carol Eldridge, as she works on our finances
- Safeguarding Officer, Rowena Pelling, in this vital role
- The Music Group
- The Cleaning Team

### *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on Castle Hill Road, Castledown Avenue, Collier Road, Croft Road, Egremont Place, Elford Street, Emmanuel Road and Gladstone Road.

### *The World*

- The work of Speak Life
- Christians facing persecution in Sudan and Yemen

### *COVID-19*

- Those who have lost work: that God would provide through their families and communities.

### *Bible Focus - John 4:24*

“God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

- That Emmanuel will worship, adore and praise God, in Spirit and truth.

## **Sundays** (3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st)

### *Emmanuel Ministry*

- Vicar, Martin Lane, as he leads Emmanuel
- Churchwardens and Assistants
- The Preaching Team
- The Sound Desk

### *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on Halton Crescent, Halton Place, Hardwicke Road, Harold Place, Manor Road, Milward Crescent and Milward Road.

### *The World*

- Jude Harrison and Family Support Work
- Christians facing persecution in Iran and India

### *COVID-19*

- Churches and ministry leaders: that they would know how to best show the love of Christ at this time.

### *Bible Focus - Colossians 1:28-29*

“He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.”

- For Emmanuel to have dedication and perseverance in discipling believers into maturity.

# **Mondays** (4th, 11th, 18th and 25th)

## *Emmanuel Ministry*

- Digital Media and Publicity Officer, Naomi Wade
- The Staff Team to be united and gospel focused
- Bookstall ministry, Beckie Akroyd
- The TOAST Team and those who come along

## *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on Mount Pleasant Road, Nelson Road, North Terrace, Old London Road, Pelham Street, Plynlmmon Road, Portland Place and Portland Terrace.

## *The World*

- Rachel Browning (Christ Church, Cambridge): pray for Sunday night extras – a new ministry that gives the chance for more equipping and teaching on church history that they hope will help people grow in their faith; also pray for small groups as they think about Generosity and how the gospel could transform their understanding and practice of stewardship and bring joy.
- Churches and leadership in the Diocese of Chichester

## *COVID-19*

- National and local government leaders: that they would have wisdom to do what is best for all.

## *Bible Focus - Revelation 2:4*

“Yet I hold this against you: you have forsaken the love you had at first.”

- For Emmanuel to cling onto its first love, the Lord Jesus Christ.

# **Tuesdays** (5th, 12th, 19th and 26th)

## *Emmanuel Ministry*

- The Finance Committee to make wise decisions
- Families Worker, Hilary Drury, as she supports church families
- Home Group Leaders as they keep in touch with members
- The Maintenance Team

## *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on Priory Road, Queen's Road, Robertson Hill, Russell Street, Saunders Close, St George's Road and St Mary's Road.

## *The World*

- Colin Poyntz (Winslow Christian Fellowship, Winslow)
- Christians facing persecution in North Korea, Afghanistan and Somalia

- The work of Sussex Gospel Partnership

#### *COVID-19*

- Those who are sick and their families: that the Lord would heal and comfort them.

#### *Bible Focus - Colossians 4:2*

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.”

- That Emmanuel would be deeply committed to seeking God in prayer.

## **Wednesdays** (6th, 13th, 20th and 27th)

### *Emmanuel Ministry*

- Sunday Club Supervisor, Leaders, Helpers and children
- The Buildings Committee as they manage our premises
- The Projection Team
- The Gardening Team

### *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on St Mary's Terrace, St Thomas's Road, Stone Street, Stonefield Place, Stonefield Road, The Glebe, Vicarage Road and Wellington Mews.

### *The World*

- Marc and Yvonne Lloyd (Warbleton, Bodle Street Green & Dallington benefice, East Sussex)
- Tim and Emily Hay (City Church, Birmingham)
- The work of Barnabas Fund

#### *COVID-19*

- Families with children at home and in school: that the Lord would give them patience and discipline.

#### *Bible Focus - 2 Timothy 4:2*

“Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage – with great patience and careful instruction.”

- That Emmanuel would stay true to God’s message and proclaim it whether or not it’s convenient.

# Thursdays (7th, 14th, 21st and 28th)

## *Emmanuel Ministry*

- The members of our PCC to be one in thought and purpose
- The Crèche Team and young children at Emmanuel
- The Publicity Team

## *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on Wellington Place, Wellington Road, Wellington Square, Wellington Terrace, West View, Whitefriars Road and York Gardens.

## *The World*

- John and Sarah Percival (Cambridge): give thanks for God's sustaining grace to them through 2020; pray for John's PhD work during the Oak Hill January inter-semester break.
- The work of Crosslinks
- Christians facing persecution in Libya, Pakistan and Eritrea

## *COVID-19*

- Those on the frontlines treating the sick: that the Lord would protect and strengthen them.

## *Bible Focus - 1 Peter 5:2-3*

“Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them – not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.”

- For Emmanuel's leaders to follow Christ and serve humbly; for protection of their witness and example.

**Buttons Team:** Hilary Drury, Thelma Frogley, Cynthia Lovett, Lucy Sparks

**Music Group:** Lisa Bonham, Hilary Drury, Miriam Eisele, Holly Eldridge, Robert Eldridge, Robin Fahie, Jim & Nicky Goddin, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Rachel Lane, Cynthia Lovett, Sue Page

**Projection Team:** Greig Burgoyne, Rachel Lane, Aza Shadenova, Naomi Wade

**Sound Desk:** Beckie Akroyd, Jim Goddin, Naomi Wade

**Welcoming Team:** Eileen Evans, Dorothea Fahie, Jen Farrier, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Paul & Bernadette Huggins, Geoff Martin, Viv Walkington, Dave Wells

**Bookstall:** Beckie Akroyd

**Home Group Leaders:** Michael & Fiona Davis, Robin & Dorothea Fahie, Nigel Harvey, Martin & Rachel Lane, Cynthia Lovett, Ben & Chloe Newman, Rowena Pelling, Dave & Annette Wells

**TOAST Team:** Holly Eldridge, Robin & Dorothea Fahie, Thelma Frogley, Nicky Goddin, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Martin Lane, Graham & Cynthia Lovett, Annalize Senol, Lucy Sparks, Viv Walkington

**Christianity Explored:** Martin Lane, Rowena Pelling

**Publicity Team:** Aza Shadenova, Naomi Wade

**Cleaning Team:** Lisa Bonham, Andrew & Sandra Budd, Berns Huggins, Graham & Cynthia Lovett, Geoff & Mena Martin, Rowena Pelling, Lucy Sparks, Annette & Dave Wells

**Gardening Team:** Nicky Goddin, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Geoff Martin, Tony Simons

**Maintenance Team:** Mick Farrier, Geoff Martin, Dave Sparks

**Mums' Bible Study:** Hilary Drury, Rachel Lane

**We are an Anglican evangelical church  
in the Diocese of Chichester:**



**We are a partner church in  
the Sussex Gospel Partnership:**



[www.sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk](http://www.sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk)

**We are a member church of:**



[www.eauk.org](http://www.eauk.org)

**The three charities we support are:**



[www.barnabasfund.org.uk](http://www.barnabasfund.org.uk)



[www.crosslinks.org](http://www.crosslinks.org)



[www.speaklife.org.uk](http://www.speaklife.org.uk)

[www.emmanuelhastings.org.uk](http://www.emmanuelhastings.org.uk) 01424 445184  
Registered Charity No.: 1159229