

Prayer Diary

March 2021

The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting,

‘Hosanna!’

‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’

‘Blessed is the king of Israel!’

John 12:12-13

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

Boris Johnson has announced a roadmap for lifting the coronavirus lockdown. Schools are reopening. We'll soon be able to meet again outdoors. Before long we'll be able to get a haircut! Shops and restaurants will open their doors once more. And by the end of June we may have returned to some form of normality. But how we feel about all of this may vary. Some will be impatient to get on with it. Others will be anxious that we're not yet 'out of the woods'. And others will be too exhausted to know how they feel.

This has been a long ordeal. It's as vital now as it was at the start that we have a deep conviction of God's sovereignty over every detail of our circumstances, however we feel about them. Whether we're impatient, anxious or exhausted, we need to know that God is in control.

Take some time to reflect on these verses and then pray to God about how you are feeling as you prepare for the weeks that lie ahead:

'Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.' *Matthew 10:29-31*

'From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfil my purpose. What I have said, that I will bring about; what I have planned, that I will do.' *Isaiah 46:11*

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. *Romans 8:28*

'I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted.' *Job 42:2*

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.

Mondays (1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th)

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, Plynlimmon Road, Portland Place and Portland Terrace.

The World

- Rachel Browning (Christ Church, Cambridge)
- Churches and leadership in the Diocese of Chichester

COVID-19

- Those with mental health challenges who feel isolated, frustrated or helpless: for support and encouragement from professionals, friends and family.

Bible Focus - 1 John 4:7

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.”

- For Emmanuel to be full of people who love one another genuinely and deeply.

Tuesdays (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th)

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

- National and local government leaders; for wisdom, energy, integrity and clear thinking.

Bible Focus - 1 Timothy 5:17

“The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honour, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.”

- For Emmanuel to be fully supportive of our leadership and church vision.

Wednesdays (3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st)

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): for the 321 course running at their midweek meeting, especially for any non-Christians attending; for the couple of funerals Marc has booked in; for various meetings and extra responsibilities in the busy run up to Easter.
- Tim and Emily Hay (City Church, Birmingham)
- The work of Barnabas Fund

COVID-19

- Ministers and church leaders: for practical love for their congregations and communities, courage in evangelism and dependence on God.

Bible Focus - Ephesians 6:4

“Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.”

- For Emmanuel families to prioritise Christian education in the home and grow together in love of Jesus.

Thursdays (4th, 11th, 18th and 25th)

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 kindness to them through lockdown; that John would serve God faithfully in his teaching at Oak Hill, and especially that he would protect time to work on finishing off his PhD.
- The work of Crosslinks
- Christians facing persecution in Libya, Pakistan and Eritrea

COVID-19

- Families school-age children and with young ones: for sustaining energy, creative thinking and grace-filled conversations.

Bible Focus - Philippians 4:4

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice!"

- For Emmanuel to be joyful in Christ, and for that joy to be evident to those around us.

Fridays (5th, 12th, 19th and 26th)

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): praise God for lots of opportunities for fun and family time during the lockdown, and new memories made; for Summer as she approaches options at school and preparing for her GCSE years; for the churches they look after: there are

significant decisions to be made about how they move forward and what ministry in their area of Bath will look like in the future.

- The work of Evangelical Alliance

COVID-19

- The sick and infected: for healing and help, bodies and spirits to be sustained, and the spread of infection to be contained.

Bible Focus - 2 Corinthians 1:12

“Now this is our boast: our conscience testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially in our relations with you, with integrity and godly sincerity. We have done so, relying not on worldly wisdom but on God’s grace.”

- For Emmanuel to be faithful and honest in its dealings with the secular world, e.g. paying bills, maintaining buildings etc.

Saturdays (6th, 13th, 20th and 27th)

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

- Healthcare and care home workers: for clear minds, safety and protection, and compassion for all in their care.

Bible Focus - Matthew 28:19-20

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

- For Emmanuel to be reaching out with the good news of Jesus to our friends, relatives and neighbours, and supporting missionary work further afield.

Sundays (7th, 14th, 21st and 28th)

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

- The vulnerable, elderly and poor: for protection from the disease, and access to food, shelter and medical care.

Bible Focus - Hebrews 4:12

“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

- For Emmanuel to be diligent and passionate in studying the Bible, as individuals, pairs, home groups and a whole church family.

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

We are a member church of:



www.eauk.org

The three charities we support are:



www.barnabasfund.org.uk



www.crosslinks.org



www.speaklife.org.uk

www.emmanuelhastings.org.uk 01424 445184
Registered Charity No.: 1159229