



Sunday 18th April 2021
Mr Mark Dowling



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To receive the newsletter each Thursday by email contact David at: david11hoar@gmail.com

Toothill Church website: www.toothillchurch.org.uk

In Partnership (The Partnership Monthly magazine): <http://wswinlyd.org.uk/news>

Prayers for today

Do please let us know if there is someone you would like to add to the list for prayer, remembering that we must have the permission of the person for whom we would be praying. Please pray for Bill and Rhoda, Ann Beaumont, Graham's cousin Hayley, Norris and Ruth, Sarah, Hazel, and all those you know who are in need of God's special love, care and healing.



We pray for our ministers Clive, Rachael, Trevor and Teresa and all our children's and worship leaders and their families across the Partnership.

May God bless us all with wisdom and strength to face each day's challenges.

Please pray for your home congregation that they may be sustained until we can meet together again and for the continuing work with our children, young people and families in West Swindon.

We pray for Grace, Peace and a way forward in your Love in these uncertain times in our lives. May we continually thank God for his great Love and Faithfulness.

Sunday 18th April Service by Zoom opens at 10.15 for 10.30 -

The service will be led by Mr Mark Dowling

To Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7839856489>

Dial in 0208 080 6591 from Britain

Meeting ID: 783 985 6489

Dial In 44 0208 080 6591 from Spain

Meeting ID: 783 985 6489

[Sunday Service from the URC dailydevotions@urc.org.uk](mailto:dailydevotions@urc.org.uk)

Dear Friends,

Sunday's service will be led by students from the Scottish United Reformed & Congregational College. Lesley, Roberta, Kevin + Louise will take us through the service on the theme of 'Peace'. Hymns include John Bell's We Cannot Measure how You heal, Make me a channel of Your peace, and Stuart Townend's How deep the Father's love for us.

The service will be sent out, as normal, at 9.45 on Sunday morning for a 10am start. If you have any problems receiving it please read on for advice.

with every blessing,

Dan

Dan Morrell

Editor, Daily Devotion Sunday Services from the URC

DG for J (Day-group for Jesus) Summer Programme Apr 21 to Jul 21

Meeting at – 1:30pm to 3:30pm

Monday, 26th April 21 - Genesis – Leader Pete

Monday, 10th May 21 – Exodus – Leader Edward

Monday, 24th May 21 – Judges and Kings – Leader Angela

Monday, 7th June 21 – Exile and the Prophets - Leader Pete

Monday, 21st June 21 – Jesus & The Gospels – Leader Edward

Monday, 5th July 21 – Acts & The Church – Leader Angela

Monday, 19th July 21 – Revelation and Review – Leader Edward

For further details contact:

Edward Glennie – edglennie@hotmail.com - 07598482538

Peter Rogers – peter.rogers5599@ntlworld.com – 07500355201

*** We will be continuing with our Zoom calls until further notice. Zoom Meeting details are:

Click on link below to join meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/92404636497?pwd=bFJLbFM5TFdsalppekdRV2o1QzJEZz09>

Meeting ID: 924 0463 6497

Passcode: 181042

Dial-in Number: 0330 088 5830

Motto:

The Armour of God - Ephesians 6: 10 to 11 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armour of God,

Note:

The dates for meetings can also be found on Holy Trinity Shaw's website:

Website: <http://htschurch.org.uk/>

Prayer for the families and friends of Cynthia Dowdeswell and for HRH Prince Philip

“Then David rested with his ancestors and was buried In the City of David” 1 Kings 2:10-12

Lord God our Father,

Death seems so final.

It hurts so much to live these moments of separation.

How can it be borne – Not seeing the familiar and loved faces again?

Not hearing their voice and feeling their touch?

The words “rested with his ancestors” can give us comfort and hope.

Rest is a pause on a journey.

Death is a pause on our journey of life back to you.

Help everyone, loving Father, to take courage on their journey – courage for this pause of rest until we are all united with our loved ones and with you.

Cynthia's Funeral will be at the Kingsdown crematorium on 19th April

Owing to Corona Virus restrictions only 30 people will be permitted in the Crematorium, however there will be a streamed broadcast of the service.

Live webcast

The service will be broadcast live and can be viewed between 14:55 and 15:50 on Monday 19th April using the following link: <https://www.obitus.com/>

Click on the "Proceed to log in" button and enter the following:

Username	tuko6876
Password	734070

(You can connect to the website any time before the service and will see a test page to show its working)

Watch later

After the live broadcast of the service, the video will be made available on line between 26th April and 29th May using the same login information as the live webcast.

[Reading: Psalm 4](#)

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. A psalm of David.

1 Answer me when I call to you,
my righteous God.

Give me relief from my distress;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

2 How long will you people turn my glory into shame?
How long will you love delusions and seek false gods?

3 Know that the Lord has set apart his faithful servant for himself;
the Lord hears when I call to him.

4 Tremble and do not sin;
when you are on your beds,
search your hearts and be silent.

5 Offer the sacrifices of the righteous
and trust in the Lord.

6 Many, Lord, are asking, "Who will bring us prosperity?"
Let the light of your face shine on us.

7 Fill my heart with joy
when their grain and new wine abound.

8 In peace I will lie down and sleep,
for you alone, Lord,
make me dwell in safety.

[Prayer- Pillow Talk](#)

I knew I wouldn't get to sleep! I'm so churned up, What a day!

I'm here for you.

I'm right beside you.

I'm not going anywhere.

What they say is wrong. What they do is wrong. I've been shamed, hurt, wilfully misunderstood. I don't know what to do!

*Let the pain and anger come up.
get it all out.
Only don't get into revenge scenarios.
You know I don't do revenge.
Go on, I'm listening.....*

I've been going round in circles for hours. I've got to the end of myself, I'm desperate. HEEEEELP!
Over to you God. You say name. I turn to you, and your face is radiating love.

I think I can go to sleep now. When I wake, I'll know what to do, and I know it will be OK.
Thank you for turning things round for me. Thank you for this delicious peace.
I love you!

*Love you to the ends of the earth. Sleep tight.
Maggie Hindley URC Prayer handbook*

[Rev Rachael Wilson Reflection- A new thing](https://youtu.be/aH5q2Di62co)

I've got a very long list of things that I want to learn to do. This is one of those lists that seems to get added to rather a lot - in fact I have many more new ideas and many more things that I wish I could do than I actually have time to do them in! I wonder if this is why people who are retired frequently comment that they're busier than they were when they were working? I often find myself saying, "I wish I had time to have a go at this..." and wondering when I might eventually find the opportunity. I know someone who, in the year they turned 80, decided that they were going to learn one new skill every year from that point on. I don't really want to wait that long to start, and some of the things on my list are quite small really. Although there are many languages and musical instruments on my list which would require quite a large commitment of time, there are also lots of other little things, and I'm chipping away at these when I can. In the last couple of months I've managed to learn some new crochet techniques, and I've even experimented with making something of my own design. I've also knitted one sock and hope that maybe next week I can get started on the other one so that I do end up with a pair eventually. And yesterday I made doughnuts which were reasonably successful. There are improvements to be made to the doughnuts, but my daughter is very keen that we keep trying over the next few days while she's still on the school holiday so that we can perfect the recipe and the technique!

This is the time of year for new things, not least because of the signs of spring that are emerging all around us. I'm hoping that the weather will soon realise that it's supposed to be spring as it's definitely still feeling rather wintry temperature-wise! Many people will also be looking forward at the moment to the return of some old things - shops, hairdressers, leisure centres and pubs opening up again in the days ahead - and I'm sure that all those things we have missed will in some ways seem like new things when they're open again. I hope we might look at them with new eyes at least, and take some time to think about what we appreciate about them, and to be grateful. It probably won't be too long though before we start to take them for granted all over again

The trouble with a lot of new things is that very quickly they don't seem new anymore. You buy something new for your house or your wardrobe and within a few days you don't notice it any more - it's as though it's always been there. So then you feel the need to buy something else. There's probably something in many of us that enjoys that feeling of possessing something new, even though it is so often a fleeting emotion. For some people, acquiring the new thing becomes a way of life. We redecorate and renovate and update our clothes and hope that we can make ourselves feel better about our lives, but we will never feel better until we realise that the problem wasn't the decor or the dress after all - the problem lies within us, and until we attend to ourselves no amount of reshuffling our living space or changing our clothes will make any longstanding difference. I think this is another fact of human nature - that we always look to

blame someone else or something else for the way we feel or the problems we face, and so we often look for solutions outside ourselves first as well. I regularly find myself thinking, “I need to reorganise the house”, or “I need to have a good sort out and get rid of some of this clutter”, or “I need to tackle my bad eating habits” but actually I think it’s generally my internal clutter that has an impact on everything else. There are things in my mind that need some time and attention, some sorting and sifting and ordering, some prayerful contemplation and some offering to God, and if I can be prepared to look at them, if I can be willing to invite God to do the business that needs to be done there, then I know that there’s a much stronger chance that I can make some physical changes for the better too.

This is the time of year for new things. This is the season of Easter which is all about newness! It’s all about God breaking through into our world and into our lives in a radically new way! In the last few days there has been a lot of media coverage about the death of Prince Philip, and one thing in particular stood out for me among the many things that have been said. On Radio 4 on Saturday a reporter commented that many younger people perhaps have a rather one-dimensional picture of Prince Philip. We don’t know what he was like as a younger man, we have only seen him in frailer and less filtered times when he has hit the news for opening his mouth and putting his foot in it! This particular reporter applauded the fact that a much fuller picture of Prince Philip has been in the public arena in recent days, and he said, “In some ways it is only in his death that he has become fully alive.” This is the season of the year in which we are invited to focus specifically on the new thing that God did in the resurrection of Jesus. This is Easter - Easter is all about new things. This is about Jesus, who passed through death in order to become fully alive and active in our world for all time and in all places. This is about Jesus - it is only in his death that we can become fully alive. So in Jesus, God invites us into a world of new things. God invites us to live with a new focus, with new priorities, with a new awareness of the needs of others, with a new passion and a new motivation. God challenges us to let love shape our living - both our being and our doing. God calls us to acknowledge those things in our lives that have not yet been made new, and to open them up to the transforming work of the Holy Spirit in us.

The new things that we can be drawn to seek and acquire so often do not last. And even the new things I’ve tried to learn come with varying degrees of success. There are lots of things around me that I’ve started but haven’t managed to finish yet. Someone in one of my craft groups commented the other day that she’s realised she’s a starter, not a finisher - she loves the excitement of starting a new project, and she’s always abandoning things part-way through so she can get started on something else. She hopes that by joining a group she can be encouraged to keep on going and actually get some of these half-done things completed. A bit of mutual support, encouragement and accountability can help us get so much further than we can go on our own!

If we step out into this adventure with God we can experience the thrill of newness every day. As the hymn goes, “morning by morning new mercies I see”! God is always seeking to do a new thing in us and with us, and every day we receive new blessings - new touches of love and wonder; new gifts of grace. At the same time we’re also called to be finishers - to keep on running the race or walking the path; to be open to God throughout our lives so that God might complete God’s work in us. It’s a new thing and yet it’s a tale as old as time (to quote my favourite Disney song!). We are loved with an everlasting love - a love that is new every morning and yet that existed for us right from the very beginning, before we even came into being. In God we are blessed with both the comfort of the constant and familiar and the excitement and adventure of a new thing every day. We are held and protected, and yet we are also called out and beyond.

So I’m working on doughnuts this week, and maybe even another sock. But I think the new thing I want to learn most is to be increasingly open to the Spirit in every moment of the day, so that I can recognise and wonder at and appreciate the new things that God is doing.

I want more of God’s newness to refresh my life. I want to be able to see and understand myself to be loved by God. I want to know and recognise myself as one of God’s very own precious new things

[Jess says- Peace begins with smile -](#)



What has T in the beginning, T in the middle, and T at the end?
A teapot.

Did you hear how they caught the great produce bandit?
He stopped to take a leek.

My neighbour texted me, "I just made synonym buns!"
I texted back, "You mean like grammar use to make?"

[Toothill Church website](#)

