

Welcome to our worship today. We are delighted to welcome Kate Ormerod from Christian Aid as our preacher.

Also those baptized last Sunday: 8.30 Georgia Gore & Joseph Hoare, 10am Frederick Kimberley

Opening Hymn 103 (Hymns are not sung at 8.30)

The Collect (prayer for the day)

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

First Reading Acts 3.12-19

¹²Peter addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.'

Second Reading | John 3.1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Hymn 933

Gospel Luke 24.36b-48

³⁶While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands

and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Kate Ormerod, Christian Aid

The Intercessions are led by

8.30am Janice Wones

10am Debbie Keeves

Offertory Hymn 752

During this hymn the collection is taken or you can text a donation: - STLA02 (that's zero not the letter O) followed by a space then one of £1/£2/£3/£4/£5/£10 to 70070

Hymns during the administration of Holy Communion: 926, 475

Post-Communion Prayer

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive & reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Recessional Hymn 295

NOTICES

The calendar for April through to mid-May is now available - it is gold.

Bake Sale for Zimbabwe TODAY After both services to raise money for sending barrels with tinned stuff and clothes to Zimbabwe. Thank you Dorothea

Exploring Faith – now up and running from 6.15-7.15pm on Thursdays in the Pastoral Centre until mid-June. It includes preparation for those wishing to be confirmed too. Not too late to join in – have a word with one of the clergy or just turn up.

Holy Dusters We will be cleaning our lovely church Tuesday 17 April at 9.30am. All welcome to help - just an hour will make a great difference.

PCC Meeting Tuesday 17 April 7pm at the Pastoral Centre.

Gridiron Trip to Derby Thursday 19 April. Visit Derby Museum and Art gallery and Pickford's House Museum, a domestic Georgian House. Lunch in Brunswick Inn, built 1842 and probably, the first railwayman's pub in the world. Train fare with Railcard about £12, museum entry free. Meet 10.30 am at Northfield Station. Please sign list in church porch to give some idea of numbers likely to come. For more information see John Orchard.

An ecumenical walk of witness and solidarity with Refugees and Asylum Seekers, **Saturday 28 April**. Starting at Cannon Hill Park (outside the MAC) at 10am & ending with a time of reflection in the city centre "The aim of walking together is to publicly affirm our solidarity with all those, throughout the world, who are forced by war, violence, persecution and poverty to be "on the move"; as well as to create a space to say to those who are making their home in our city 'you are welcome here.'"

Our Annual Meeting is on Sunday 29 April after the 10am service. In order to vote at the Annual Meeting you need to be on the **church electoral roll** (membership roll – nothing to do with local government elections!). Forms are available at the back of church and should be returned to a church warden or Ruth Clarke (Electoral Roll officer) by TODAY.

If you would like a printed copy of the full Annual report please sign the list in the porch. We are looking for 5 people to join the PCC and 2 people to represent St Laurence on Deanery Synod (which involves being on PCC as well). These are the decision making bodies of our church. PCC meets 8-10 times a year and Deanery Synod 4 times. We don't expect 100% attendance but hope for at least 70%. To be eligible for election you need to have been on the church electoral roll for at least 6 months.

Handbell Ringers – The band need new members in order to continue this traditional form of church music. No experience is required. We meet in church on a Thursday afternoon at 3pm for an hour. If you would like to come along for a taster session contact Chris Andrew 628 0425 or Jennie King 476 6649.

Organ Recital Goldberg Variationen BWV 988 - Kurt Rampton – **Here at St. Laurence** on Saturday 5th May at 4pm. Free admission – Retiring collection and refreshments available.

100 Club Winners for April - 1st Cliff Towson 2nd Gerald Pimm 3rd Jayne Bold Congratulations!

Thank You to:

- to all who have helped to decorate the church for Easter and who have helped with Holy Week Services.
 - To all those that helped with redecorating foyer at the Pastoral Centre.
 - Those that helped with the Car boot sale yesterday.

Christian Aid

The travelling exhibition 'Inherit the earth' about a project to support subsistence farmers in Lowland Bolivia

will be at Northfield Methodists this week and St David's next week, normally open 10 – 1pm.

Christian Aid Week is 12 – 18 May. Last year our bake sale and local house-to-house collection raised £1,000. If you are able to help in any way please speak with Miles or Gerardine or sign the list at the back of church.

Churches Together in Birmingham is asking church members to complete this short survey about their local ecumenical life.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LHT6NVL>

Do you use the cash back site Quidco.com? If so, you can now donate your cash back to charity through For Good Causes (<https://www.forgoodcauses.org/how-it-works/>) and the Charities Trust. It is hoped to expand the scheme to other cash back – and loyalty point schemes

Network West Midlands have published the latest update of the guide to accessible transport 'Getting Around' (April 2018) in a spiral bound book format. Should be available to pick up at Northfield Library

Heart 'n Soul - 6-8pm each Wednesday (starting Weds 18 April) South Birmingham Radio (<https://southbirminghamradio.uk/>) Christian comment, music and stories - presented by Rev Simon Gudger, Debra Mayo (Collins) and Roger Jones

Weekly events:

'Stay and Play' (Parent/carer & baby/toddler group) Mondays in term time 9.30-11am.

Gridiron Coffee Morning Tuesdays 10 – 11.30am.

Church Open on Saturdays 10-12noon. Refreshments available: an opportunity to explore your local historic church or simply to enjoy a quiet moment of reflection.

For your prayers

Those who are ill including: Richard Barber (Steph and all the family), Fr Robert Warren who is back in hospital. **Those who have died** Audrey Horton, Joan Day, Doreen Murray, Barrie Richards Agnes Wood.

Prayer requests may be left on the request forms by the prayer candle stand They are included in Morning and Evening Prayer several times a week.

Baptism & Wedding Enquiries

Please come to Parish Surgery **every** Wednesday 5.45 – 6.30pm in the Pastoral Centre 173 Church Road, Northfield, B31 2LX

Contact Details

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