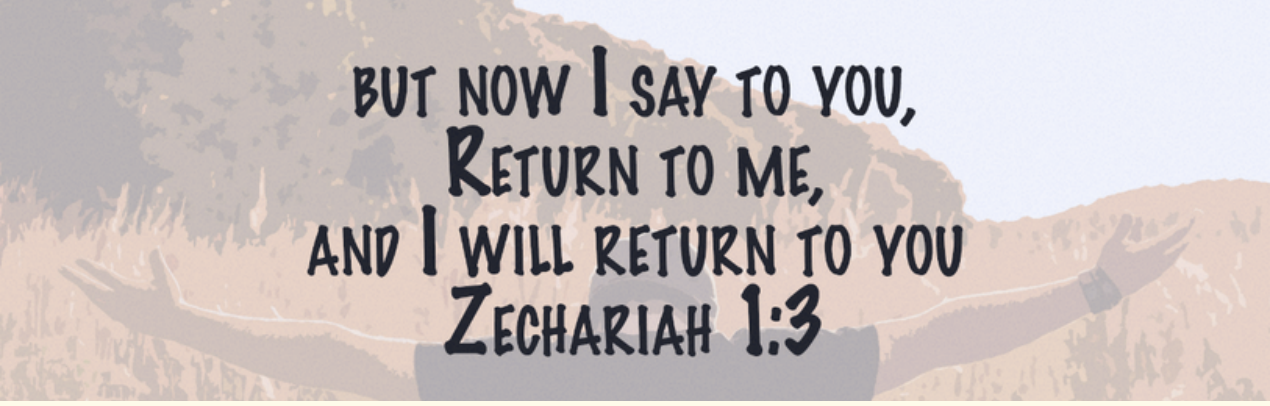


BROOKLANDS CHURCH

12 NOVEMBER 2023

ISSUE #43/23



BUT NOW I SAY TO YOU,
RETURN TO ME,
AND I WILL RETURN TO YOU
ZECHARIAH 1:3

This morning we are jumping ahead in our Minor Prophets series to the book of Zechariah. As we skip over Zephaniah and Haggai (which we will return to, later) you may ask, “why?” Well the first reason can be gleaned in the book of Zechariah itself. Zechariah does not follow a neat and linear pattern, and is instead chaotic and difficult to follow. Some believe this highlights the nature of life being neither neat and linear and, as such, relatable.

But the real reason we are jumping to Zechariah today is that it is Remembrance Sunday. A day where we are encouraged to pause (remember Habakkuk?), ponder, and reflect. Reflect times where our nation was involved in conflict and the pain and suffering endured in those times. We pause to remember the lives lost. We ponder the peacetimes that we find our nation in and are reminded that peace comes at a cost. Peace takes work, but that work is always worth it. Pastor Lucy will lead us in this time of remembrance this morning.



Zechariah picks up a time in the history of the Old Testament people of God had returned from Exile. It seemed the consequences of their actions of turning from God earlier in the story were coming to an end and a season of restoration was to begin. But how will they use this opportunity? What is God beckoning them towards as he calls them to return? He is calling them to work towards peace. May we be a people of peace as we work towards the restoring of God's Kingdom in our world today.

As Advent is almost upon us, a reminder that the programme of Sunday services and special events is included in this Update and hard copies of the same can be obtained if you wish to invite others to all of the goings on in our church during December. For you own, personal journey of faith throughout Advent however, we have obtained a devotional for you to engage with – read, pray, ponder, throughout this important time in the Christian calendar. There are devotionals for adults and children and there are enough for at least one per family. Please take one away with you and we will be using this resource throughout our times of worship during Advent, too.

Finally, I have been asked to let you know that new automatic lights have been installed in the toilets – this means that you do not need to switch the light on or off by yourself.

Peace,

Mick



READINGS AND PRAYERS

DATE	BIBLE READING	PRAY FOR
Monday 13 November 2023	Hebrews 5:11-6:20	Myra O'Hara
Tuesday 14 November 2023	Hebrews 7	Michael Okechukwu
Wednesday 15 November 2023	Hebrews 8:1-9:10	Bogdan and Eva Oron, Aleks, Raluca and Iosif
Thursday 16 November 2023	Hebrews 9:11-28	Vera Packard
Friday 17 November 2023	Hebrews 10:1-18	Gilly Parrish
Saturday 18 November 2023	Catch Up	Tom Patterson
Sunday 19 November 2023	Hebrews 10:19-39	Karina Phillips, and Kiyarah



SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2023
ZECHARIAH 9:9-17
MICK KANE

9 Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 10 I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the warhorses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. 11 As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.

12 Return to your fortress, you prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you. 13 I will bend Judah as I bend my bow and fill it with Ephraim. I will rouse your sons, Zion, against your sons, Greece, and make you like a warrior's sword. 14 Then the Lord will appear over them; his arrow will flash like lightning. The Sovereign Lord will sound the trumpet; he will march in the storms of the south, 15 and the Lord Almighty will shield them. They will destroy and overcome with slingstones. They will drink and roar as with wine; they will be full like a bowl used for sprinkling the corners of the altar. 16 The Lord their God will save his people on that day as a shepherd saves his flock. They will sparkle in his land like jewels in a crown. 17 How attractive and beautiful they will be! Grain will make the young men thrive, and new wine the young women.



CHURCH CALENDAR

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sunday 12 November	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship
	2:00 PM	Grace Church
Monday 13 November	6:00 PM	Brooklands Brownies and Guides
Tuesday 14 November	10:00 AM	Computer Support Session
	12:00 PM	Computer Drop In Session
	7:00 PM	Bible Study with Pastor Mick
Wednesday 15 November	10:00 AM	Toddle In
	10:30 AM	Weekly prayer meeting
	5:00 PM	FoodCycle
Thursday 16 November	11:00 AM	Community Café and Food Pantry
	2:00 PM	Bible Study at church
	4:00 PM	Private Tutoring Sessions
	6:00 PM	Brooklands Brownies and Guides
	7:30 PM	Manchester Gospel Choir rehearsal
Sunday 19 November	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship

Note. Brooklands Brownies and Guides are unable to use their regular premises at St John's Church due to the presence of asbestos in the hut there. They will be meeting in our back hall on Mondays and Thursdays. There are leaflets in the foyer for anyone interested in joining.

CHURCH PRAYERS

- Pray for Harry Bolton who was rushed to hospital last week following a suspected seizure. We thank God that Harry seems to have recovered from this well but keep him in prayer as he will undergo further tests in the future. Pray for Jack, Leah and the whole family too!
- Pray for Jamie, Brenda Hambleton's nephew, who will undergo surgery this week. The surgery had previously been postponed so pray that it goes ahead this week.
- Pray for Stella Bolton who has been experiencing debilitating pain in her knee. She is due to undergo further investigations into what is causing the pain.
- Continue to hold Anna Holme in your prayers as she has finished her cancer treatment until the new year.
- Give thanks for the news that Rebekah McLachlan's most recent scan showed no sign of cancer in her brain. Continue to pray for the family as she continues to be monitored.
- Please pray for Serena, who comes to the Thursday cafe. She has been diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer and is due a mastectomy.
- Pray for Sandra, a neighbour of church. Sandra has been diagnosed with cancer.
- Praise God! Siggy's daughter Esther's recent bone scan was good and the wounds from the operation have healed well. Next are several high IV Vitamin C drips before chemo from mid-November. Esther is thanking the Church for praying for her.
- Please be in prayer for Jean Boyd who has had a very difficult flare-up of Rheumatoid Arthritis recently.
- Pray for Fatima Alkandaari as she deals with some health issues.
- Please pray for Veronica and Trevor, a couple who are close friends of Steve and Jean Boyd. They have both been diagnosed with brain tumours.
- Pray for a little girl called Rosie. Rosie has a chronic digestive problem causing severe pain and weight loss.
- Pray for Ava Marshall who is 6 years old and has leukaemia.
- Also pray for Olivia, aged 4, who has also recently been diagnosed with leukaemia, and is undergoing a course of chemotherapy.
- Pray for baby Freddie who is needing an urgent heart replacement.
- Continue to remember Ron and Jenny Hearne in your prayers.
- Pray for Jean Walker's sister - Barbara Edwards, in Germany, who recently suffered from a stroke.
- Continue to pray for Marie Vickers, a family member of David and Chris Hoolihan. Marie has cancer and needs prayers for healing.
- Pray for John Reavey, a neighbour of Jean Walker. John is in hospital following a brain tumour.
- Pray for Norma as she adapts to modifications in her home. Pray for her carers and family as they look after Norma.

FROM ALL AT BROOKLANDS CHURCH

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

JOIN US FOR A PACKED CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

SUN 3RD DEC

10:30AM – SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE – ANTICIPATE HOPE

1:00PM – CAROLS IN THE PARK (CHURCHES TOGETHER) – WYTHENSHAW PARK,
OUTSIDE WYTHENSHAW HALL

SUN 10TH DEC

10:30AM – SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE – ANTICIPATE PEACE

11:45AM – FOLLOWING THE MORNING SERVICE – FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

SUN 17TH DEC

10:30AM – SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE WITH KIDS CHURCH NATIVITY PRODUCTION

4:30PM – CAROLS IN THE COMMUNITY – MEET AT THE CHURCH

6:00PM – TRADITIONAL CAROL SERVICE – ANTICIPATE JOY

SUN 24TH DEC (CHRISTMAS EVE)

10:30AM – SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE – ANTICIPATE LOVE

MON 25TH DEC (CHRISTMAS DAY)

10:30AM – CHRISTMAS MORNING FAMILY SERVICE

SUNDAY 31ST DEC

10:30AM – SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

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