

BROOKLANDS CHURCH

26 NOVEMBER 2023

ISSUE #45/23

Zephaniah 3:17

He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.

This is one of my favourite images in the whole of Scripture: The Lord rejoices over us with singing. Isn't it beautiful? As we continue in our Minor Prophets series for what will be the final time this year (we will finish it off in the New Year), we find ourselves in the book of Zephaniah.

At the heart of the picture of God's redemption in the book is music and singing. It is therefore beautifully appropriate that we welcome the Manchester Community Gospel Choir who will lead us into worship this morning with a performance. They are always a blessing when they join us.

Don't forget the next week is the beginning of Advent and we have a number of Advent devotionals which we will be utilising in our worship. They include daily readings all the way up to Christmas. Be sure to pick one up if you haven't already.

With Advent in mind, we have the first of our special events happening next week – Carols in the Park. This is an annual event where we join with other churches in the community for readings and carol singing in Wythenshawe Park. This year it will take place in the grounds of Wythenshawe Hall. If you could be there a little before 1 for the event starting at 1pm. It usually lasts around 45 mins.

Two weeks from today we will have a Christmas party and bring and share meal following the service where we will enjoy fellowship and fun including a Christmas quiz and silly games. Do make provision to stay a little longer that morning. Have a think what you can contribute to the meal and next week we will have a sign-up sheet so we can prepare accordingly.

There are lots of exciting things happening in the church this Christmas season so why not take the opportunity to invite someone along!

Peace,

Mick

READINGS AND PRAYERS		
DATE	BIBLE READING	PRAY FOR
Monday 27 Nov 2023	James 4:13–5:20	Nick and Ada Savu, and Joshua
Tuesday 28 Nov 2023	1 Peter 1	Gert Schwartz
Wednesday 29 Nov 2023	1 Peter 2	Claire and Terry Silverwood, Liam, Sophia, Chloe and grandson Noah
Thursday 30 Nov 2023	1 Peter 3	Nate and Siye Spinaci, Elijah and Ethan
Friday 1 Dec 2023	1 Peter 4–5	Dean and Simona, Mia and Micah Stanfield
Saturday 2 Dec 2023	Catch Up	Karl and Ingrid Stanfield
Sunday 3 Dec 2023	2 Peter 1	Sheila Strong

CHURCH CALENDAR

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sunday 26 November 2023	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship
	2:00 PM	Grace Church
Monday 27 November 2023	6:00 PM	Brooklands Brownies and Guides
Tuesday 28 November 2023	10:00 AM	Computer Support Session
	12:00 PM	Computer Drop In Session
	7:00 PM	Bible Study with Pastor Mick
Wednesday 29 November 2023	10:00 AM	Toddle In
	10:30 AM	Weekly prayer meeting
	5:00 PM	FoodCycle
Thursday 30 November 2023	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 3 December 2023	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship
	1:00 PM	Carols in the Park
Saturday 9 December 2023	9:30 AM	Prayer Breakfast
Sunday 10 December 2023	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship
	11:45 AM	Family Christmas Party

CHURCH PRAYERS

- Pray for all of the Advent activities happening in the church this coming month.
- Please pray for twin babies Olivia and Isabella, granddaughters to John and Sue Churchman born just last week. They've both been in hospital this week with concerns around weight and jaundice.
- Please pray for the parents of Dave Cosgriff, who are also the grandparents of Leah Bolton and Josh Jenkinson. Dave's mum, Jill, has been unwell and is undergoing tests. His dad, Dave snr, has been suffering from kidney issues.
- Pray for Michelle Coates who was taken to hospital last week with chest pains. She is undergoing further tests.
- Pray for MacDonald who has a deep infection in an old leg injury. Pray for wisdom, that the doctors know how to proceed.
- Pray for Ray Dinsdale, who is soon to start treatment for leukaemia.
- Pray for Jamie, Brenda Hambleton's nephew. Jamie's heart surgery has been postponed again.
- 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.
- Continue to pray for the McLachlan's family, as Rebekah 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, recently 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 chemotherapy. Esther thanks the Church for praying for her. Pray also for Siggy as she plans to join Esther in Canada.
- 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.

CHURCH PRAYERS CONT.

- Pray for Freddie who had his heart replaced recently. There have since been complications and he continues to need much prayer.
- Continue to remember Ron and Jenny Hearne in your prayers.
- Pray for Jean Walker's sister - Barbara Edwards, in Germany, who is in a care home, after suffering 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 Constance Reavey, a neighbour of Jean Walker. John Reavey passed away recently.
- Pray for Norma, and for her family and carers who look after Norma.

SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2023 ZEPHANIAH 3: 9-20 - PASTOR MICK KANE

9 "Then I will purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the Lord and serve him shoulder to shoulder. 10 From beyond the rivers of Cush my worshipers, my scattered people, will bring me offerings. 11 On that day you, Jerusalem, will not be put to shame for all the wrongs you have done to me, because I will remove from you your arrogant boasters. Never again will you be haughty on my holy hill. 12 But I will leave within you the meek and humble. The remnant of Israel will trust in the name of the Lord. 13 They will do no wrong; they will tell no lies. A deceitful tongue will not be found in their mouths. They will eat and lie down and no one will make them afraid." 14 Sing, Daughter Zion; shout aloud, Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, Daughter Jerusalem! 15 The Lord has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm. 16 On that day they will say to Jerusalem, "Do not fear, Zion; do not let your hands hang limp. 17 The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing." 18 "I will remove from you all who mourn over the loss of your appointed festivals, which is a burden and reproach for you. 19 At that time I will deal with all who oppressed you. I will rescue the lame; I will gather the exiles. I will give them praise and honor in every land where they have suffered shame. 20 At that time I will gather you; at that time I will bring you home. I will give you honor and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes," says the Lord.