



Welcome

Services online

Services – all available on the church YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCopwyXTvmHCMOUSKeJf6YQ>

or via the church website:

<https://st-matthias-church.org/about-us/covid-19-corona-virus/>

(or follow links from 'covid/coronavirus' or 'services' tabs on home page)

**Sunday
14 June**

9.30am All Age Worship

10.30am Coffee on Zoom

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74077097424?pwd=M1Z5cjhEenlFSFtpMWFZa0txaExOZz09>

Meeting ID: **740 7709 7424** Password: **Coffee**

5.30pm Prayer Meeting on Zoom

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77734298935?pwd=SDNnc20vVFFkUkpuVFJzUE95ay9lQT09>

Meeting ID: **777 3429 8935** Password: **8sH9f5**

Bible reading for today: Philippians 1: 1-11

Find it in your bible or at: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=philippians+1%3A++1-11&version=NIVUK>

Next week

**Sunday
21 June**

9.30am Growzone

Coffee on Zoom @ 10.30am

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74077097424?pwd=M1Z5cjhEenlFSFtpMWFZa0txaExOZz09>

Meeting ID: **740 7709 7424** Password: **Coffee**

11am Holy Communion (CW)

Collect

God of truth,
help us to keep your law of love
and to walk in ways of wisdom,
that we may find true life
in Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.

Thanks today go to

...

**The Torbay Food
Alliance for
providing meals for
those in need**



Our new preaching series on Philippians

Paul would have a special sympathy for our Covid 19 lockdown since he was writing from a jail cell! You might think that would make this letter dark and sad but in fact Philippians is the most joyful and happy of all his letters. The word 'joy' occurs over 16 times and we are repeatedly encouraged to rejoice.

So, what will we learn from this letter which we can apply to our unusual times?

Firstly, we will find an encouragement to pray – and to pray with thanksgiving. Secondly, we will discover how God turns around a devastating difficult situation (being in prison) to being a wonderful opportunity for witness to the gospel. Thirdly, we will be inspired by Christ's example to be humble, patient and obedient when we are under pressure.

Maybe the most telling parallel with our situation is when Paul considers his own death. You see, a fear of death underlies much of our thinking since the pandemic began. But what does Paul make of this? He says "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain". In other words, Paul faces both life and death with confidence and assurance.

But is this letter all high-minded stuff? No, it is practical too! He tells us "I have learnt the secret of being content" (very useful in lockdown!) and "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (handy when faced with the challenge of unfamiliar technology!)

Finally, there is a great promise: "My God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus". Join us in this new series on Sundays! Andrew Green

For our prayers and praise this week

Sun	Holy, holy, holy. Praise God for His holiness and pray that in our worship we may reflect our awe and wonder of a Mighty God.
Mon	Pray for leaders of the nations in our world. Pray that they may know the importance of seeking justice, truth and caring for their people's needs.
Tues	The re-opening of the churches of Devon seems to be a complicated matter especially in relation to maintaining social distance. Pray for the Rector and PCC as they discuss how to overcome this in the near future.
Wed	There are still many countries where there is injustice and violence. Pray for the NGO's trying to help in so many ways.
Thurs	Pray for the many charities, some of which we support, which are struggling to reach their financial obligations due to the pandemic which is stopping much giving.
Fri	Pray for the thousands of people still having to stay at home - especially older people, many of whom are lonely, angry, frustrated and finding life so difficult.
Sat	Pray about plans for an Alpha Course, also for the Home Groups, the Prayer Ministry Team, Youth work and other planned church activities.
Sun	Some of us understand technology, others of us don't! Thank God for those who do and are able to bring us virtual worship. Pray for them as they prepare services and meetings for us. Pray they have vision and understanding as they put things together.

News

When will the church open again?

We still don't know – so watch this space!

It looks as though we are now allowed to open the church 'for private prayer' from 13th June – however, we will not be opening immediately. The PCC discuss the issue on 15th June and we are collating other information to assist us in our decisions. For example, we await responses from the survey we have sent out about who might act as stewards and also need to consider whether the church might be used by some hirers from July, since the capacity of any of our rooms and halls is substantially reduced with the 2m distancing and sanitising requirements. We are also looking towards opening on Sundays for some acts of worship as and when the government rules allow us to.



“Does anyone know if we can shower yet, or is it still just our hands?”!

“I rang B and Q to find out how busy they were and asked ‘how big is the queue?’...they told me ‘about as high as the ‘B’ !”

Some new ways to pray

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.



Sunday Prayer Meetings

Previously we have held a monthly prayer meeting at 5.30pm on 4th Sundays. We're increasing this to meet twice a month – each one will last 40 minutes – do join us today on zoom (details above), as we pray for the church, the Bay and the world.

Requesting prayer for individuals

If you would like someone to pray for you, and you are not a member of a house group (who are in the best place to pray for you), please phone or preferably email the Church Office and share your request and some members of St. Matthias Prayer Ministry Team and clergy will pray for you that week. For privacy reasons, this works best if you only request prayer for yourself – but if you do ask for prayer for someone else, it is essential you get their permission first, and let us know when you make your request.

Tuesday Morning Prayer

Every Tuesday morning the clergy meet to say Morning Prayer between 9am and 9.30am on zoom using the 'Daily Prayer' app published (free) by the C of E, which you will need to download onto your phone/tablet/computer. To join us, please ask for the zoom log on details from John or Paul - contact details below.

Other News

SURVEY

Please complete the survey sent out a few days ago via email about re-opening the church. Thank you.



Sad News Dougie Anderson's funeral will be held on 18 June in Worthing. If you would like to send a card please contact the church office for his sister's address: admin@st-matthias-church.org



• **Do you have a flat available for rent?** One of our church family, together with her young child, needs a 2 bedroom flat to rent as soon as possible. Could you help? Ideally with a bath and access to a garden would be a huge bonus! Walking distance to St Matthias. If you might be able to help please contact Paul on 07807636470 or revpaulbarton@gmail.com

• **Torquay Community Larder** is still operating and in need of donations.

Please contact Linda Townsend on 07790 640372 to make arrangements for collection. (As the church is closed donations cannot be left there.)

Questions about life? and about the Christian faith?

We hope to begin an **Alpha Course** over the summer, face to face or online!

Alpha

Contact the Church Office if you'd like to find out more

admin@st-matthias-church.org

01803 214175

Who could you encourage?

If your health allows it, and you have a garden large enough to allow for social distancing, would you be able to invite someone who lives on their own to your garden for a tea or coffee and a chat? You may like to pray together too?

Although the church building is closed you can still contact us:

Office: 01803 214175 admin@st-matthias-church.org

(Pere Snow is on Furlough Leave but the phone is still being answered)

Rector: John Beckett 01803 293119 **Asst Minister:** Paul Barton 07807 636470