

Sunday 18th August



Welcome to our 10.00am Holy Communion Service

This morning we are looking at Psalm 64 'See what God has done.', and we will be sharing the Lord's Supper.

You are very welcome – whether you are looking into Christianity for the first time, have been a Christian for years or are looking for a church in Birmingham. Please help yourself to a Welcome Booklet, and if you would like us to contact you about our activities then complete a Welcome Card – both are available in the foyer.

Children's activities There will be holiday activities for those aged 3 to year 6 during the service.
Crèche Please feel free to take your children (under 3 only please) through to the Cranmer Room where you will need to supervise them.

Question of the Week: *How does trusting God help when people treat us badly?*

 **Refreshments** are served in the Foyer after the service, please stay and join us.

 **Toilets** are in the foyer and upstairs; baby-changing facilities in the disabled toilet.

OPENING PRAYER Andy Martin

HYMN Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

CONFESION

SONG Your love will last forever

NEWS

Children leave for their activities

SONG See the man

BIBLE READING Richard Griffith

Psalm 64 (page 580)

2 Thessalonians 1:3-10 (page 1189)

SERMON Ben Wells

See what God has done

PRAYERS Alice Johnston

ending with **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

HYMN Rock of ages

COMMUNION

SONG You have called us out of darkest night

CLOSING PRAYER

Sunday 18th August



Welcome to our 6.30pm Service

This evening we are looking at 'Destined for glory' (Romans 8:28-30).

You are very welcome – whether you are looking into Christianity for the first time, have been a Christian for years or are looking for a church in Birmingham. Please help yourself to a Welcome Booklet, and if you would like us to contact you about our activities then complete a Welcome Card – both are available in the foyer.



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OPENING PRAYER *Ben Wells*

HYMN Amazing grace

SONG Come praise and glorify

CONFSSION

PRAYERS *Martin Sherlaw*

Ending with **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

SONGS When darkness deepens
You died in my place

THE APOSTLES' CREED

NEWS

SONG The perfect wisdom of our God

BIBLE READING *Mark Fox*

Isaiah 65:13-25 (*page 752*)

Romans 8:17-30 (*page 1135*)

SERMON *Andy Martin*

Destined for glory

HYMN Come thou fount of every blessing

CLOSING PRAYER

Prayer and Praise

See what God has done

Psalm 64

Missed a sermon recently? Visit www.sssw.org.uk (under Resources)

What I have learned

- to praise God for
- to confess to God
- to ask God for

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Hospitality

Dear Friends,

Have you noticed how much there is in the New Testament about hospitality? We are told to "practise" it (Romans 12:13) – apparently it requires effort. We are to offer it "without grumbling" (1 Peter 4:9). We're not to "forget" to do it (Hebrews 13:2) – our guests may be angels. Church leaders "must be ... hospitable" (1 Timothy 3:2) – no room for manoeuvre there! Widows get put on the list for help if they're known for "showing" it (1 Timothy 5:10). Missionaries must be welcomed hospitably before we "send them on their way" (3 John 5-8). Jesus encourages us to welcome strangers (Matthew 25:35) – in doing so we welcome him.

And yet we tend to think that hospitality is for the select few: those with big enough houses, with a special gift for entertaining or cooking, with enough spare cash to make it easy, with enough spare time, or whatever. True, some are very good at it. Just as some are very good at praying or evangelising or Bible study – but does that mean the rest of us don't need to do those things?

The thing is, as David Baldwin of Oak Hill puts it, "the gospel itself is hospitality – God's incredible hospitality to us. God is the ultimate host, and we are the strangers, now guests at his table. He's delighted to have us. Forgiveness in Christ is the main course; wonderful side dishes adorn the table." When we open the doors of our church and of our homes to strangers (and not only our friends) we become a little bit like our heavenly Father – and he loves it.

Yours warmly, in Christ,
Chris Hobbs (Senior Minister)



**Bible stories, games, craft
and loads more!**

Children currently in Reception – Year 6

Tues 27th – Fri 30th Aug and Sun 1st Sep 10am – 12 noon

Please pick up and form and please SIGN UP!

Senior Minister (Vicar) Chris Hobbs

Associate Minister Andy Martin

Assistant Minister Ben Wells

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Sundays at St Stephens

10am service, family friendly with activities for children (crèche – Y6)

4pm service will resume on 8th September.

6.30pm service, relaxed and informal

This Week

The week's normal activities are on pause until September.

**Wed
21**

Day Centre (for older people)
10am-2.30pm.

Bible Study at St Stephen's, 8pm.

Come along and join together in delving further into Romans 8:28-30 ('Destined for glory') with Andy and Ben.

Looking Ahead

**Aug
28**

Pudding Party chez Twiss! 7.30pm.
Come along for an evening of sweet treats at 92 Elm Road, Bournville B30 2AY

**Sep
1**

Evening Service. From Sunday 1st September the evening service will be at St Wulstan's, starting at 6pm, with the aim of making it more attractive to students.

**Sep
12**

Blokes, beer and books (Men's Book Group). Please join Andy at 8pm in The Country Girl for an informal chat about Dan Strange's book Plugged In. You can get hold of the book from www.100fthose.com or www.thegoodbook.co.uk - there's still time to read it.

**Sep
14**

Mens Breakfast, 8.00-9.30am.
"What really is the gospel?" - talk, discussion and prayer. Full English breakfast, £3. Sign up on ChurchSuite or see Chris Stonehouse for more details.

**Sep
16**

Women's Book Club will discuss "The book your pastor wishes you would read", Christopher Ash, AND "Enjoying God" by Tim Chester! Speak to Elizabeth or Chris S for more info. All welcome!

New Fellowship Groups

The Wednesday evening Fellowship Groups are being reorganised for September. These groups meet to help one another grow as Christians through Bible study, prayer and friendship. There may also be a new group on a different evening (Tuesday or Thursday). So now is a great time to join a group. Please speak to Chris Hobbs if you would like to know more, or let him know by Sunday 25th August if you would like to join a group (chris.hobbs@sssw.org.uk).

News and Requests

Over the summer the 4pm service is taking a break. However, this afternoon (Sunday 18th) we would like to invite you all to join us at 4pm here at church for an informal prayer gathering. We will have tea, chat, sing a few songs and then we will pray for the 4pm service and, more widely, that we would be a church family that loves to speak about Jesus.

Day Centre would welcome help with setting up and putting away tables and chairs on 14th and 21st August at 9am and 2.30pm. Please contact Jean Phillips.

Tues 27 Aug: Meet up with Ceri Keates, Mission Partner with Agape FamilyLife (Phil is doing his fund-raising cycle ride for FamilyLife that week!). 8pm at 121 Selly Park Road.

Discretionary Fund We would like to establish a fund of £5,000 in order to help those in church who are in need. Please send any gifts to Tony Burridge (Finance Secretary), marked 'Discretionary Fund'.