

## Today

This term in **Sunday Club** we are learning about the God of WOW! **Today** we will be thinking about the fact that God is three is one.

**Wrestling with Revelation?** 'The Lamb Wins' by Richard Bewes is brilliantly clear and gets to the heart of the book's message. Available for £5.

**Short Prayer Gathering**, for 15 minutes in the chancel following the Morning Service for In Emergency Break Glass. (Every Sunday until March 6<sup>th</sup>.)

## This Week

**Thu 28 Jan Musicians rehearsal.** 8.15-9.45pm, in St Stephens. This is for anyone who is already or who would like to be involved in music at church.

**Thu 28 Jan Identity course continues.** 8.00-9.30pm, 132 Linden Road. If you would like to come, or to know more, contact the office.

## Looking Ahead

**Tues 2 Feb Prayer Gathering**, 10.00-11.30am in St Stephen's.

**Wed 3 Feb Prayer Gathering**, 8.00-9.30pm in St Stephen's – with coffee, tea and cakes 7.30-7.55pm.

**Mon 8 Feb Women's Book Group.** "Seeking Allah, finding Jesus" by Nabeel Qureshi. All women welcome! See Chris Stonehouse or Elizabeth Barry to find out more.

**Thurs 11 Feb Has God really said?** Speaker: Kevin DeYoung. A day conference to renew our confidence in Scripture. Flyers on the Information Table.

## News and Requests

**Cleaner needed for church.** If you are interested please contact the office.

**Could gospel ministry be for you?** Why not spend a year serving the church and learning Bible teaching and ministry skills as a Ministry Trainee, from Sept 2016? Speak to Chris Hobbs.

Stay and Play are looking for **v-shaped pillows** and **baby support rings**. If you'd like to donate please speak to Chris Stonehouse or Amanda Martin.

The **green safe** (currently in the Hudson-Taylor Room) is **free** to anyone who can take it away. Let the Parish Office know if you are interested.

**'Reconciliation in a World of Conflict'**, OMF missions conference Sat 6th Feb, 9.30-1.30 at Monyhull Church. Some great speakers! Details: Nick Devas

To see more from **Paul Hobbs** who visited us last week visit: [www.arthobbs.com](http://www.arthobbs.com).

**Thank you from BCM** to all those who helped with the Toylink project at Christmas, over 3000 children were given gifts.

**Vicar:** Chris Hobbs      **Assistant Minister:** Andy Martin

**Parish Office** St Stephen's Church, Serpentine Road, Selly Park, Birmingham B29 7HU

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**ST STEPHENS AND ST WULSTANS SELLY PARK**

taking Jesus seriously, taking the Bible seriously



## Welcome

**24 January 2016**

*If you are new, you are especially welcome. Please help yourself to a Welcome Booklet and, if you have time, introduce yourself and ask any questions you may have.*

## 10.00am Giving Sunday, Morning Service at St Stephen's

'This grace of giving' (2 Corinthians 8:1-7) – Maurice Sinclair

**Children and young people** will go to their activities part way through the service:

**Crèche** is in the Cranmer Room. **Crèche** and **Club 114** need to go the Foyer to access their rooms and all other groups go to the front of church.

**Coffee, tea and biscuits** are served after the service in the foyer.

## 6.00pm Giving Sunday, Evening Service at St Stephen's

'Though he was rich he became poor' (2 Corinthians 8:8-15) – Chris Hobbs

**Coffee, tea and cakes** are served after the service in the foyer.

Fruit of Full Repentance

ACCLAMATION *led by Chris Hobbs*

**Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty: everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honour come from you, and you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. Amen.**

HYMN Great is thy faithfulness

SONG Bless the Lord O my soul

Expression of Personal Surrender

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Gift of the Overflowing Spirit

NEWS including GIVING PRESENTATION

SONG Clap your hands

*After which children and young people leave for their activities*

Essential Part of Effective Witness

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS ending with THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Abundant Source of Blessing

SONG O my soul arise and bless your maker

BIBLE READING Philippians 4:10-20 (page 1181), 2 Corinthians 8:1-7 (page 1162)  
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON This grace of giving

SONG From heaven you came

DOXOLOGY

**Our God will meet all our needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

Five principles for Christian giving:

**1. Grace (verses 8-9)**

**2. Willingness (verses 10-12)**

**3. Completion (verse 11)**

**4. Ability (verses 11-12)**

**5. Equality (verses 13-15)**

OPENING PRAYER *led by Andy Martin*

**Gracious God, our heavenly Father, we humbly thank you for all your gifts so freely given: for life and health and safety, for work and rest and friendship, and for the wonder of creation. Above all, we praise you for our Saviour, Jesus Christ, for his death and resurrection, for your life-giving Spirit and the hope of sharing in your glory. Fill our hearts with all joy and peace in believing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SONGS I once was lost in darkest night  
Have you heard of a God of love?  
Amazing grace

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**Heavenly Father, you have loved us with an everlasting love, but we have gone our own way and broken your laws. We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them. For the sake of your Son who died for us forgive us, cleanse us, and change us. By your Holy Spirit enable us to live for you and to please you more and more, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

NEWS including GIVING PRESENTATION

PRAYERS ending with THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

SONGS Our God He bridged the great divide  
What can wash away my sin

BIBLE READINGS Philippians 2:1-11 (page 1179), 2 Corinthians 8:8-15 (page 1163)  
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON Though he was rich he became poor

INSIGHTS AND QUESTIONS

HYMN When I survey the wondrous cross

CLOSING PRAYER