

Sunday 27th January



Welcome to our 10.00am Service

We will be starting our 'Church United' series by looking at; 'One God, one church' (1 Corinthians 1:1-18).

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.

There is a **Crèche** for under 3's in the Cranmer Room.

Sunday Club (age 3 – Y6) Our Big Question is: ***What have we learnt about this letter? What was the big problem in this church?***

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

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

OPENING PRAYER *Chris Porter*

SONG I once was lost in darkest night

CONFESSION

SONG Clap your hands

Children leave for their activities

NEWS

SONG God the uncreated one
When survey the wondrous cross

THE APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS *David Twiss*

ending with **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

BIBLE READINGS *Helen Hobbs*

Acts 18:1-11, 24-28 (page 1114)

1 Corinthians 1:1-18 (page 1144)

SERMON *Andy Martin*

One God, one church

HYMN Be thou my vision

Please collect your child from crèche

CLOSING PRAYER

Sunday 27th January



Welcome to our 4.00pm Service

We will be starting our 'Church United' series by looking at; 'One God, one church' (1 Corinthians 1:1-18).

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.

There is a **Crèche** for under 3's in the Cranmer Room.

Sunday Club (age 3 – Y6) meet upstairs in the Tyndale Room.

Club114 (Y7-9) meet in the Cranmer Room.

Cross Section (Y10-12) meet after the service in the Tyndale Room.

Our Big Question is: ***What have we learnt about this letter? What was the big problem in this church?***



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 *Mark Checketts*

SONG I once was lost in darkest night

CONFESSION

SONG Clap your hands

Children leave for their activities

NEWS

BIBLE READINGS *Peter Richardson*

Acts 18:1-11, 24-28 (page 1114)

1 Corinthians 1:1-18 (page 1144)

SERMON *Andy Martin*

One God, one church

SONG God the uncreated one

When survey the wondrous cross

THE APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS *Charlie Cook*

ending with **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

HYMN Be thou my vision

Please collect your child from crèche

CLOSING PRAYER

Sunday 27th January



Welcome to our 6.30pm Service

We will be looking at; 'Can anything good come from this?' (Genesis 38:1-30)

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.



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 *Rebekah Fox*

HYMN Praise my soul the King of Heaven

SONG Holy, Holy. Holy (Lift up his name)

CONFESSION

PRAYERS *Charlie Robinson*

ending with **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

SONGS You're the Lion of Judah

You called me from the grave by name

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

NEWS

SONG The Lord's my shepherd

BIBLE READING *Paul Coley*

Genesis 38:1-30 (page 42)

SERMON *Chris Hobbs*

Can anything good come from this?

SONG Before the throne of God above

BLESSING

1. The Church is God's

2. The Church is God's Temple

3. The Church is Christ's body

What I have learned

- to praise God for

- to confess to God

- to ask God for

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

1. Judah risks the line (v1-11)

2. Tamar rescues the line (v12-26)

3. God keeps his promises (v27-30)

What I have learned

- to praise God for

- to confess to God

- to ask God for

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

Subversive worship

Dear Friends,

Have you realised that coming to church on Sunday is a subversive act? How can that be? It hardly feels subversive. Odd, perhaps, but subversive? It's not as if our names are being taken by the authorities, or gatherings of more than two or three are prohibited, or church leaders are routinely disappearing. Going to church may be subversive in other places, but surely not here?

The thing is, we human beings are wired for worship. We can't worship nothing. If we're not worshipping the one true and living God, we will be worshipping other gods, which by definition will be false and dead (however wonderful they appear to be when we're worshipping them). We just can't help it.

So, "Christian worship is always a subversive act, akin to singing the French national anthem in occupied France during World War Two. In our corporate worship we call one another both *to* the worship of the true God and from the worship of other gods. We call one another from the subtle influence of the empty and destructive idolatries of this world. Instead, we give our undivided allegiance to the one, undivided God." (Tim Chester, *Explore Bible reading notes*).

Here, for instance, is part of one Bible song that will help to subvert our own sinful hearts so that we worship truly: "Great and marvellous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the nations. Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name?" (Revelation 15:3-4a).

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



Feb 3 at 6.30pm

**How is Christianity different
to other religions?**

Senior Minister (Vicar) Chris Hobbs

Assistant Minister Andy Martin

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Sundays at St Stephens

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

4pm service, family friendly with activities for children and young people (crèche – Y9)

Cross Section (Y10-13)

5.30-7.00pm, toasties included

6.30pm service, relaxed and informal

This Week

**Sun
27**

Cross Section (Y10-13) 5.30-7.00pm, toasties included.

**Mon
28**

Women's book club are now reading Crazy Busy by Kevin Deyoung. Speak to Elizabeth Barry to find out more.

**Wed
30**

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

**Thu
31**

Cross-Section Bible Study (Y10-13) 4.30-5.30pm

Explorers (Y2-6) 6.00 – 7.00pm

Club114 (Y7-9) 6.30 – 8.00pm

Life Explored continues. 8-9.30pm at Church. Speak to Andy Martin to find out more.

**Fri
1**

Stay and Play baby and toddler group. 10.00-11.30am

**Sat
2**

Sex...a better story. Agape's Family Life bring you this vision and equipping day together at the Solihull Renewal Centre. Flyers in the foyer.

**Sun
3**

Big Question at 6.30pm: How is Christianity different from other religions?

Cross Section (Y10-13) 5.30-7.00pm, toasties included.

Looking Ahead

**Feb
5**

Prayer Gathering. 9.30-11.15am (crèche provided)

Looking Ahead

**Feb
6**

Prayer Gathering. 7.30pm for refreshments, 8-9.30pm

**Mar
10**

Suffering Church Prayer Breakfast. 8.30-9.30am in the Cranmer Room.

**Apr
9**

Parenting Evening. More details to follow in the next few weeks.

**Jun
28-30**

Church Family Weekend Away 2019. We will be going to Hothorpe Hall, please put the date in your diary and plan to join us. **We do need a team of people to help run the weekend, if you are interested get in touch with Mark Checketts.**

News and Requests

Wanted: Ministry Trainees, Sep 2019-Aug 2020.

Spend a year serving the church and learning gospel ministry. A great way to see if gospel ministry is right for you long-term. Details from Chris Hobbs/Parish Office.

'Thank you' gift for Jem Huggins. We would love to make a gift to Jem as she finishes as Administrator. Please give cash or cheques only to Chris Hobbs by Sun 3 Feb (cheques payable to 'St Stephen and St Wulstan PCC).

Lost Property is on a table at the back of Church. All items left behind will be donated or disposed of this week.

'All Things New' OMF conference 1-3 March (or just 2 Mar). Bible teaching from Hugh Palmer and sessions on work across East Asia. See Mark & Rebekah Fox for details.

University of Birmingham CU have their Events Week next week. If you would like to make a financial gift please do so marking your donation "UBCU". And please pray for them and for Pete Dray, the speaker.