

## Worship Group report

For the future there will be a church service via Zoom at 10.45am each Sunday to which all are invited. The service will be led by Chris with assistance from members of the congregations who will lead intercessions, read, and lead singing. Occasionally Lay Leader will be involved in the beginning of the service and giving a 'Thought' or Reflection on the readings.

In addition there will be, again via Zoom, a short Morning Prayer at 10am every Monday to Friday and on Friday it will be followed by a Bible Study. There will also be Compline via Zoom at 6pm.

Downloadable service sheets are on the church website under BECG:Services & Worship button and also Recordings of the sermons and reflections will be made available after each service via the church website under BECG: Services & Worship button on the top menu bar.

+John will lead our service on the 31st May.

*Andy*

### Readings for May

Sunday 3rd May : Acts 2. 42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2. 19-25; John 10.1-10  
Sunday 10th May: Acts 7.55-60; Psalm 31.1-4, 15-16; 1 Peter 2. 2-10; John 14.1-14  
Sunday 17th May. Acts 17.22-31;Psalm 66. 7-18; 1 Peter 3.13-22; John 14.15-21  
Sunday 24th May; Acts 1.1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1. 15-23; Luke 24. 44-53  
Sunday 31st May; Numbers 11. 24-30; Psalm 104. 25-34; Acts 2.1-21; John 20.19-23

## Christ Church Contact Details

### Reverend Christopher Jones

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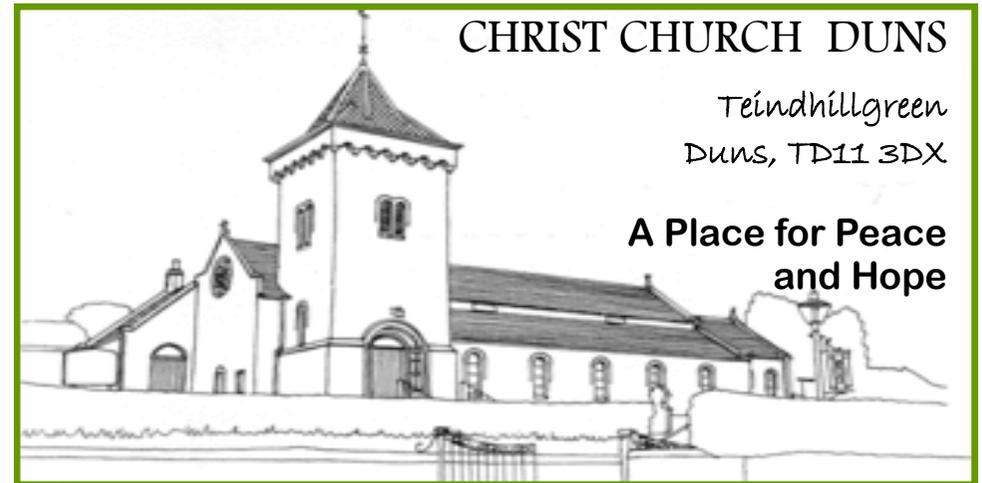
**Charity Number** SC009385

**Material for inclusion in the next newsletter should be submitted as soon as possible and at the latest by**

**5.00pm on Tuesday, 28th May**

**Email:** [newsletter@christchurchduns.org](mailto:newsletter@christchurchduns.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/christchurch.duns/](https://www.facebook.com/christchurch.duns/)



With all who are in darkness and weariness,  
With all who are in doubt or despair.  
With all who are in trouble or fearfulness.  
With all who are in sickness or weakness.  
With all who are frail and at the point of death.

Stand among us in your risen power.

Christ as a light, illumine and guide us.  
Christ as a shield, overshadow and cover us.  
Christ be under us. Christ be over us.  
Christ be beside us, on left and on right.  
Christ be before us. Christ be behind us.  
Christ be within us. Christ be without us.  
Christ as a light, illumine and guide us.

Amen

*Sent in by Claire de-Ramaix Thompson*

## A Message from Chris

As we continue to find ourselves in 'lock-down' and watching from our windows as this pandemic continues to unfold, I wonder if you've found yourself thinking "Where is God in all of this?"

This is a good question. But how do we go about starting to answer such a question?

Well, let me have a go, if I may, at least to start to open out something of an answer.

And in starting to answer the question I would want to start at the very beginning – for it's here we're reminded that God created human-kind in his own image, not only creating them, but breathing into us the breath of life, the Bible uses the language – the essence of God. Now, our being in the image of God does not mean God has the same physical appearance as ourselves, rather it means that as God is creative so we have the ability to create, as God is in relationship so we have the need to be in relationship, as God is loving so we have the capacity to love.... You get the idea. So, our start point is that we are all created in the image of God and that God dwells within us – all of us.

Secondly, the Bible reminds us that God came to us (and comes to us still) in the person of Christ. And that, in Christ, so he walks with us, shares our joys and our sorrows; understands our weaknesses and our strengths; knows us, even better than we might know ourselves.

God is with us; God is within us – all of us, everyone – those who might choose to call themselves Christians and those who might choose not to – we are all created in the image of God and all have something of the essence of God resting within. Yet God is also everywhere present within his creation.

So, in light of this, where is God in all of this? Well, we could say:

- God is in the tears of those who have lost loved ones.
- God is in the smile of the neighbour, or stranger, who dropped off some shopping, or put your bin out.
- God is in the expression of heartfelt thanks as we stand on our doorsteps and clap in grateful appreciation for our NHS and other front-line workers.

You get the idea.

I know, in this short space and with such a complex question, this is but a quick attempt at offering a response: Where is God? God is with us.

May you glimpse and know something of God today, and may you stay safe.

## FOODBANK UPDATE

During March we delivered 23 food parcels catering for 26 Adults, 12 Children and 16 Pets. We also provided 5 chemist vouchers. Demand would appear to be picking up with 9 food parcels being delivered in the final week of March. We congratulate our volunteers for meeting the challenge in these difficult days. The Foodbank is well stocked with some items but there is quite a variety of food that we are definitely short of and indeed in some cases have none! Needed quickly are the following:

Tins of Meat: Hot e.g. Fray Bentos round tins; Irish Stew; Chicken Curry; Meatballs etc Cold e.g. Corn Beef; Pork; Ham; Spam - we have none of these.

Tins of Veg especially Potatoes, Breakfast Cereal, Tins of Fruit, Custard and Rice, Jam (Only 1 jar in stock), Tea Bags (Small boxes), Coffee (Small Jars), **Sugar (Small Bags) Shelf empty**  
Long Life Milk

We give many thanks to those who make donations of money to the Foodbank, and for all who continue faithfully to provide food week by week. Thanks also go to Connect Berwickshire Youth Project who recently gave from their food surpluses.

Lastly remember that all food donations should be left in the foyer of Duns Parish Church at the bottom of the stairs.

Every blessing,

Charles



## Andy's Alphabet

- B & B:** a hive with a population of two  
**Balderdash:** rapidly receding hairline  
**Baltimore:** asking for seconds in an Indian restaurant  
**Beatitude:** pose adopted by an insect prior to pollination  
**Begat:** what you wear on a big 'ead  
**Brexit:** sorry, I cannot find an agreed definition of this word  
**Brittany:** a bit like Britain  
**Brouhaha:** an amusing teapot  
**Boomerang:** show displeasure to a dessert.