

Bible readings and sermons

Today we start looking at parables in the gospel according to Matthew. In our reading, Jesus explains their purpose – and what he says is surprising!

Next month in our daily Bible readings we look at Ezra and Nehemiah: two books which speak of God rebuilding a community of faith after a period of exile. Catch Toby's daily Bible studies on Facebook from 6th February.

In the week

Tuesday: Our weekly prayer meeting is at 6.30pm on Zoom. Please contact rector@elmdonchurch.org if you would like to take part.

Wednesday: Holy Communion, in person at Elmdon Church, 10.30am. Please email carol@elmdonchurch.org or call her on **07761-702 784**.

Wednesday: our weekly video for toddlers, pre-schoolers and their carers is posted to Facebook.

News

Tier 4: Please help us to remain open by making sure that you follow all our Covid-security requirements before, during and after services. Thank you!

The Asikus' steps: You will find the latest news from Gift & Kathryn Asiku, our mission partners in Uganda, enclosed with this prayer sheet.

Connect groups: We hope to circulate details of our new groups next week.

Relaunch 2021: We are planning for life after the pandemic, and part of this is our review of the various ministry roles that people undertake at Elmdon Church. If you have never been on a rota but are keen to give something a go, please email rector@elmdonchurch.org or call 0121-743 6336.

Pen recycling: The recycling point we were using has now closed so our church collection has come to an end. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

*Please send news (40 words max) by 7pm
on Wednesday 6th January to news@elmdonchurch.org*



"The Church in the Park"

3rd January 2021

"Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them".

*Matthew chapter thirteen, verse 12 –
the Elmdon Church 'verse of the week'.*

Welcome to Elmdon Church, in person or online!

Sunday

10.30am Holy Communion service

live at www.facebook.com/ElmdonChurch or on YouTube.

Toby Crowe will speak on Matthew 13:1 - 17

We continue to provide material on our website, Facebook and YouTube channel, accessible at www.elmdonchurch.org

You can also hear Sunday's sermon by calling 0121-270 9075
(calls charged at your usual rate).

The service is available on DVD too: please ask!

Team The believers of Elmdon **Rector** Revd Toby Crowe
Connect with us contact@elmdonchurch.org | 0121 743 6336
www.elmdonchurch.org | www.facebook.com/ElmdonChurch | [@elmdonchurch](https://www.instagram.com/elmdonchurch)

Read & pray...

Monday *Matthew 13:1 - 17*

- Peoples of the world, beginning a new year and hoping for better days to come.
- Children and staff returning to school today – or not!
- Our new year at Elmdon Church and all the opportunities it will contain for sharing the glorious good news of Jesus Christ.
- Those who are bereaved, including the families of Maggie Preece, Wendy West and Ethel White.

Tuesday *II Chronicles 3:1 - 4:22*

- Electors in the US state of Georgia, choosing two senators today.
- Christian residents of Tanhouse Farm Road and The Glade, that they might be confident in sharing their faith with their neighbours.
- Our church prayer meeting, taking place on Zoom this evening.
- Those who are sick, including Marjorie Allcott and Matthew Atkins.

Wednesday *II Chronicles 5:1 - 6:11*

- Coronavirus vaccination programmes, being set up around the world.
- Local businesses being hit by the Tier 4 restrictions.
- Our Holy Communion service, taking place this morning.
- Regular attenders: Doreen Cogzell, David Cole and Ann Davis.

Thursday *II Chronicles 6:12 - 42*

- The new relationship between the EU and UK as the next stages of Brexit are slowly worked out by negotiators.
- Unbelieving residents of Tanhouse Farm Road and The Glade, that they might come to know and follow Jesus as Saviour and Lord.
- Graham Smye, preparing to preach on Sunday, and those planning and leading the service.
- Those who are sick, including Lynda Bird and Pat Bridges.

We preach Christ crucified.
Nobody and nothing but Him.

Friday *II Chronicles 7:1 - 8:18*

- Justice in Argentina as abortion is legalised after years of resistance.
- Patients and staff of the Marie Curie hospice on Marsh Lane.
- Everybody who attended our Christmas services and events, whether in person or online, that they will want to know more about Jesus.
- Regular attenders: Patricia Coleman-Taylor, Paolo Mendonca & Alexander.

Saturday *II Chronicles 9:1 - 31*

- President-elect Joe Biden and his team in the United States.
- Our local hospitals and health services, buckling under the strain.
- British fishermen and their families, facing the most treacherous months of the year and adjusting to new quota arrangements with Europe.
- Those who are sick, including Diane Carey and Simon Carter.

Sunday *Matthew 7:21 - 29*

- All victims of global warming. Let 2021 be the turning point.
- Our political leaders, taking hard decisions in the coming days.
- Our service this morning, that many will meet Jesus in it.
- Gift & Kathryn Asiku, with James & Simon Peter, our mission partners working with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Uganda. Thank you, Father, that the great work of translating the Scriptures continues.

*Please send prayer requests to prayer@elmdonchurch.org
and note that names will usually appear for a month at a time.*

*You can receive these prayers through the free PrayerMate app or by our
daily email bulletin. Details at www.elmdonchurch.org/prayer*

*We have a prayer chain for urgent prayer needs.
Please email prayer@elmdonchurch.org or call 0121-743 6336.*

Next Sunday, 10th January

10.30am Morning service, all ages together.

Graham Smye will speak on Matthew 7:21 - 29

Please let us know if you are coming:

carol@elmdonchurch.org or 07761-702 784.