

Bible readings and sermons

Today's readings: This morning's parable counsels against pride and the sense that we, somehow, 'own' the Church (we don't; God does). This afternoon we are reminded that death won't have the last word for the people of God. "Therefore encourage one another".

In our daily Bible readings we finish the book of Ezra and start on Nehemiah. The work of rebuilding continues!

In the week

To mark Racial Justice Sunday we are posting a series of videos, in which Birmingham Christians and church leaders say what justice means to them. Today: Bishop David Urquhart.

Tuesday: Today is Shrove Tuesday. See Toby's video on Facebook as we make final preparations for Lent.

Also on Tuesday: Our weekly prayer meeting is at 7.30pm on Zoom. Contact rector@elmdonchurch.org if you would like to take part.

Wednesday: There is no Acorns video today because of the school holiday.

News

Lockdown: Our services in person are currently suspended. Please join us on Facebook or YouTube (Sunday, 10.30am) and Zoom (Sunday, 4.00pm).

Mary Reynolds has moved into a home. Please keep her in your prayers.

Kitty Evans and Paul Tracey have now recovered enough to leave hospital. Thank God for his gift of healing!

The bodies found recently on Damson Parkway have been dated to the sixteenth or seventeenth century. They will be re-buried in Elmdon Churchyard shortly: details to follow.

Connect groups: The remaining groups begin this week, though we would still like to start more. Please contact Toby if you would like to be involved.

Building news: We are using the lockdown to carry out various maintenance tasks. A small team is also sorting through the toys and children's resources so that we'll be ready as soon as we can re-open.

*Please send news (40 words max) by 7pm
on Wednesday 17th February to news@elmdonchurch.org*



"The Church in the Park"

14th February 2021 Racial Justice Sunday

"The last will be first, and the first will be last".

*Matthew chapter twenty, verse 16 –
the Elmdon Church 'verse of the week'.*

Welcome to Elmdon Church online!

Sunday

10.30am Morning service

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

Toby Crowe will speak on Matthew 20:1 - 16.

4.00pm Holy Communion

live on Zoom. Please email rector@elmdonchurch.org

Toby Crowe will speak on I Thessalonians 4:13 - 5:11.

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 20:1 - 16*

- Justice for the oppressed, and harmony between all races and groups.
- Christian residents of Whar Hall Road and Wharton Avenue, that they might be confident in sharing their faith with their neighbours.
- A growing diversity in Elmdon Church and its leadership.
- Those who are bereaved, including the families of Ellen Adams, Kath Brown, Beryl Dutton, Gary Dyhouse, Brenda Faulds and Maggie Preece.

Tuesday *Ezra 8:1 - 36*

- Peace moves on the disputed India-China border.
- The UK's vaccination roll-out and those who administer it.
- Our church prayer meeting, taking place on Zoom this evening.
- Those who are sick, including Sarah Leckie and Bill Sands.

Wednesday *Ezra 9:1 - 15*

- The people of Myanmar and their growing resistance, following this month's military coup.
- Unbelieving residents of Whar Hall Road and Wharton Avenue, that they might come to know and follow Jesus as Saviour and Lord.
- The Connect groups which meet this evening.
- Those who are bereaved, including the families of Anne Salter, Fay Shelley, Colin Slade, Gillian Taylor, Wendy West and Ethel White.

Thursday *Ezra 10:1 - 44*

- Italy's new government, that it might push through necessary reforms.
- The rising numbers of children being excluded from schools in the West Midlands.
- The Connect groups meeting today.
- All our church members and other regular attenders.

***We preach Christ crucified.
Nobody and nothing but Him.***

Friday *Nehemiah 1:1 - 11*

- Those trying to cross from Mexico to the United States as President Trump's border wall project is cancelled.
- Everyone suffering in the 'mental health crisis' that Covid-19 has created.
- Karen Matthews and Toby Crowe, preparing to preach on Sunday.
- Those who are sick, including Marjorie Allcott and Matthew Atkins.

Saturday *Nehemiah 2:1 - 20*

- International efforts to halt Iran's nuclear weapons programme.
- Owners and staff of the shops and businesses on Old Lode Lane.
- Our friends and mission partners, Gift & Kathryn Asiku, working with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Uganda.
- Those known to us who still dwell in darkness.

Sunday *Matthew 21:28 - 32*

- The UK's new trading arrangements with the EU as prices start to rise.
- National plans for a return to 'normality', later in the year.
- Our services today, that many will meet Jesus in them.
- Our new rota, currently under preparation.

*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, 21st February

10.30am Morning service

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

Karen Matthews will speak on Matthew 21:28 - 32.

4.00pm Holy Communion

live on Zoom. Please email rector@elmdonchurch.org

Toby Crowe will speak on I Thessalonians 5:12 - 28.