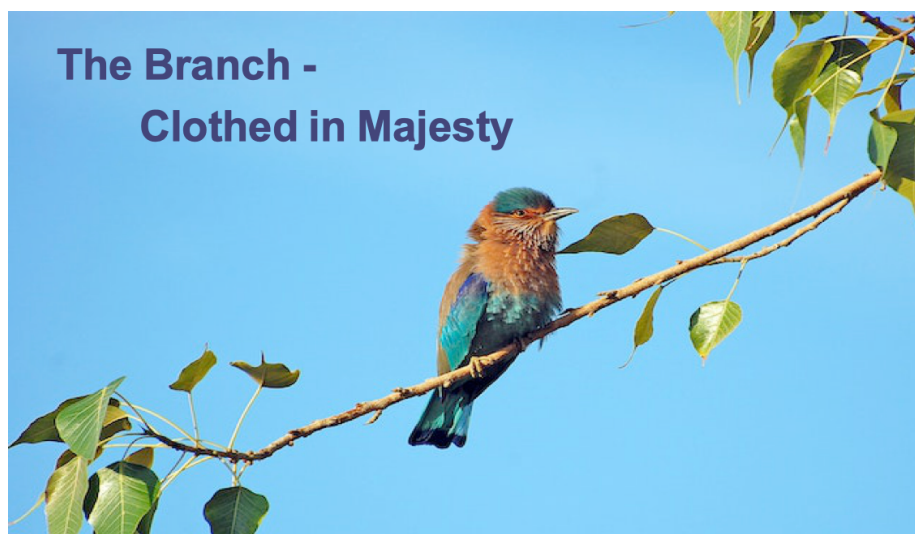


ABC NEWS

ldwick *aptist* *hurch*



The Branch - Clothed in Majesty

Sunday 18th December 2022

Our Sunday Worship service

“The Branch – Clothed in Majesty”

Zechariah 6:9-15

Derek Robinson

TODAY'S MORNING SERVICE – In this Sunday's morning service we will be lighting our fourth advent calendar. A candle that signifies LOVE. You see, Advent is a time for kindness, thinking of others, and sharing with others. It is a time to love as God loved us by giving us His most precious gift. This morning's talk will be centered on Zechariah's prophesy that at a future time, “Our King is coming again, not as a baby in a manger, but as our priest and king, with the promise that He will reign for ever and ever.” We all need to understand what WILL happen in the future. This isn't a “maybe” but a certainty. Don't miss this.

In this service, we will be meeting around the communion table, as we remember Jesus' self-sacrificing love in his ministry as our Good Shepherd.

Of course, we do hope you can join us for the service in the church but if you can't actually join us, you will be able to access this service from 10.30am by going to: <http://www.aldwickbaptist.co.uk/category/current-sermons>

OUR SUNDAY EVENING CAROL SERVICE – Our traditional candlelight service starts at 6pm and will be followed by hot drinks and mince pies. The service will also be available online at the same address as above but unfortunately not the hot drinks and mince pies unless you provide them yourselves.

OUR WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON CAROL SERVICE – This year we are holding a second (but different) carol service at **3.30pm** (Note the time as some of the advertising is incorrect). Of course, you are all invited but we would also like you to invite your friends, neighbours and family members to join us. This will be followed by delicious home-made cakes and hot drinks. It will also be streamed online as above.

CHRISTMAS MORNING CELEBRATION – Our Christmas morning service will begin at 10.30am as we celebrate the Saviour's birth. Simon would like the children to bring an unopened Christmas present if possible. This service will last approximately 45 minutes. This service will also be streamed online as above.

OUR NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE – We will be holding a worship service as normal on New Year's Day starting at 10.30am. Clive will be leading the worship and I will be bringing you the message as Simon will be away on family duty! This will also be streamed as above. Derek

NEW DON'T SPEND CHRISTMAS ALONE – Sue and Kerry will be organising another free Christmas meal this year at the Newell Centre Chichester starting at 12noon on Christmas Day. Transfer can be arranged and we can also deliver Christmas lunch for those who would prefer this. If you are interested, then do contact Sue or Kerry.

FIRST RESPONDER - As Simon is currently having to curtail his movement and, as he is still waiting for his scan, I will be acting as first responder for the time being. Please contact me if you have any prayer requests or need of care. Derek

THIS WEEK'S POEM

We know that Christmas can be a wonderful time when families get together, sometimes after a long time apart. But for some, Christmas is a very lonely time.

Arthur reminds us that there are people who will see no one. Don't let this happen!

A moment of your time

She sits there all alone,
very rarely does she have a message
Or hear the telephone.

She looks back at all the Christmases gone by
Memories that made her happy
but some that made her cry.

So many of her loved ones and friends have passed away,
how she yearns the yesterday.

You will see her smile
But it's just to hide the sadness she feels inside
If this reminds you of someone you know,
please give her a moment of your time
to pray that she has a blessed Christmas Day.

Arthur Magee

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAY'S – This week we have two birthdays to celebrate. It will be Clive's birthday on Tuesday (20th) and Corinne Cheffers' on Wednesday (21st). So do remember to wish them both a very BIG HAPPY BIRTHDAY – perhaps send a card or even bake a cake! if you want to be included in our birthday list, and receive a celebratory slot in the news sheet, please contact Lynne Allard (265360). If you want details of the BMS birthday scheme, then please contact Brenda.

MORE PRAYER POINTERS – Please continue to pray for Kay Tucker (now in Arun Lodge), Katrina Gould, David Hanchard, Janet Cartwright and Mavis Eede. Please also pray for Keith Scott, Val Collett and Pam Brown. Pray too for others in the congregation who are in need prayer.

WHAT NO NEWS SHEET – Sorry but there will be no news sheet next weekend. I have my orders! Derek

... and finally

HEATHER GAUDOIN - Heather collapsed on Wednesday night having had a heart attack and was first taken to St Richards and then to Queen Alexandra's in Cosham. She has had a stent fitted last night and was able to speak to Simon

this morning. Simon says she was very positive but obviously would value your prayers. Please pray for healing, correct treatment and peace of mind. Please pray too for members of the family and for the doctors and nurses at QA.

EMILY BROWN - First some really good news. Emily has had the clips removed from her leg and ankle. The bleeding has stopped, and she is definitely on the mend. She will be coming home on Monday and hopes to be with us for the Wednesday afternoon carol service. Thank you for your prayers but do continue to pray for ongoing healing. Emily will be in a wheelchair for a while as she most not put much weight on her foot and ankle.

JANET COWLEY – Janet who, as some of you will know, was knocked down by a car last Thursday evening at the traffic lights by the Co-Op. Janet was obviously badly shaken as well as a bit battered and bruised but fortunately Nicky came along and took charge of the situation. Janet went to Bognor Hospital on Friday morning for a check over and was relieved to find there was nothing seriously wrong. She does, however, is still feeling fragile and sore, so do pray for her ongoing healing as well as praying for the driver of the car who must also be in a state of shock.

JACK WILLS - Angela Harvey's brother (Sue Applin's uncle) is very poorly and is currently in Birdham Ward at St. Richards. Sue and the family tried to visit him on Wednesday but found his ward is now closed due to covid. The family are finding this a hugely stressful time. Please pray for healing and peace of mind for the family.

MARION BRYANT - Marion would like us to pray for her. She has a nasty virus which has caused all her joints to swell, they are extremely painful. The doctor is keeping in close contact with Marion and more blood tests have been taken. Please do pray for healing, patience and peace of mind for Marion.

JON CRANE – Michelle asks us to pray for Jon who is struggling with his Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and is having trouble breathing. He is also concerned about his prostate cancer as they may be growing. Please pray for healing, swift and correct diagnosis and peace of mind.

BOB HOBART - Simon asks us to pray for Bob Hobart who is also struggling. He will be having a bone scan soon and is definitely in need of pray and our support as his illness is very debilitating.

SANDRA FIELD - Simon has also been in touch with Sandra Field and reports she is making a slow but steady recovery following her recent operation, Sandra will need at least 3 months of rehabilitation and also needs our support and prayers as this will be a long and painful journey.