



Vision: Loving God,  Loving Each Other, Loving Lost People

# ABC NEWS

aldwick baptist church



**Sunday 29th December 2024**

**Series: New Beginnings**

**New Beginnings I**

**2 Corinthians 5:11-21**

**Derek Robinson**

**TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE** – Today is our final worship service of 2024 but rather than looking back on a year that has brought joy to some but heartache to others, today's sermon is entitled "New Beginnings" based on 2 Corinthians 5:11-21 where we can look forward to renewed challenges. But this isn't about making new year's resolutions which soon lose their appeal after a few days of suffering. Rather today is about God's plan for your life and His ongoing promise that as believers in Jesus, we are a new creation. It is also a reminder that we are not the finished article as yet – as we are definitely still work in progress.

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 the service at any time by going to: <https://www.aldwickbaptist.co.uk/category/current-sermons>.

**NEXT WEEKEND'S WORSHIP SERVICE 4<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2025** - The theme for this service is also "New Beginnings". Simon's band will be leading whilst John will be coordinating the service. This service will also include Breakfast Time which is open to all ages from 9.30am. Breakfast time is a place to encourage Christians and non-Christians alike, to share in some food together, before the family services begin. It is about using the gifts of relationships, hospitality, generosity, and kindness to make people feel valued. It is about helping people feel that they 'belong.' As relationships develop, the sharing of one's faith may also emerge in time.

**THANK YOU FROM SANDY** – Thank you ABC for the amazing dinner (supplied by my wife and son). I enjoyed every mouthful. Thank you too for the two bags of treats you gave me (funded by the Well). What I love about your church is that you care for people who you hardly know. (Sandy contacts us periodically for help. She really has nothing and does her best to scrape by week – Derek).

**A SHORT THOUGHT FOR THE NEW YEAR** - As we close one chapter and prepare to step into a new year, let us remember that God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. His mercies are new every morning, and His plans for us are filled with hope and purpose. Whatever this past year has held, we can trust that His grace will sustain us and His love will never fail. Let's step into the new year with hearts full of gratitude and faith, ready to embrace all that God has in store for us, trusting Him to lead us into His promises.

**A SHORT POEM**

At Aldwick Baptist, hearts unite,  
In love and faith, we shine the light.  
A family bound by grace divine,  
Proclaiming Christ, the hope we find.

## This week's poem

This week Arthur's poem reminds us that the name of Jesus is the name above all other names. Whether you are feeling happy or sad, Jesus is always close at hand when you call on His name.

### His name is wonderful

When you are in that dark valley  
Overwhelmed with fear and pain.  
Do not be afraid, you will find the way  
When you call on His name.

Yes, when you go through sad times,  
When suffering grief and pain.  
Trust the Lord, you will overcome  
When you call on His name.

This life can be so pointless  
If you only live for possessions and gain.  
But you have a priceless treasure  
When you call on His name.

The cross will set you free  
Your life will never be the same.  
You will find love and peace – forever  
When you call on His name.

Arthur Magee

**SEBA HOME MISSION FOCUS FOR DECEMBER 2024** - Every month we receive a Home Mission Focus from Paul Kerley which is usually in the form of a short video from one of our Home Mission supported churches. This month the SEBA Focus is on Westvale Community Church, where their minister in training is Miranda Odysseos-Beaumont . The Link for the video on the SEBA Web Site is [https://www.seba-baptist.org.uk/?show\\_media=333566&show\\_file=374007](https://www.seba-baptist.org.uk/?show_media=333566&show_file=374007)  
**YouTube Link** - <https://youtu.be/8CNmPffu7CE>

**FIRST RESPONDER** –As Simon is continuing his phased return, I will continue to act as first responder for the time being, so please don't try to contact him, instead contact me in the case of problems.

**PLEASE NOTE THESE NEW NUMBERS** - Simon Downing (07411 919928); Church office (07743 257860)

## Prayer Board ... and finally

Please pray for Clive and Polly who have both been unwell over Christmas. Pray too for Brenda who has also been ill over Christmas. Pray too for peace and continued strength for Joy, John and Derek who are having to carry an increased burden at present.

Please pray for Gary Edgington, Vivienne's son-in-law, and his family who are in a state of shock following Gary's recent diagnosis of oesophageal cancer. This is extremely serious. Please pray for peace of mind and healing.

Please pray for Marie as she is going to be in hospital for a few days under observation. She has been diagnosed with atrial fibrillation and dehydration. Please pray for peace of mind and healing.

Please pray for Simon as he continues with his phased return to full-time ministry. Pray for renewed strength, perseverance and Holy Spirit wisdom.

Please pray for Arthur our resident poet who is struggling with own health and is currently in a lot of pain. Pray too for his wife Eileen who is also very poorly. Please pray too for Molly Hawkins, Mary Bullock, Pam McClaren, Val Colette, Mo Howland, Vivienne Newman, Hazel Bell - all of whom need our prayers. Do thank God for all the people who attended some of our Christmas services many of whom are not church regulars. Do pray that something that they heard may encourage them to find out more.