

A very warm welcome to everyone visiting our church today.

It's great that you're here this morning. We hope that you enjoy today's service. We would love to get to know you better, so please join us after the service for tea and coffee if you are able.

Sunday 1st December 2019

10.30am - Morning Service

Followed by Bring and Share Lunch

5.30pm - Rose Garden Church

Thought for the week

Jesus did not come into the world to make life easy; he came to make men great. *Anon*

For your prayers

Pray as our Advent season begins, and we invite our friends and neighbours to our Christmas services that they may be encouraged to join us and learn more about the gospel. Pray especially in the coming weeks for the many TotStop families who have been invited to our nativity service.

Pray for those who are unwell or recovering from illness. May Brenda's leg fully recover soon.

Pray for those who are homeless or struggle to afford to heat their homes as the weather turns colder. May they find the support they need.

Joshua 2 NIV

Rahab and the Spies

2 Then Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim. “Go, look over the land,” he said, “especially Jericho.” So they went and entered the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there.

2The king of Jericho was told, “Look, some of the Israelites have come here tonight to spy out the land.” 3So the king of Jericho sent this message to Rahab: “Bring out the men who came to you and entered your house, because they have come to spy out the whole land.”

4But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. She said, “Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they had come from. 5At dusk, when it was time to close the city gate, they left. I don’t know which way they went. Go after them quickly. You may catch up with them.” 6(But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them under the stalks of flax she had laid out on the roof.) 7So the men set out in pursuit of the spies on the road that leads to the fords of the Jordan, and as soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut.

8Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof 9and said to them, “I know that the Lord has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on

us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. 10We have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. 11When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.

12“Now then, please swear to me by the Lord that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign 13that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them—and that you will save us from death.”

14“Our lives for your lives!” the men assured her. “If you don’t tell what we are doing, we will treat you kindly and faithfully when the Lord gives us the land.”

15So she let them down by a rope through the window, for the house she lived in was part of the city wall. 16She said to them, “Go to the hills so the pursuers will not find you. Hide yourselves there three days until they return, and then go on your way.”

17Now the men had said to her, “This

oath you made us swear will not be binding on us¹⁸ unless, when we enter the land, you have tied this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and unless you have brought your father and mother, your brothers and all your family into your house.¹⁹ If any of them go outside your house into the street, their blood will be on their own heads; we will not be responsible. As for those who are in the house with you, their blood will be on our head if a hand is laid on them.²⁰ But if you tell what we are doing, we will be released from the oath you made us swear.”

²¹“Agreed,” she replied. “Let it be as

you say.”

So she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

²² When they left, they went into the hills and stayed there three days, until the pursuers had searched all along the road and returned without finding them. ²³ Then the two men started back. They went down out of the hills, forded the river and came to Joshua son of Nun and told him everything that had happened to them. ²⁴ They said to Joshua, “The Lord has surely given the whole land into our hands; all the people are melting in fear because of us.”

Quinta 2020

The church weekend away has been booked for Friday 4th-Sunday 6th September 2020. You should have received a pack with all the information you need. Spare packs are available in the middle hall. Jan will also be giving a presentation during the service on Sunday 8th December.

Postage Stamps

Please cut the stamps off your Christmas post and bring the to me, to benefit the work of BMS. Chris T.

Mince Pies

We will be collecting mince pies for our Christmas services from next week. If you would like to donate, please leave these in the middle hall and they will be collected. Thank you.

Christmas Cards and Decorations

In recent years, you have generously supported the Dream Girls in the township of Klipheuwel. Today Penny will be selling some beautiful cards made by the girls themselves as well as some handmade Christmas decorations in the middle hall. Funds raised will be used towards providing gifts and a Christmas party for the girls as well as other needs in the coming year.

Stonebow Carol Singing

We will be carol singing at Stonebow on Wednesday 18th December 3.15pm.

Singers are required for this. There will be 2 practices, dates tbc. Please see Jerry Tiffin for more details.

What's On This Week

Monday

9.45am-11.15am	Women's Bible Study
12pm-2pm	Private Hire - Middle Hall
6.30pm	Prayer and fellowship - all are welcome

Tuesday

9am	Tuesday Breakfast Club
7.30pm	Small Group - Bartestree
7.30pm	Small Group - Gaster's

Wednesday

10am-11.45am	TotStop
10.15am-12pm	Wednesday Club - Handbells for Christmas
11.30am	Hymn Singing at Charles Court
5.30pm-9pm	Youth Group <i>5.30pm food, 6-8pm Pulse, 7-9pm Ignite</i>
7.30pm	Small Group - Aylestone Hill/Tupsley

Thursday

12pm-2pm	Silver Diners
7.30pm	Musicians' practice

Saturday

8.30am-5.30pm	Private Booking - Large Hall
11.30pm-4am	Lean on Me

Sunday

Midnight	Night Shift
10.30am	Morning Service
4pm	Reflective Communion
5.30pm	Rose Garden Church

BMS Birthdays

Jill Sillitoe

Grace Young

December

Jerry Tiffin

Janet Rowberry

Vera Dale

Minister: Revd. Steve Ansell // Email: steveansell@herefordbaptist.org.uk

Steve does not work on Tuesdays, please avoid contacting him on his day off.

Tel: 01432 352 209 // Email: office@herefordbaptist.org.uk // Please submit content for the newssheet to the office before Thursday.