

Brighton Lutheran Mission

brightonlutheran.org.uk

Pastor: Rev. Tapani Simojoki

Tel: 01329 822832 Mob: 07825 447475 e-mail: pastor@oslc.org.uk

Welcome to Brighton Lutheran Mission!

We are delighted to have you with us this evening to receive the Lord's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. Please stay for a cup of tea after the service.

If you are worshipping us for the first time and would like to receive Holy Communion, please speak to the pastor before the service.

Laetare

Fourth Sunday in Lent

11 March 2018

Today's Hymns: *Hark, My Soul* (bulletin), 743, 642

Catechism Reading

P What does God Say about all these commandments?

C He says, "I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments."

P What is this?

C God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything contrary to these commandments. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him, and gladly do what He commands.

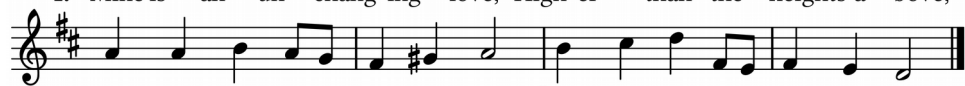
In Our Prayers

Oxford Lutheran Mission, Pr. Kriger; ELCE Central Office; Lutherans in Africa, Pr. James May; Somali Lutheran Church, Pr. Mohamed Gurhan; Churches Together in England; Holland Road Baptist Church, Pr. Treener; Pr. Jones (health); family of †Raili Stewart; Wendy Nicolson (cancer); Charlotte (cancer)

OPENING HYMN: HARK, MY SOUL, IT IS THE LORD



1. Hark, my soul, it is the Lord! 'Tis thy Sa-viour, hear his Word;
2. "I de-liv-ered thee when bound, And, when bleed-ing, healed thy wound;
3. "Can a wom-an's ten-der care Cease to-wards the child she bare?
4. "Mine is an un-chang-ing love, High-er than the heights a-bove,



Je - sus speaks, and speaks to thee, "Say, poor, sin - ner, lov'st thou Me?
Sought thee wan - d'ring, set thee right, Turned thy dark-ness in - to light.
Yes, she may for - get - ful be, Yet will I re - mem - ber thee.
Deep - er than the depths be-neath, Free and faith-ful, strong as death.

5. "Thou shalt see my glory soon,
When the work of grace is done;
Partner of my throne shalt be:
Say, poor sinner, lovest thou Me?"
6. Lord, it is my chief complaint
That my love is weak and faint;
Yet I love Thee, and adore:
O for grace to love Thee more!

Text: William Cowper (1731–1800); Music: Johannes Thommen (1711–83)

Raili Stewart Memorial Service

A memorial service will be held for Raili Stewart on

Wednesday, 21 March, 2.30 pm,
at Christ Lutheran Church, Petts Wood.

If you would like to attend, please let the pastor know so that Christ Church can be notified of numbers. Likewise, if you would like to share a lift, speak to the pastor (there are two spaces left).

THE FAITH OF THE FATHERS
READINGS FROM THE CHURCH FATHERS ON TODAY'S GOSPEL

“The wonder of the miracle of Jesus feeding the five thousand surpasses human understanding.” What is most amazing, however, is what this miracle teaches us about the compassion and grace of God in Christ. Just as the loaves and fish never seem to end, so Our Lord’s mercy more than covers our need, more than comforts us in distress. God’s forgiveness more than exceeds whatever sin we may have done. God’s compassion is greater than our greatest tribulation. Our heart’s desire, the needs of our body and soul, our Jesus meets—and then some.” (St. Hilary)

“Those who cling to Our Lord’s Word, He teaches how they ought to trust him. He doesn’t use many words, but rather by action and deed shows that He can create what we need to eat, so that we do not doubt or think that provision is up to us, but rather place our heart and trust in Him. Such faith will not be disappointed nor permit us to suffer want. He provides for all our needs and makes sure we are well fed in body and soul.” (Martin Luther)

“In today’s Gospel, before Our Lord feeds the five thousand, He tests Philip. He did this, not to learn something He did not know, but so that Philip might recognize the slowness of his faith. His Lord knew of this, but Philip did not. But after he is tested, Philip recognizes both the truth and the miracle, and so his faith is strengthened. For the same reason, Our Lord often tests our faith. His desire is not to embarrass us, but to urge us to remember that we can rely on Him in every need.” (St. Bede the Venerable)

“We who live in Christ and receive His Eucharist—the food of salvation—ask for this bread to be given to us every day. For Christ says, “Anyone who eats My bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give is My flesh for the life of the world.” So we receive life when we approach His body and share in the communion. For this reason we should be apprehensive and pray that no one has to abstain from this communion, lest they be separated from the body of Christ and be far from salvation. Christ has warned of this: “If you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood you will have no life in you.” We pray for our daily bread, Christ, to be given to us. With his help, we who live and abide in him will never be separated from his body and his grace.” (St. Cyprian)

“By the miraculous feeding of the five thousand, Our Lord Jesus encourages us to partake of a spiritual food. And He teaches that we should seek and expect nourishment for the soul from Him. For when He explains this miracle, He calls himself the bread from heaven and the true food. And so He says: ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. Do not labour for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.’ ” (Martin Luther)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

This Week

Tue	1.10 pm	Bible study (Parsonage)
	7.30 pm	Bible study (Parsonage)
Wed	10.45 am	Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub)
	2 pm	Devotion at Kiln Lodge & Hunters Lodge
	7 pm	Lenten Vespers
Sat	6 pm	Youth Club (tbc)
Sun	10.30 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)

Further Ahead

20 Mar		<i>No Bible study</i>
21 Mar	10.45 am	Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub)
	2.30 pm	Raili Stewart Memorial Service (Christ Church, Petts Wood)
	7 pm	Lenten Vespers
25 Mar		<i>CLOCKS MOVE FORWARD ONE HOUR</i>
	10.30 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)— <i>Palm Sunday. Ladies' Guild Mites</i>
	3 pm	Bible study at Oxford Mission
	4.30 pm	Pastor at Oxford Mission
27 Mar	1.10 pm	Bible study (Parsonage)
	7.30 pm	Bible study (Parsonage)
28 Mar	10.30 am	Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub)
	2 pm	Devotion at Willow Tree Lodge & Wisteria Lodge
29 Mar	7 pm	Divine Service—Maundy Thursday
30 Apr	12 noon	Good Friday Chief Service
31 Apr	tbc	Easter Vigil
1 Apr	9 am	Easter breakfast (Scout Hall)
	10.30 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)

You can join the Bible studies held in Fareham via your computer, tablet or smartphone. Simply go to <http://www.oslc.org.uk/online-bible-study/> and click the link.

Ask the pastor for details.

God willing, the next service at Brighton Mission will be held on 8 April—*TO BE CONFIRMED*