



*Lessons from Romans
Part 4
Peace, assurance and hope*




Sunday 5 November 2023

www.st-matthias-church.org

Join us in church or online	
www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827/streams	
<i>Sat 4 Nov</i>	<i>Friends Christmas Market 10am – 1pm</i>
Church open for visitors and prayer Wednesdays 12-2pm	
Sun 5 Nov	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) 9.30am Explore Together <i>with breakfast!</i> 10.30am Gather to Pray 11am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee/tea</i> https://youtube.com/live/5rb0ccEHPLY?feature=share
Mon 6 Nov	9-9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom</i> 2pm Funeral of Russell Cawthorne
Tues 7 Nov	9-9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom</i> 9-11.30am Toddlers Group 12-1.30pm St Matt's Knits – <i>knit and natter</i>
Wed 8 Nov	9am Holy Communion 9.40am Ukrainian support group 12-2pm 'Welcome Space' <i>in the church</i> 7.15-9pm St Matt's Gospel Singers <i>practice in the church</i>
Thurs 9 Nov	7.30pm Alpha course continues <i>in the lounge</i>
Fri 10 Nov	10-11.30am Mummy & Me 6.30pm Youth Club <i>in the Hall</i>
Sun 12 Nov	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	10.30am Gather to Pray 10.45am United Family Service NOTE earlier start

You may have noticed there have been some issues with the church heating. Please continue to wrap up warmly.

Collect
 God of glory,
 touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit,
 that we with all creation
 may rejoice to sing your praise;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Thanks go to

 The treasurer
 team and banking
 teams

Readings

Romans 5:1-11

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Luke 15:11-24

¹¹Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

¹³"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' ²⁰So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

²²"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³Bring the fattened calf and kill it.

Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

Upcoming events

11 and 12 November 'Come and See Weekend' with The Archbishop of Canterbury <https://tinyurl.com/ynr22n6e>

11 Nov at 11am Act of Remembrance at Torquay War Memorial

11 Nov 2.30-5.30pm The Archbishop in Conversation at Exeter University Alumni Auditorium. Join the Archbishop of Canterbury for an afternoon of reflective conversation about bereavement, grief and finding hope. There will be a candlelit walk and time of reflection. [Click here to book your space.](#)

11 November Taizé Workshop (10:30) and Worship Service (4pm) Preston Baptist Church

1 December Festive Carol Service with J John, Lucy Grimble and Mike Robins at the Riviera Centre – free tickets here <https://tinyurl.com/ypfxyu2x>

2 December Ecofest – 1.00 - 4.30pm – a free event with seminars and information stands in the centre and church. Keynote speaker is Ruth Valerio from Tearfund, who will also be at **The Big Quiz Night** at 7.30pm. Please register your quiz teams (6 – 8 people) at ecoaction@st-matthias-church.org Suggested donation is £10 per team and you can give via our Just Giving page www.justgiving.com/page/eco-action-st-matts-32002122023 All proceeds to Tearfund. *David Hodson, Clare Whittaker, Judi Stannard*

News



Heated seats! We are investigating heated seat pads to provide extra warmth for those who feel the cold during services and to help us ensure Welcome Space is also comfortable for those attending. If anyone felt able to donate part of their winter fuel allowance to help fund purchase of these please contact the church office/Kevin.



Did you know? You can now make donations to the church with this QR code (*though if you want to give more than £30 and can claim Gift Aid, please let the treasurer team know you have done that* treasurer@st-matthias-church.org) Thank you 😊

Christmas! Please have a look at the Potters Village Alternative Gifts catalogue – helping to support the lives of children in Uganda (in Kisoro where Nicci Maxwell, our CMS partner, was working) www.pottersvillage.org.uk/friends-of-pv/christmas-gifts/

Prayer Suggestions for our prayers and praise this week

Mon 'Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.' (Matthew 7 v7). Father God, thank you so much that because of Jesus, we can have access to you.

Tue 'God has shown me that he doesn't think anyone is unclean or unfit.' (Acts 10 v 28). Dear Lord, help us not to categorise others and to welcome everyone.

Wed 'Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.' (Romans 5 v5). Thank you, Lord, that only Jesus can bring true and lasting peace.

Thurs 'I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with my eye'. (Psalm 32 v8). Father God, help us to always consult you because you give us enough light to take the next step.

Fri 'But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us'. (Romans 5 v8). Dear God, thank you for your gift of grace and your amazing love for us.

Sat 'For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes'. (Romans 1 v16). Father God, help us to be bold and to share the good news of the gospel with everyone.

Sun 'Come, follow me', Jesus said, 'and I will make you fishers of people.' (Mark 1v17). Dear God, help us to remember that serving you is the most important thing we can do.

CONCERTS AT ST MATTHIAS

Saturday 18th November @ 7pm

Torbay Singers – Handel's **Messiah**

www.torbaysingers.com

Saturday 25th November @7.30pm

South Devon Choir

www.southdevonchoir.org

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[Please note that our services are often live streamed](#)