

Saint Peter's Church, Woodmansterne July Monthly Newsletter



(This replaces Spotlight for the time being)

Welcome to this month's newsletter! The newsletter will be in this form until we are able to get back to normal. If you have an activity or something uplifting to share please do get in touch: office@saintpeterschurch.org.uk We hope you enjoy this month's newsletter.

If you have received this as a paper copy and would be happy to receive the next monthly newsletter by email please contact office@saintpeterschurch.org.uk

NOTE: CHANGE TO SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES:

9am - Church service via Zoom. Please do get in touch with us for details.

11am - A short reflective said service in St Peter's Church building

The church is open for individualprivate prayer **Wednesdays 1pm to 5pm**

We continue to produce and distribute service sheets and accompanying You Tube messages. You can catch up with the weekly messages at St Peter's Church, Woodmansterne You Tube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI9hrwcOXgd7g8lg9WVqg7A>

If you want to receive more information about any of the above or would like to have a chat with someone please do get in touch with us: rector@saintpeterschurch.org.uk or ring 01737 423892.

Praise and Prayer - now fortnightly on a Wednesday evening. The August Praise and Prayers will be Wednesday 5th and Wednesday 19th August. Zoom details to follow nearer the time. If you have trouble accessing Zoom or want to join by phone contact Rachel: cfm@saintpeterschurch.org.uk

Woodmansterne Charities

A local charity, which can help people who are struggling to pay fuel bills. To qualify, you must live in the Parish of Woodmansterne. If you would like to be considered for assistance then please contact us: office@saintpeterschurch.org.uk or 07816293554.

Foodbank at St Matthew's Redhill

St Matthews are accepting donations of money for the foodbank. Please make cheques payable to St Matthew's PCC, marked 'Foodbank' on the back. Send to Foodbank at St Matthew's, c/o The Parish Office, 71 Station Road, Redhill RH1 1DL. More details are available at: <https://www.redhillfoodbank.org.uk/how-can-i-help>

A word from John Itumu

It is archbishop William Temple who famously stated that 'the Church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members'. The essence of this sentiment is more explicitly stated in another famous scripture called 'The Great Commission' (Matthew 28.16-20) – the parting words of Jesus in which he commands his followers to busy themselves in 'making disciples of all nations'. Quite simply then, the local church (worshippers not buildings) that is distracted from this quintessential mandate also loses her *raison d'être*.

This soul agenda should be the main reason all church meetings. Part of a believer's natural impulse ought to be a heartfelt desire to reach out to others with the good news of Jesus – that Jesus came that we may have life to the full. The reality? - this is a tough calling! I recall an incident in my earlier ministry when a firm sceptic ambushed me with a barrage of well-rehearsed questions, the first of which was to do with the 'infallibility of the pope', followed by 'other religions' and the reality of 'hell'. Phew! Seemingly then, the business of 'making disciples' is not always a walk in the park, but should we lose heart? Not just yet!

Please just hold this thought for a moment. If everyone of us committed to spending one, even three years with just one nonbeliever person, praying for them, talking with them, answering their questions about Jesus and just being there for them, imagine how many lives would be transformed! Fantasy?

Apparently so, when we consider the following! First, a misleading notion that people are not interested with God extinguishes our courage to reach out. Secondly, we are constantly discouraged by the pervasive negative press about the decline of the Christian faith in the public square. Some doomsday statistics even posit Christianity will be overrun by Islam and atheism by mid this century. Thirdly, our rather private faith - my Christian faith, a very private matter not to be bandied about. And by the way, who is not irritated by the intrusive initiative of Mormons and Jehova's Witnesses in their evangelistic zeal? You don't really want to be confused for those, do you? No one should impose their views on anyone else. Fourthly, our service times are well advertised and those interested know where to find us. And finally, if evangelizing really must be done, isn't this why the trained professionals called vicars are employed? You get the drift.

I pen off with the apostle Paul's words in his letter to the Romans (10:14ff) who asked:

'...and how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And

how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? and how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? How beautiful are the feet that bring good news!'

May you know God's blessings this summer and always.

Ukraine: Pray for the church as they meet together; for God to strengthen them through this time even though they can't all meet together.

ASIA Nepal: Nepali migrants are being quarantined on the Indian border, in overcrowded facilities where social distancing is impossible. Around the country, lack of food as a result of lockdown is driving some to suicide. Nepal is also experiencing a plague of locusts, which are destroying crops. The country is in dispute with India over land. Pray for God's mercy on these desperate situations. Pray for the government to be able to provide for the poorest in society. Pray for peace over land disputes between the governments of China, India and Nepal.

Lebanon: Pray for this nation which is suffering financial hardship as coronavirus hit just as they were coming out of a near economic collapse. Pray for the Church to bring hope to the hopeless, and peace to those without peace.

AFRICA

CMS-Africa's core training has had to move online. Pray for those involved as they rethink how to run training events and help people learn in the best way possible.

Burundi: Pray for Burundians as they mark the death of President Nkurunziza earlier this month. Pray for strength, encouragement and wisdom for Evariste Ndayishime, installed as president.

South Sudan: Local partner Joseph Noel asks for prayer for peace among different communities in South Sudan, especially among the Nuer Luo and Morelli and Dinka Bor clans in Lake State.

Sudan and South Sudan All South Sudanese cases are being managed in one infectious diseases unit in Juba with only has 24 beds. Both countries are still in lockdown, causing huge difficulty for daily labourers. Some parts of both countries are also subject to flooding, and in the east, to locust infestation. There is still fighting in parts of South Sudan. Pray for all whose fragile livelihoods have been devastated – and pray for all agencies and local organisations striving help.

LATIN AMERICA

Honduras: Honduras has reinstated lockdown measures after relaxing them briefly caused a spike in COVID-19 cases. Pray for those who have been infected to recover quickly, for people to adhere to the guidelines and for God to turn this situation around.

Brazil A cyclone hit the southern region of Brazil on 30 June, killing nine and causing flooding and other damage. Pray for this region, including mission partners Jimmy and Katia Rocks and local partner Amanda Borges, which is now dealing with this in addition to rising numbers of COVID-19 cases.

Mexico the region's second-worst affected country also suffered a large earthquake in June. Thankfully there were few deaths but it was a reminder of the fragility of situations in the region. Pray for the people of Mexico as they fight coronavirus as well as recover from this latest tragedy.

Messages from St Peter's Church Family

My thanks to the St Peter's Church Family who prayed for me during my time in Epsom Hospital, St Helier Hospital and at the Royal Marsden, Chelsea.

My operation and follow up radio therapy has been successful and I am looking forward to resuming a normal life - as normal as life can be with the coronavirus - at home and at St Peter's.

Thank you Ann Kayser

To St Peter's Church Family

I wish to thank you for your prayers and the condolences continued in the many letters and cards which have supported me on the death of my son Ian. Ian's sudden passing in the USA was a terrible shock and because of Covid all arrangements had to be made by telephone or email. As we were unable to attend the cremation it was videoed for us by a friend. Ian's ashes are now home and, later in the year, they will be interred at St. Peter's with his father David. If possible I will have a service to commemorate his life in the Parish and the States when I hope many of you will be able to support me again.

In God we trust

Beryl Burgess

TENNIS IS FUN – they all said! With apologies to Pam Ayres

Now I'm growing older and getting past me prime,
I've got to keep meself in trim – well I'm almost 29.
So I joins this tennis club you see – 'cos they all said I should
And I always do what they all say, and it will do me good.

I buys meself some frilly pants and this funny sort of bat
I don't know 'ow to 'old it yet, but I 'spects we'll come to that.
They've made me wear this silly 'at and a bandage round me wrist,
Well there's nowhere to put me hankie – so it's handy when I drips.

Here I am with bat in hand --- but I'm not quite ready yet,
I know they've put 'oles in so I can see through, but I can't see over the net.
He's waving his bat about in the air, crikey here comes the ball,
I catches it and throws it back – he doesn't approve of that at all.

He's says he's taking an advantage – I thought this was a healthy sport,
And now it's love and game and things – it's more exciting than I thought!
He slams a service in me mouth, of course it makes me yell.
I loses me set of tennis and a set of teeth as well!

Now the sun has disappeared, the sky's a-growing dark
The winds a-billowing up me skirt, blow this for a bloomin' lark
I've done me keep fit bit, as they all said I should,
So it's home to me steak and kidney pie and a bowl of treacle pud!

Margaret Chorlton

The lines in italics I have cribbed from a poem by Pam Ayres.

THE WAY I SEE IT: What have you missed most during lockdown?

It's a good question, because it is about the things that make us tick. When I examined my list, I found obvious things - going to church, live sport on TV, meeting up with friends for a coffee or a beer. But as I thought more deeply about it, I realised that what I missed most was TOUCH. For nearly four months I have not touched another human being!

That is an astonishing deprivation. When a baby is born, its first experiences are all of touch. The strong hands of the midwife, mother's excited and loving embrace, tiny hands reaching out to feel mummy's face. We touch our way into life. And then it goes on. Holding hands with friends, being hugged by grandma, your first serious kiss, and perhaps a last tearful one at the end of a much-loved life.

We greet each other with a holy kiss, the Bible says. And why not? Sight, smell, hearing and touch. Four senses. And I think lockdown has taught me that the greatest of these is touch!



RECIPE FOR JULY - JAMMY DODGERS

Making jammy dodgers may seem an odd thing to do, after all you can pick up a packet at the supermarket or even the corner shop but, these are slightly better than the mass produced dodgers and with a little imagination can easily pass for a dessert or appear on the 'afternoon tea' tray for that 4 o'clock special.

For the biscuit dough

250g plain flour
60g caster sugar, preferably golden sugar
175g cold butter cut up into small cubes
1 medium egg beaten
2 tablespoon demerara sugar

Mix the flour, caster sugar and butter in a food processor with the knife (blade) attachment fitted, alternatively use a very sharp knife to cut through the butter into the dry ingredients. When the mixture is a fine crumb, gradually pour in the egg and continue to blitz (or mix) until it comes together in large clumps. You might not need all the egg.

Tip out the dough and kneed briefly until smooth. Do not over work as the dough can become hard and the biscuits even harder, it should be shortbread not rock cake.

Cover with clingfilm and put in the fridge for ½ hour. Dust a work surface and a rolling pin with a very little flour and gently roll the dough to 2-3mm thick. Use a 6cm cookie cutter to cut out rounds, then use a 2½ cm cutter to remove the middles from half of them. Very gently reuse the excess dough to make more biscuits. You should be able to make 10-12 biscuits.

Put the whole rounds and the 'doughnut' rounds on two separate baking sheets lined with greaseproof paper - the 'doughnut' rounds cook quicker than the whole biscuits. If you have a sweet tooth sprinkle over the demerara sugar onto the 'doughnut' rings.

Bake at gas 6, 375/400°F for 8-10 minutes until the biscuits are browned at the edges. Check the rings after 5-6 minutes. Leave to cool then spoon a little strawberry jam onto the middle of the rounds, before topping with a ring.

As it is probably unwise to promote a particular jam, I use a French conserve that has a red and white checked lid. The jam has whole strawberries in it, or you can just spread the jam in a thin layer and top with ½ strawberry and a little spoonful of clotted cream. Decorated perhaps with a small mint sprig.

Lemon or orange curd works equally well

Ann Kayser



THE GARDEN IN JULY BY A WOODMANSTERNE GARDENER

August is traditionally the holiday month, but this year nothing is traditional any more. We may be coming out of lockdown but there is always the possibility that we might be subjected to another period of isolation. For those of us with gardens, large or small, balconies or a courtyard gardening and our wildlife will go on whatever happens.

Apart from the coronavirus we have experienced some unusual weather patterns recently. On Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th June the temperature exceeded 33°C but a week or so later, as I write this, it is a heavy cloud with drizzle and not at all summer like. As the weather presenters like to say 'the temperatures are a little below average for this time of year'.

One of the main jobs in August is to feed and water all plants that need it regularly, especially in pots and hanging baskets. Water every day especially if the weather is hot and sunny and feed at least once a week as the compost in tubs and baskets will have exhausted the food supply in the compost. All new and young plants, shrubs and trees will need watering. A thorough soaking is much better for the plants than a sprinkle with a watering can or even hose pipe.

Another continuous August job is deadheading. Cut flowers as they fade otherwise the plant will have done its job i.e. set seed and flowering will cease.

If you have enjoyed a great display from a rambling rose, i.e. those that flower just once in summer, they should be pruned now. Thin out one in three of the oldest stems at the base and begin to tie in the new shoots. Cut off all the dead rose heads by cutting back.

If you grow camellias and rhododendrons especially in containers water them very regularly as it is this time of year that new buds form. Remember that even if it rains the overhang of branches or the roof can cause plants to remain dry at their roots.

If you have a pond keep an eye on the water level as not only sun but wind can cause evaporation. Tackle the duckweed problem as soon as it is seen otherwise it literally grows overnight - as I know by bitter experience.

Hedges also have the ability to grow overnight as well. Trim them regularly and give yew its once a year trim. Lavender plants can also be cut back but not into the old wood.

It may seem that it is the height of summer but plan next year's spring bulb display, and order or buy from a garden centre early. Daffodils, crocus and alliums can even be planted this month.

Hardy geraniums which have given a brilliant display in June and July benefit from a trim. Remove all the old flowering stems and tatty tired leaves enabling you to walk again on the path. It will also encourage a new flush of growth and flowers.

Remember our wild life. Keep bird baths topped up and cleaned out regularly. A large bird bath top - the base broken years ago sunk in the ground gives our semi resident fox a safe place to drink and the blackbirds somewhere to have a bath.

Easy

5					2			8
	8	3	1			9		4
9			8			1	5	
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Medium

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LAUGHTER LINES

A doctor in our village surgery often plays a game with his younger patients to put them at ease, and to test their knowledge of body parts. And so it was that one day, while pointing to my young son's ear, the doctor asked him solemnly, "Is this your nose?"

Alarmed, my son glanced over to me and said softly: "Mum, I think we'd better find a new doctor!"

I'm dyslexic, and recently attended a Zoom conference about the disorder with a friend. The speakers asked us to share a personal experience with the group. I told them stress aggravates my condition, in which I reverse words and letters when I'm tense. When I finished speaking, my friend blurted out, "Now I know why you named your daughter Hannah!"

Some miscellaneous observations on modern life...

- Success is relative - the greater the success, the more relatives.
- If at first you succeed, try to hide your astonishment.
- You must have learned from others' mistakes. You haven't had time to think all those up yourself.
- It's okay to let your mind go blank, but please turn off the sound.
- Middle age is when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places.
- Misers aren't much fun to live with, but they make great ancestors.
- The real reason you can't take it with you is that it goes before you do.
- A babysitter is a teenager acting like an adult while the adults are out acting like teenagers.
- Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognise a mistake when you make it again.

CALENDAR QUOTES

Truth is the object of philosophy, but not always of philosophers.

Many a man does not find his heart until he has lost his head.

What is gone, and what is past help, should be past grief.

Sympathy is the power of knowing without being told.

JOHN BUNYAN – the man who wrote Pilgrim's Progress

After the Bible, John Bunyan's wonderful Christian allegory, the Pilgrim's Progress, is one of the most celebrated and widely-read books in the English language. It has been translated into more than 100 languages around the world and keeps its place as a Christian classic.

Names of people and places from its pages have been commonplace wherever English is spoken. We need only recall Mr Great-Heart, Mr Valiant-for-Truth, Giant Despair, Madame Bubble, the Slough of Despond, Vanity Fair, the Delectable Mountains, the Hill Difficulty and the Celestial City.

Bunyan was born on 28 November 1628, at Elstow, near Bedford, England, of a poor family. He had little formal education and his father taught him to be a metal worker. His first wife died young. His second wife, Elizabeth, helped him considerably with his blossoming literary career. His conversion was the result of reading the Bible, and the witness of local Christians. From that time the Bible became the great inspiration of his life. He wrote more than 50 books on Christianity. A Baptist by conviction, he had little time for the Established Church.

Bunyan became a popular preacher, but because of his opposition to the Established Church and because he did not have a Church of England preaching licence, he was imprisoned in 1661. It was in prison that he wrote Pilgrim's Progress. It was not only Bunyan's greatest book, but was destined to become one of the most popular Christian books in the world.

Pilgrim's Progress is an allegory, using the names of people and places from the Bible to teach spiritual lessons. The vivid and unforgettable imagery in the Pilgrim's Progress covers the whole Christian gospel from sin and condemnation all the way through faith, repentance, grace, justification, sanctification, and perseverance to heaven itself.

Bunyan died on 31st August 1688. His portrayal of the death of Mr Valiant For Truth is Bunyan at his allegorical best. This brave old soldier of Jesus Christ had received his summons to 'go home.' Calling his friends together he says, "My sword I give to him who shall succeed me in my pilgrimage ... My marks and scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me, that I have fought His

battles, Who will now be my rewarder.” ... So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side...’

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

EASY

5	7	1	4	9	2	3	6	8
2	8	3	1	6	5	9	7	4
9	4	6	8	7	3	1	5	2
4	2	7	9	5	1	6	8	3
3	6	9	7	4	8	5	2	1
8	1	5	2	3	6	7	4	9
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1	3	8	6	2	7	4	9	5

MEDIUM

7	5	9	4	2	1	8	6	3
6	2	8	3	5	7	9	4	1
1	3	4	6	8	9	2	7	5
2	9	1	5	7	4	3	8	6
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4	7	3	8	6	2	1	5	9
9	1	2	7	4	5	6	3	8
5	4	6	1	3	8	7	9	2
3	8	7	2	9	6	5	1	4

All in the month of August

250 years ago, on 22nd August 1770 that British explorer Captain James Cook discovered eastern Australia, named it New South Wales, and claimed it for Britain.

150 years ago, on 4th August 1870 that the British Red Cross Society was founded.

125 years ago, on 10th August 1895 that the Proms (Promenade Concerts) began in London.

100 years ago, on 21st August 1920 that Christopher Robin Milne was born. He was son of the author A. A. Milne, and he appeared as a character in his father’s Winnie-the-Pooh stories. (Died 1996.)

90 years ago, from 16th to 23rd August 1930 that the first British Empire Games (now the Commonwealth Games) were held in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

80 years ago, on 13th August 1940 that the main phase of the Battle of Britain began. The German Luftwaffe launched raids on RAF airfields and radar installations. On 29th August Winston Churchill paid tribute to the Royal Air Force in a famous House of Commons speech, saying, “Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.”

70 years ago, on 15th August 1950 that Princess Anne, the Princess Royal, was born. She is the only daughter of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip.

60 years ago, on 8th August 1960 that the pop song Itsy Bitsy Teenie Weenie Yellow Polkadot Bikini by Brian Hyland became a worldwide hit. The record had been released in June.

40 years ago, on 14th August 1980 that Lech Walesa led a strike by shipyard workers in Gdansk, Poland, to protest against the dismissal of a trade union activist. On 30th August the striking workers won the right to establish independent trade unions. This led to the formation of the Solidarity movement.

30 years ago, from 2nd August 1990 to 28th February 1991 the Gulf War took place. On 2nd August Iraq invaded Kuwait. The United Nations Security Council then ordered a global trade embargo against Iraq. On 7th August the USA launched Operation Desert Shield, and then Operation Desert Storm, to prevent Iraq from invading Saudi Arabia. Coalition victory.

10 years ago, on 5th August 2010 a cave-in at the San Jose copper and gold mine near Copiapo in northern Chile trapped 33 workers 700 metres underground. An international rescue operation was launched, and they were brought to the surface on 13th October after being trapped for 69 days. Around one billion people watched the rescue on TV.

125 years of the Proms in London

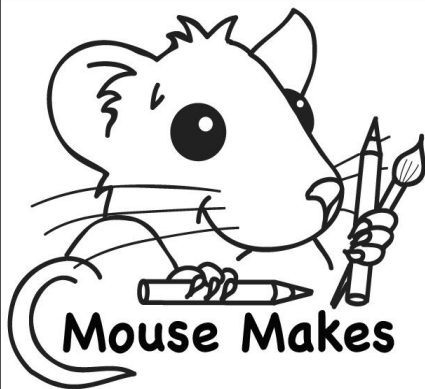
It was 125 years ago this month, on 10th August 1895, that the Proms (Promenade Concerts) began in London.

In fact, the idea of promenade concerts went back to 1838, referring to outside concerts during which the audience could walk about – but in the form introduced by Robert Newman at Queen's Hall in Langham Place, London, the promenaders were standing members of the audience, and this usage has persisted. Henry Wood – also a talented organist – was the original conductor, and his name became firmly attached to the annual series of concerts. He was knighted in 1911.

The concerts have been sponsored by the BBC since 1927, except for 1940 and 1941, when there was fear of bombing, and in fact Queen's Hall was bombed in 1941, with the concerts moving to their current home at the much larger Royal Albert Hall.

The Proms have now become a huge summer musical festival lasting for eight weeks and with many innovations. The Last Night in particular has become a traditional feature of British life and celebration of Britishness. The Proms have been described by Czech conductor Jiří Bělohlávek as "the world's largest and most democratic musical festival".

In the current coronavirus crisis, the Proms will continue, but in a much-changed form – "not as we know them, but as we need them", say the organisers.



The **PSALMS** are hymns of **PRAYER** and **PRAISE** to God.

*"I will proclaim your greatness, my God and king; I will **thank you**: I will **praise you** for ever and ever."*

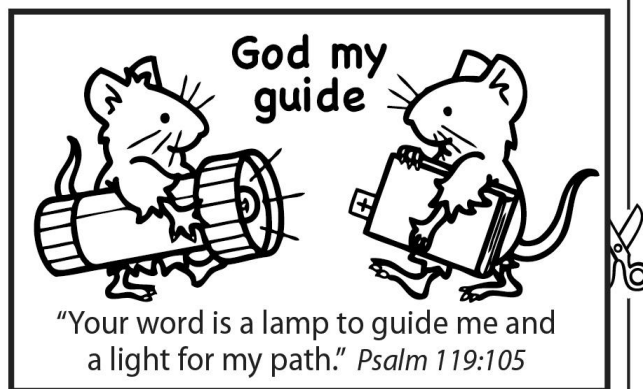
Psalm 145:1-2



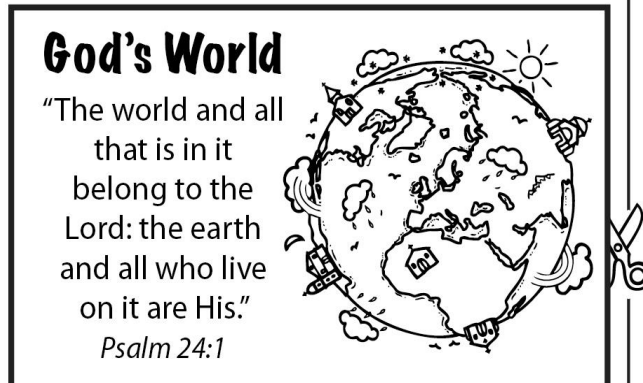
"How clearly the sky reveals God's glory! How plainly it shows what He has done."

Psalm 19:1

Cut out and colour these cards to help you to **thank** and **praise** God.



"Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path." Psalm 119:105



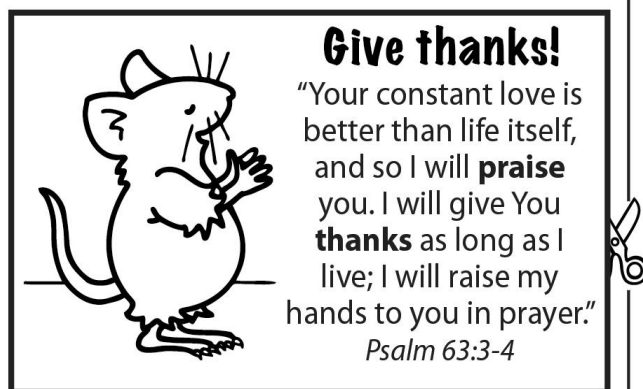
"The world and all that is in it belong to the Lord: the earth and all who live on it are His."

Psalm 24:1



*"Let everything that has breath, **praise the Lord**."*

Psalm 150:6



Give thanks!

*"Your constant love is better than life itself, and so I will **praise you**. I will give You **thanks** as long as I live; I will raise my hands to you in prayer."*

Psalm 63:3-4

"The world and all
that is in it belong



to the Lord, the
earth and all who
live on it are His."

Psalm 24:1