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WEEKLY LETTER – 8 MAY 2022

John 10.22-30

The Gift of Believing

As you know in John's gospel the word believe frequently pops up. In today's gospel Jesus uses the word twice. Clearly, Jesus sees believing being of ultimate importance

- He who believes in me shall never die. 11:26
- Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe. 20:29
- That believing you may have life in Jesus' name. 20:31

I've always struggled to understand what people mean by believing in Jesus, as some suggest that simply by believing makes everyone O.K. it all sounds too easy, too exclusive and lacks any real engagement by the believer.

Perhaps to believe means to go out with Jesus Christ, not fearing the future, because he is stronger and because he has gone there before us? Or perhaps, to believe means going beyond our secure and safe parameters and yes, entering into the chaotic world to help create with the strength of Jesus a space for faith in truth and love? He calls us today and tomorrow to seek places where there is truth and love, for where they are, he is also there. For what is undoubtedly true, where there is love and truth the emptiness and fears of life are overcome.

Let us pray today to continue to rediscover Christ, to love him and the truth, to more generously believe in him, and thereby find justice and goodness as well as the joy that one day we shall be immersed in divine love, in the joy of eternity with God.

Stephen

**Sunday Morning Worship in Christ Well, and on Zoom, at 10.30 am will be led by Rev Dr Noel Davies.
Bible Reading: John 10.22-30: Revelation 7.9-17**

Cycle of Prayer in the Swansea Region – we will pray for Hall Street, Llanelli.



Christian Aid Week – 15 21 May 2022

You can make a donation with monies, or if by cheque, please make it payable to Christ Well. Envelopes are available from Christ Well. Again this year there will be no house to house collection.

HAVE YOU MISSED THE QUIZ - IT'S BACK!

TUESDAY, 17th MAY – 7.00 pm IN CHRIST WELL

Come along, meet your friends, and have an evening of fun, whilst supporting a very good cause, trying to answer brain teaser questions set by our usual Quizmaster.

SEE YOU THERE!

My unfailing friend (Lectionary Readings: Acts 9.36-43: Psalm 23: Revelation 7.9-17: John 10.22-30)

When faith is tested ... who restores the hidden parts of me?

In and out of season ... who walks beside me?

You, Lord, my unfailing friend.

You see whenever I am in need,

When there are anxieties that trouble my soul,

When darkness covers the way ahead.

When I don't want, but need a friend

to take on my pain, my grief, my mistakes,

to be strong, and wise and comforting

to silence a heart filled with dread.

You are Jehovah Jireh – my friend indeed.

I thank you for your reassuring presence,

for attending to my needs in every season of life.

You anoint me with an oil of gladness and strength.

You encourage me, lead me and restore me.

What a healing balm of goodness and mercy enfolds my life forever.

Amen.

(Stephen Ansa-Addo – URC Prayer Handbook 2022)