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Weekly Letter – 21 May 2023

John 17.1-11

Jesus Christ witnesses to hope

I hope you continue to take the time to read, and so allow God to influence you as you ponder on John's gospel. Perhaps you read the Bible most days?

Here in this Sunday's passage we once again see and feel the beautiful relationship between, 'The only true God and Jesus Christ'. Jesus speaks to his father in a warm lively manner, and you might also say with a bit of oomph.

Embedded in this relationship is the clear conviction that Jesus Christ was born on this planet to give testimony to the truth. For Christ came to lead those who seek truth out of the realm of fatality and into the realm of freedom, reminding us that there can never be freedom without truth.

Now if this is true, and remembering the prayer that Jesus prays for those who seek truth, he is in fact stating again to you, do not be afraid to continue to open your heart to truth. Allow the truth to come in to your life, your family, into the society you are part of, for in this way, "all things will be made new".

This challenge and commission may seem daunting if you think you are on your own, but Jesus' prayer emphasises that you are not. You are surrounded by brothers and sisters, who are in so many ways your friends, and so this great prayer of Jesus for you, is encouraging you to savour the beauty of being friends with so many children of the Truth/God, of being able to call upon God, with the honest trust that a child has for a loving parent.

Let us therefore continue to open our hearts to the God of truth, that our thoughts, actions, choices and our prayers may continue to transform and constantly convert our way of thinking, and our action, to bring us ever more closely into line with Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God.

Stephen

Sunday Morning Worship in Christ Well and on Zoom at 10.30 am will be led by Rev Dr Robert Pope in person. Readings: Acts 1.6-14: John 17.1-11.

Cycle of Prayer in the Swansea Region – we will pray for Tabernacle, Mumbles



Christian Aid Quiz Night – Tuesday, 16th May

Over 40 people from Mount Calvary, St Michael’s, Welsh Baptist and Christ Well attended the quiz, and as usual we were made to think really hard to find the answers to some difficult questions, with some ooh’s, lots of laughter! The winning team came from St Michael’s. Donations for Christian Aid amounted to £320, and an enjoyable time was had by all.

Thank you to everyone who came, with special thanks to the quiz master, and to those who served the much-needed refreshments at the end of quiz time.

A reminder that if you wish to make a donation by cheque to the Christian Aid appeal it should be made payable to Christ Well Manselton URC.

Faith comes alive when shared

(Lectionary Readings Acts 1.6-14: Psalm 68.1-10: 1 Peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11: John 17.1-11)

Lord Jesus,
why did you need other people to help you?

So often your disciples
seemed more a hindrance than a help
when they were slow to understand your words,
or when they squabbled amongst themselves
or fell asleep when you needed their support...

Is it because the truth and purpose
of your Kingdom comes alive when it is shared and forged
upon the anvil of experience?
You said, “Love God, your neighbour and yourself,”
suggesting that your Spirit works with harmony rather than a single voice?

OK, we’ll gather up all we have together;
our gifts, our doubts, our faith, and offer them to you –
Then let your Spirit use us as you will.

Ian Fosten (URC Prayer Handbook 2023)

Weekly Activities in Christ Well	
Sunday Morning Worship	– 10.30 am
Tuesday	2-4pm Tea and Chat – 1 st & 2 nd Tuesday of the month
Wednesday	Musical Memories Choir – 11am-12 noon Cuppa with a Copper - 11am-12 noon
Thursday	Welsh Cafe – 10.30-11.30 am M.S. Society -10.30 am-2.30 pm Children’s Club – 6-7.00 pm
Friday	Christ Well Brownies – 6-7.00 pm