

## Welcome!

*We are delighted to see you, especially if this is your first visit.  
Please do join us for refreshments after the 10.30am service today.*

### Today

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Breakfastzone <i>in the Hall with breakfast at 9.15am</i>
10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
Eve	Last night of Night Shelter

### During the Week

Mon	12.30pm Matt's Knits – <i>new social knitting group</i>
Tues	9am Morning Prayer
	9-11.30am 'Open House' parents and toddlers <i>in the Lounge</i>
	7pm Communion followed by Deanery Synod Mtg St Paul's Preston
Wed	9am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee in the church</i>
	7.30-9pm Puzzling Questions course continues <i>in the Lounge</i>
Fri	6.30pm Youth Club <i>in the Hall</i>
Sat	9am Men's Breakfast at Riviera International Centre

### Sunday 11 February

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	All Age Worship with baptism of Louis Crook
11.30am	<b>Special church meeting</b> about plans for the near future including an update on the re-ordering
5.30pm	Evening Holy Communion

#### Collect

Creator God, you made the goodness of the land,  
the riches of the sea  
and the rhythm of the seasons;  
as we bless you for all you have created,  
may we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## Readings

### Genesis 1:1 – 2:3 & 2:15

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. <sup>3</sup> And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light 'day', and the darkness he called 'night'. And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.

<sup>6</sup> And God said, 'Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water.' <sup>7</sup> So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> God called the vault 'sky'. And there was evening, and there was morning – the second day.

<sup>9</sup> And God said, 'Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.' And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry ground 'land', and the gathered waters he called 'seas'. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>11</sup> Then God said, 'Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.' And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning – the third day.

<sup>14</sup> And God said, 'Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.' And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made two great lights – the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. <sup>17</sup> God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup> to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning – the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup> And God said, 'Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.' <sup>21</sup> So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them and said, 'Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.' <sup>23</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning – the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> And God said, 'Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.' And it was so. <sup>25</sup> God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the

creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'

<sup>27</sup> So God created mankind in his own image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'

<sup>29</sup> Then God said, 'I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. <sup>30</sup> And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.' And it was so.

<sup>31</sup> God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

<sup>2</sup> By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. <sup>3</sup> Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done...

... <sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

#### **Mark 4: 1-9**

Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered round him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge. <sup>2</sup> He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said: <sup>3</sup> 'Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. <sup>4</sup> As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. <sup>5</sup> Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. <sup>7</sup> Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. <sup>8</sup> Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times.'

<sup>9</sup> Then Jesus said, 'Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.'

# Seven ways to live gently in the Earth

## 1 Stand up for the planet:

- write letters to your MP
- sign an online petition,
- seek out like-minded people in your local area or online, to encourage one another

## 2 Travel light:

- walk, cycle, take the bus, tram or train, if possible,
- use local shops
- notice the beauty on your doorstep,
- organise a lift share scheme for your church
- a transatlantic passenger blows their annual fair share of carbon in one go. If you must fly, offset (e.g. with [climatestewards.org](http://climatestewards.org), or £5 per 1000 miles.)
- most European travel is possible by train: [www.seat61.com](http://www.seat61.com) for more information.



## 3 Go fossil free and reduce use:

- turn lights off and use low energy bulbs – LEDs now available
- don't leave appliances like TVs on stand-by
- dry clothes outside
- change your electricity provider to one that produces more green energy e.g. Ecotricity
- insulate your home,
- wear an extra layer, & turn the thermostat down 1 or 2 degrees,
- use hot water bottle, or an extra blanket, instead of heating the whole house at night,
- if buying new appliances go for AAA rated,
- place your desk by a window,
- generate your own electricity





#### **4 Practise gratitude and generosity:**

- simplify, be liberated by needing less.

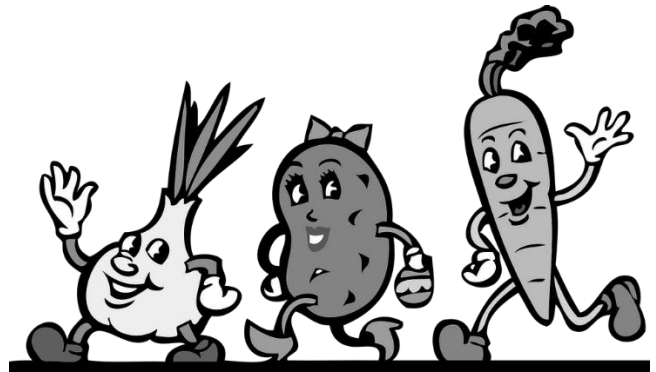
#### **5 Reconnect with the natural world:**

- get wet -- dig the earth
- grow herbs on your window sill
- save and cherish water
- take an interest in wildflowers, bees, butterflies, fish, birds & rocks
- include the Earth in all Church liturgies
- plant trees for special occasions such as baptisms or weddings.

#### **6 Use your LOAF!**

**L**ocally produced,  
**O**rganically grown,  
**A**nimal friendly,  
**F**airly traded.

- support local shops
- try to buy British fruit and veg in season
- grow some of your own food
- eat less meat and dairy
- buy free range eggs and meat and sustainably caught fish (MSC)
- suggest communal church meals follow the LOAF principles.



#### **7 Repair, re-use, borrow or buy second hand**

- reinvent second hand goods from charity shops
- improvise, make things
- try swishing clothes swap!
- Only buy wood products that are from legal and sustainable sources

God has given us a wonderful world.

He has asked us to look after it for Him.

We are not always doing a very good job of it. But we can change that, by agreeing to change the things we do.



*God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.* Genesis 1:31

*The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.* Genesis 2:15

Why not decide to choose one of these things to do?  
or add something else that will help...

Tick the box against the new things you'll start doing:

Turn off my bedroom light when I am not in there	<input type="checkbox"/>
Turn off the tap while I brush my teeth	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycle paper, glass and plastic bottles, and kitchen waste	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have more showers than baths	<input type="checkbox"/>
Try to walk or cycle sometimes instead of using the car	<input type="checkbox"/>
Try growing some of our own vegetables in the garden.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thank you.	<input type="checkbox"/>

**What's On & News**

**Social Fair last Sunday - thank you!** Good news! We had about 25 people offering to help with a variety of events. However some of these are probably still not viable without more people to run them so please see the church family noticeboard to see where you can help.

**Monday 19 Feb 6.30am** Torbay early morning prayer group to pray for the church and for the Bay - in the hall. All welcome.



**Contact Lists** new lists now available. £1 to cover printing costs please. Available from church today or from the office during the week.

**Ben Cowdry**, our grandson, is running in the London Marathon for The Teenage Cancer Trust. Please see the notice in the Church Hall or ourselves, Jenny & Ian.

**“Sleuth” ... the next Friends of St Matthias’ event** at The Little Theatre on 17 March. It’s been described as one of the most witty and ingenious plays of the 20th century; a drama of twists and turns, where nothing is ever quite as it seems. Tickets are on sale now for just £8.50 for this TOAD’S production and all proceeds will go to our Funds for the support of St Matthias Church.

**Girls Allowed:** come and enjoy a Chinese Meal with a pancake roll to celebrate Shrove Tuesday on 13th Feb 7.30pm in the Hall. Tickets must be bought in advance - £8.50 from Ruth, today or next Sunday. Bring your own choice of something to drink.

**Fish & Chip & Film night** Saturday 3rd March in the Hall at 7pm. Share a meal together and watch a film - "Their Finest". Tickets must be bought in advance £7.50 each. Soft drinks supplied.

**Confirmation** Have you thought about being confirmed? If so, Bishop Sarah’s visit to us on 18 March will be a confirmation service. If you are interested please contact one of the clergy to talk it through.

**Sun 11 Feb** Special church meeting @ 11.30am to update about re-ordering project and proposed extra 9.30am service

**Sun 4 Mar** ‘Opportunities to Serve’ Fair

**19 & 20 May** Renewal Weekend

<b>For our prayers and praise this week</b>	
Sun	Pray for Amy and David Roche as they prepare to return to the U.K. with a very different sort of ministry to fulfil here.
Mon	Praise God for those who signed up to help at social events. Jesus said ‘Go into the world and make disciples’. May these activities be part of our response.
Tues	Pray for all who are sick, housebound or feeling a bereavement. May God really meet them at their point of need.
Wed	Praise God for Christian Aid’s work and pray that many will support the Lent

	lunches.
Thurs	Pray for the peace of our world - for those leaders trying to make peace without violence - for peace and unity in Jerusalem – for the USA - and for own leaders, especially Theresa May our Prime Minister.
Fri	Pray for the two Lent Courses which will take place. Praise God for the two speakers (even though they are recorded!)
Sat	Pray for the homeless and hungry, the stateless and refugees. Especially those who are sheltering in our churches.
Sun	Pray for today's services - that we may all worship in spirit and in truth.

## Lent 2018

- Ash Wednesday 14 Feb – Holy Communion @ 7pm (9am Morning Prayer)
- Lent lunches – every Wednesday beginning on 14 Feb 12-1.30pm (delicious cheese, bread, pickles etc – all profits to Christian Aid – bring a friend!
- Lent courses begin on Tues 20 @ 7.15pm and Wed 21 @10.30am – see below
- 'Generous God Generous People' - daily bible readings booklet will be available from Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb - £1
- Maundy Thursday 29 March – evening Holy Communion service

This year for our Lent Course we are pleased to bring you not one, but two international speakers. Well, admittedly they are appearing on DVD rather than in person, but we are very excited about their messages and their teaching which is relevant to, and will challenge, every member of St Matthias.

John Mark Comer, who leads a church in Portland, Oregon, unpacks what it means to be "PRACTISING THE WAY OF JESUS", helping us to understand how we can change to become more like Jesus looking at some of the Spiritual Disciplines such as Prayer, Solitude, Quietness and Fasting.

Pete Greig is a senior pastor in Guildford, teaches at St Mellitus College and heads up the 24/7 Prayer movement. He helps us to understand PRAYER in a course which many of us have benefited from in our home groups.

Both will run for 6 weeks on both Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings, and we will gather together for the first 10 minutes each time, before breaking into the two strands. Whilst you will benefit most from attending all 6 sessions, you are welcome to come to any that you are able to. To get the most out of each suggestion we suggest you bring your Bible as well as a notebook/notepad and pencil/pen.