

EASTER

APRIL 2020 Newsletter

Sarah's Message

This new virus may make us doubt; we might be scared, we might wonder if God still loves us or we might be asking if this is a punishment from God because we are not good enough.

This virus is dangerous and as it's new, we are staying at home or not going out very often until doctors and scientists have found a way to vaccinate us or have a medicine to help cure us. It is okay to be frightened of dangerous things. Before Jesus went back to heaven, He said God the Father would send the Holy Spirit to always be with us, to help us and comfort us. We can tell God we are scared and He will help us!

We sometimes wonder, when we get hurt or feel let down, if that means God doesn't love us any more. But bad things do happen, because our world isn't perfect yet. It doesn't mean God doesn't love us. In fact God says in the Bible that he loves us with an everlasting love and that no one can take us from Him. God loves us to bits and will never leave us.

God does not punish us for not being good enough. Christians follow Jesus Christ, Jesus the promised one. At Easter we remember that Jesus was perfect, but died on the cross as if he was a bad man. That is because God knew we could never sort out our own mess ups or be perfect. Jesus the perfect man made a new covenant (or a new agreement) so that he was punished and we could have a life forever with God. God loves us so much he rescued us from all our mess ups. So, whatever we might think we deserve from God, Jesus has sorted it out. That means God is not going to punish us now. One day, the whole world as we know it will end and God will finally put everything right and back to how he made it to be. Then people will have to explain why they chose to live God's way or their own way. While we are here, though, we can always know that even when things are really bad, God is with us, loves us and is not punishing us. That makes for a very happy Easter, even if we are not gathered together.

Don't eat too much chocolate! Wash your hands!

Help during Covid-19 isolation – please pass this information to neighbours!

Through Making Connections Walsall and in partnership with local organisations, a dedicated email and helpline have been set up to provide support to the elderly and vulnerable. If you or a neighbour needs practical help with:

- Shopping
- Picking up prescriptions
- Food parcels
- Advice on financial help
- Reassurance calls/befriending

Email: COVID-
19communityhelp@walsall.gov.uk
Telephone: 0121 380 6690

If you wish to volunteer to support the community response, please visit the One Walsall website: <https://onewalsall.org/coronavirus-how-you-can-help/>

Mend-It is unable to give away bread at the moment, as Sainsbury's has made a national decision not to pass on unsold bread. We will aim to re-open as soon as practically possible.

You can email or ring Anna:

mendit@greenlanechurch.org.uk
07896 025221

If you would like to contact the minister now you cannot see her at Mend It, here are the details

sarah.bingham@greenlanechurch.org.uk
01922 516768

Whilst we are not meeting, the church has ongoing costs that cannot lapse. Please consider how you can continue your giving through this time of not meeting. Many thanks.