

A Prayer for the Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of
weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near
to them.
We pray for those with power over war or
peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion
to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your pre-
cious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect
them.
We pray in the name of Jesus,
the Prince of Peace.
Amen.



My notes



Why Christians should take action over environmental concerns:

'To hurt the earth is a sin' (Patriarch Bartholomew). We must
'respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor' (Pope Francis). 'We should care for God's creation out of love' (Nicky Gumbel).
'All our decisions - personal, purchasing and political - have to be greener for a healthier world. Let the Earth flourish' (Bishop James Jones). The call is shared across denominations and traditions.

The dreadful state the planet is in can lead us to think we can do nothing. But living in way that is respectful towards God's creation is part of our calling as disciples and, by encouraging others, we can make a difference.

Over the next few weeks we will share nine ways in which we could live more gently. Why not think about how you can join in, pin the ideas to your fridge, or wherever else you may trip over them, and share them with others?

5) Reconnect with the material world:

- ◇ Get wet - dig the earth!
- ◇ Sow herbs, even on a window sill
- ◇ Save and cherish water
- ◇ Take an interest in wildflowers, bees, butterflies, fish, birds and rocks
- ◇ Include the earth in your church liturgies and private prayer/worship
- ◇ Plant trees for special, landmark, occasions

6) Use your LOAF!:

- ◇ 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
- ◇ Encourage your church to have meals based on LOAF principles:

Locally produced
Organically grown
Animal friendly
Fairly traded



9th August 2026

10.30am Family Service

Welcome and notices

Opening words

Songs: Open the eyes of my heart

Hallelujah Jesus Saves

We say sorry to God

Introduction - Getting connected

Song: *Oceans*

The story so far

Living Scripture:

Song: My Lighthouse

We say what we believe

Prayer activity

Lord's Prayer

Song: My Jesus, my saviour

Blessing

We leave

Coffee, tea and biscuits are served after the service.

A collection plate is available by the exit as we leave.

If you have a word, a vision or a story to share, please speak to Ian or one of the welcomers before the service.

Large print service books are available.





NOTICES

Dates for your diary

Sunday 9th August:

8:00am - Communion service (BCP)
10:30am - Service of the Word

Monday 10th August:

10:00am - Prayer meeting @ Hawthorn Road

Tuesday 11th August:

1:15pm - Stay and Play

Wednesday 12th August:

1:00pm - Place of Welcome

Saturday 15th August:

3:00pm - Afternoon Tea in church

Sunday 16th August:

10:30am - Communion Service

Pastoral Visiting

If you would like the opportunity for a longer chat than time affords after a church service please feel free to contact me. Thank you. Rev. Ian

Giving at St James

If you wish to make a donation towards the ministry of St. James, or indeed need to pay for a specific service, please speak to Rev Ian or the Churchwardens. Alternatively, you can scan the QR code in this notice. Thank you.



Contact details:

Vicar (Rev'd Ian Smith) 0203 874 6398

vicar@stjamesblendon.org.uk

37 Bladindon Drive, Bexley, DA5 3BS.

Rest day: Friday

Church website: www.stjamesblendon.org.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stjamesblendon>

KEY MINISTRIES



Our next Messy takes place on **6th September** and we will be thinking about **new beginnings**. Please pray for those who plan and deliver this ministry as we look ahead for ideas for upcoming gatherings.

Any offers to help with crafts, to cook, chatting to guests and tidying up would be **really helpful**. Please see Rev Ian or Jenny B for more information.

Stay & Play

Stay and Play runs every Tuesday in term time from 1:15pm. This is an opportunity for parents/carers and their children to meet and play. Please tell folk about it and, if you want a flyer or a card to help, or indeed would like to help support this ministry, please see Rev Ian.

A space which offers coffee, tea, biscuits, cakes and sandwiches along with conversation, board games, computer access, advice and so forth.

Pets are welcome! Please come along or invite anyone who might find it of value.



Mission Partners



We pray for the ministry of CRiBS in our Bexley Schools. Since 1993 CRiBS have supported the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of children and young people in Bexley, seeking to inspire them to grow in faith and promote living values. .

News from the Food Bank

Slade Green food bank has an urgent need for::

- ◆ Tinned fruit and veg
- ◆ Chocolate/snacks
- ◆ Tuna/hotdogs/meatballs
- ◆ Tea/coffee/hot chocolate
- ◆ Long life/evaporated milk
- ◆ Ready made custard
- ◆ Dried noodles, pasta & rice
- ◆ Pasta/curry sauces
- ◆ Stuffing/gravy
- ◆ Jam, honey, spreads
- ◆ Tins of baked beans, beans and sausages, macaroni cheese & chilli con carne
- ◆ Baby products - wet wipes, nappies size 4-6
- ◆ Toothpaste, Shower gel, Deodorant
- ◆ Shampoo & Razors
- ◆ Housecleaning products
- ◆ Toilet and kitchen roll



Community Tea and Shoebox Appeal

We will be having a community afternoon tea on 15th August at 3:00pm. If you would like to attend, or know family and friends who would, please sign the sheet in church.

The year we are supporting a different shoebox appeal charity and we will need shoeboxes (without hinged lids!) We will be collecting them in August/September along with donations for the boxes.

Prayer Focus



Those who are either unwell or need special prayers:

Brenda M and Pip, Janet C, Mike S and Mike's daughter -in-law Racheal, Barry G, Thelma H, Stephen R, Maureen (Sue M's mother), David and Sally S, and Harper.

We pray for our church family and this week we pray specifically for Christopher and Janice A, Keith A.

We pray for all those who live, work or travel along Blendon Drive and Blendon Road.