

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?

7) Travel light:

- ◇ Walk, cycle, take public transport, use local shops, notice the beauty of nature
- ◇ Organise lift sharing scheme for church and social events
- ◇ Don't fly - a transatlantic passenger blows their annual carbon share in one go! If you must fly offset with climatestewards.org
- ◇ Most European travel is possible by train - see seat61.com for more information

8) Explore this island:

- ◇ Get in touch with the seasons
- ◇ Seek out local adventures
- ◇ Enjoy the journey and limit your driving
- ◇ Explore the local places of interest whether at home or on holiday
- ◇ Support local crafts/artisans



16th August 2026

10.30am Communion Service

Welcome and notices

Opening words (*page 1*)

Song: Dear Lord and Father of mankind

Confession (*pages 2-4*)

Collect

Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Song: My God

Gospel reading: Matthew 15:11-20

Sermon

Apostles Creed (*page 44*)

Prayers

The Peace

Song: Everyone needs compassion

Communion Prayer D (*page 28*)

The Lord's Prayer (*page 12*)

Share Communion

Post Communion prayer (*page 16*)

Song: You never let go

Blessing and Dismissal (*page 17*)

Large print service books are available.

If you have a word, vision or story you want to share with us please speak to a lan or one of the wardens before the service. If you need assistance with large-print books or the auditory loop please let us know.





NOTICES

Dates for your diary

Sunday 16th August:

10:30am - Communion Service

Monday 17th August:

10:00am - Prayer meeting @ Hawthorn Road cancelled

Tuesday 18th August:

1:15pm - Stay and Play

Wednesday 19th August:

1:00pm - Place of Welcome

Sunday 23rd August:

8:00am - Communion Service

10:30am - Service of the Word

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 work of **SLADE GREEN FOOD-BANK**. We pray for Mell and the support staff, with a particular focus that a long term solution to the problems associated with collecting food from the supermarkets who support the project will be found. We give thanks for those volunteers who have stepped in to help in the meantime.

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 Sue and Mike A and George and Marie B.

We pray for all those who live, work or travel along Bowes Close and Burns Avenue.