

THE COTTERIDGE CHURCH

Calendar

Tuesday 25th July

10.00 Holy Communion Roger Collins
10.30 Praying through Change
2.00 Fellowship Afternoon Tea
8.00 Community Development comm.

Wednesday 26th July

7.00 Zoom Worship
7.30 Coop Gardeners

Thursday 27th July

10.15 Little Foxcubs

Saturday 29th July

10.00 Coffee Bar
9.30 -12.00 Mess Around

Sunday 30th July Proper 12

10.30 Morning Worship
Roger Collins

BOOKCENTRE



We are Fair Trade Ltd have launched these biscuits from Tobermory Bakery
VERY MOORISH THEY ARE

Cotteridge Church
Minister Mike Claridge 0121 433 5176
Assistant Priest Roger Collins 0121 459 4009 07721 526 854
Part Time Minister Barbara Calvert 07712 1845 62
Administer Sarah Canning
Church Telephone 0121 433 5518



Next Competition
Transport from
Water Skis to Hot
Air Balloons or
anything in
between.

Andy From Kings
Edwards School



B30 & South

Birmingham Food bank

we received in 1817k and gave out
2041k feeding 232 clients on
111 vouchers

Urgently needed

Sweet biscuits (not multi-packs, as they often have no ingredients listed), pasta sauce, tinned spaghetti, baked beans, tinned soup, jam/honey, chocolate bars, tinned/carton ready-made custard, small jars of instant coffee (not decaffeinated), liquid/bar soap, gender neutral shower gel and shampoo

Sunday 23rd July Proper 11

Holy Communion

Mike Claridge

**Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them
grow:
though our faith is small as mustard
seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord**

Hymns 580 65 255 581 81

Readings Romans 8 12-25 Matthew 13
24-30 36-43

Readers Gill B, Sheila B.

Music Khadeem D

Sound Neil W

**Activity Bags for young children are
available from the stewards**

We pray for our pastoral links

Monica T: with Lorna B., Gill B., John
Co., Doreen H., Rachel H., Stephanie R.,
and Linda and Norman M.,

Those in long term need

Gill S, Chris M, Beryl H, Jennifer M, Mary
and Keith K,

We pray for those who are ill or are

Megan, Vinnie H, Mark T, Robin, Shirley,
Jenny F, Marion and David W, Norman
and Philomena, Ken F Lauren D, Geoff
W, Keith, Lyn, FriedL Dorothy T, Sue S,
Maurice and Fiona W John C

Prayer Cards

Louisa W, Naomi F, Ruth R, Shenna C
and family

We pray for those who have died



Coffee Bar

Monday to Friday 8.30 to 1.30

Saturday 10-12..00



**The calling of The Cotteridge Church
to respond to the Gospel of God's love
in Christ and to live out its
discipleship in worship and mission.**

Bible reading Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Grow where you are planted

THIS WEEK WE EXPLORE TRUSTING GOD IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.

Jesus gives us another seed-related story to help us think about the difficulties and struggles we endure while seeking to live as God intends us to. Through it, we have our gaze lifted to contemplate God's power and reminded that God is worthy of our trust.



Bible notes



It's a simple story: a farmer has sown wheat in a field. At night a rival, wanting to gain an advantage in the marketplace, sows weeds. The wise farmer knows that as the weeds grow, their roots and those of the wheat will intertwine, so he can't risk pulling them up ahead of the harvest because he'll lose everything. So, he waits.

At harvest time, the weeds – now easily identifiable – are cut first, then the wheat. The focus of the parable is not on the difference between weeds and wheat but their fate. Jesus says that a good harvest is a certainty, the wheat – the children of the kingdom – will shine through.

Everyone wanted the kingdom to come now. The disciples were excited because Jesus had told them that it was here now. They wanted it in all its glory, but Jesus says that we'll have to wait and live (for an unspecified time) cheek by jowl with those who do not share their view of the world, who are often hostile to it. But this waiting is the flipside of the coin of God's mercy. God doesn't want to swiftly judge people. God wants everyone to repent, and waits patiently for them to respond to the good news. Our lives in the present are lived in the light of this future and lent some urgency by that. So, all we've learned about mission over the past weeks needs to be heard in the light of this solemn reminder that we don't have all the time in the world.

Pray



Draw a line down the middle of a sheet of paper. Top left, write, 'Blessed this week by...', and top right, write, 'Struggled this week with...'. As the week progresses, add things that happen in your life (to you or around you, or further afield) to the appropriate column. Use the sheet as a focus for daily prayer, and when it is full, look back a week (or more) of blessing.

First impressions

- Where are you planted right now?
- And how are you growing?
- What does it mean to you to trust God in everyday life?



LISTEN



Listen to the track 'Be Thou My Vision', Audrey Assad on *Inheritance*.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dXDhCEnM-bQ>
When we focus on God, we stop worrying about judging other people. What are the things that help each of us to focus on God? How can we make more time for those things?

A prayer of adoration

Almighty God, all-seeing and all-knowing,
with confidence we accept your power and authority,
knowing that we can always trust in your judgement,
for your loving nature pervades creation,
and all shall be well – all shall be well. Amen.

REFLECT

What helps and sustains you in your faith? Cut a sheet of paper (ideally, yellow) into rectangular strips to represent wheat. Write or draw as many blessings as you can think of to thank God for. These could be material things, but think also of (e.g.) relationships and circumstances. What are the rewards of faith? What makes it easier? Use the strips as bookmarks or put them in places where you will see them regularly, as a reminder that, although we all have difficulties in our lives, God has given us much to be grateful for.



Play a game of pick-up sticks. You may have these as a children's game, or you can make them from wooden skewers. Mark (with pen or tape) half of the sticks; leave half unmarked. The aim is to see if you can pick up all the unmarked sticks (representing the wheat of Jesus' story) without affecting/moving any of the marked ones (the weeds). Think about how the weeds in our lives affect us, even when we don't want them to. And also about how our actions might be weeds in someone else's life.