

On Sunday we continue in Ephesians as Howard Lyons preaches on the first half of chapter 2. Why not read verses 1-10 of chapter 2 in preparation for Sunday?

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2: 8-10)

These verses summarise the entire Christian life. Grace comes first and then we respond to God's grace in obedience. Please pray this for RLBC - may everything we do flow out of God's grace to us in Christ Jesus... and may it flow out in to good deeds, as we work hard in the church and in the local community.

Yours in Christ, John.

pastor@rlbc.org.uk

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'A Matter of Death and Life'

Ephesians 2 v 1 – 10

Communion on Sunday

This Sunday is the fourth Sunday in the month and so the service at 11am will include celebrating communion. For those watching online please get some bread and juice ready before the service starts. Unfortunately, it is still not safe for us to serve communion to those physically in the church on Sunday. Therefore, those who come to church will have a choice: 1. They are welcome to bring their own bread and drink to serve themselves at that part of the service - this can only be for themselves and members of their own household. or ... 2. Just sit quietly and pray during that part of the service. We realise that is not ideal since it undermines the corporate image central to Communion and therefore, we all long for the time when we will be able to celebrate Communion properly again.

86th Church Anniversary - Sunday Oct. 4th

Our guest preacher will be Daf Meirion-Jones (former Senior Pastor at Chessington Evangelical Church, moving to work with Matt Beeby at St. James, Gerrards Cross). We normally express our gratitude to God for another year of his faithfulness through the thank offering appeal. More details next week.

Please pray for John's Mum, Elizabeth, John and the family. Peter Smuts, John's Dad died on Sunday, 13th September. His funeral will be at 12.30pm on Wednesday, 30th September. John would like to thank everyone for their support and prayers at the loss of his father. Please continue to pray for the family.

Thank you from Hilary Williams:

I have been overwhelmed by all the cards and messages I've received from our church family, following the death of my Mother. At such a sad and difficult time your kindness lifted my spirits. Thank you so much.

Chris Coote

A tribute to Chris Coote on behalf of RLBC will be broadcast from the church at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 30 September. The service will be live streamed on our church website <https://www.rlbc.org.uk/live> which will include a live piano performance by Michael Dussek and the recording will be available in the 'Video Broadcast' menu the following day.

Sunday Services at Church

The way places for Sunday services at Church are allocated has changed until further notice. Every Tuesday Rebecca will send out an automated ChurchSuite email invite to everyone on the weekly email list. This will include a link which offers you the opportunity to book tickets online for you and others in your household. This will ask you if you want to accept or decline a ticket for the Sunday service at church, in person, at 11am. However, it will only be possible to book a place from 8pm on Tuesday. This is because on Monday and Tuesday (each week) Rebecca will call all those not online and offer them first refusal on a place for Sunday; and then she will book all those who say 'yes' into the system. Next, at 8pm every Tuesday the remaining places will go live and anyone who has received the invite email will be able to book a seat at the service, on a first come first served basis until all tickets have gone. The tickets are free. Bookings will then close at 10am on a Friday so that the Church Office can print off a final list of those attending on Sunday ready for the Stewards on Sunday.

Under current restrictions places will be at a premium so please do not book a place unless you are reasonably confident that you will be able to attend. We want to discourage swapping places since the point of the system is that it will automatically provide a list of attendees for track and trace in the (hopefully unlikely) event of a COVID-19 outbreak. There are bound to be a few teething issues with this new system so please be patient as we all get used to it. NB: These tickets are for coming to the service in person only, you won't need a ticket simply to continue watching the service online.

So, if you receive this email, you will have between 8pm Tuesday – 10am Friday each week to try to book a place, until all tickets have gone. If you know of anyone who is on email but is not yet on our database, please explain to them that this will be the only way to come to church for Sunday services for the foreseeable future. They need to contact the Church Office and make sure that they are on the weekly email distribution list.

Mission Focus

The latest newsletter from Tony & Cath Swanson is now available. If you need a copy, please contact the Church Office.

Harrow Foodbank: *September Shopping List*

Tinned carrots
Tinned ravioli
Tinned chicken meals
Tinned vegetarian meals
Tinned spaghetti bolognese
Packet mashed potato
Savoury spreads (meat/fish)
Packet puddings (steamed/microwave type)
Toothbrushes (adult and children)
Male and female toiletries

THEY'VE GOT PLENTY OF

Baby food
Pasta

Volunteers are needed to support the temporary Harrow Foodbank Distribution Centre at RLBC on Mondays 1pm - 3pm. DBS checks are required and can be submitted on your behalf by the Church Office. For more information contact Debie Stoute 07403 982778.

Re-opening the Church Building

Now that the Deacons have agreed a formal Risk Assessment it is now possible to begin, gradually,

using our buildings again. However, it is essential that any leader of an organisation gets their own compliance document signed off by the deacons **before** contacting the Office to book rooms. Please contact the Church Office (churchoffice@rlbc.org.uk) if you would like a copy of the RLBC Risk Assessment. We will need a lot of patience and flexibility when we start using rooms at church again. All bookings will need to be temporary (probably reviewed every two months) in order to allow for changes to the government's guidelines and also to enable church organisations starting up again at different times - e.g. we don't want a ministry that works with those at risk to discover that all the rooms are already booked when they eventually start up again.

Sight Friendly Church

We are now a sight friendly church. For more information, please contact Pat Enderby.

Church Office Hours

Monday & Tuesday 9am-1pm and Thursday & Friday 9am-3pm.

If you need any help, please call the office during those hours on 0208 868 6772/
churchoffice@rlbc.org.uk.

COVID-19 Support & Information: www.rlbc.org.uk/coronavirus