



March 2024



office.allsaints@gmail.com



01642 783814



www.allsaints-church.net



facebook.com/ASEaglescliffe



instagram.com/all.saints.eaglescliffe

The Dawn is Coming



The night is darkest just
before dawn,
I promise you, the dawn is
coming

Easter remembers both the darkest of times and the brightest of times. The darkness first.

It was a few years ago speaking to my cousin who is a paramedic that I first came across the concept of people who assault ambulance crews. When I first heard it, it just did not compute. Why would people in need of help try to harm the very people sent to provide that help? It would be like awaiting rescue on a sinking boat and using your last torpedo to shoot at the lifeboat on it's way to rescue you.

Oddly that is what happened at Easter.

The Bible tells us that God absolutely loves humanity, all of us. But that our mistakes, wrong actions and thoughts had formed a barrier between us and God. This was not something God wanted and so He looked for a way to remove it, and the only way was for Him to come, to live as one of us; and to die in our place so we could be forgiven, the barrier removed. We see this theme time and again in films, stories, and books; from Transformers, the Matrix, Braveheart, Armageddon, Lord of the Rings, Harry Potter.. and the list goes on. The idea of a character losing their life to save many is deeply embedded in us somehow; I would say because it echoes the story of the whole of history; Jesus is God come as a man, who died to remove the barrier so we could be free and know God for ourselves.

On Good Friday, we remember the darkness; where humanity killed the one sent to rescue us.

But on Easter Sunday we remember that the dawn came.

We remember that the darkness did not win, and that even in that moment of darkness; God was working a miracle. He was opening the door for us to know Him and to find purpose and happiness, forgiveness, and a life that will not end when our bodies end. The Bible ends with the ultimate dawn. It explains that one day we will meet God and there will be no more need of the sun, for we will live by the light of God. The dawn will have brightened into the brightest of lights.

The account of Easter is full of darkness, and light; but also choices. The crowds shouted for Jesus to save himself, and He could have got down from the cross and walked away. But because of His love for us, His desire to remove the barrier, He didn't. We see the choice of one of the soldiers at His death to recognise that Jesus really was God.

And the whole account begs the question; what will we make of Jesus? For me, I know I needed a rescuer, and perhaps you do too. Someone to give me hope, a new life, a new purpose, to forgive me my mistakes, and walk with me daily. It's an offer open to each of us. An offer you might want to contact the church about exploring for yourself.

So have a great easter and I hope you enjoy celebrating the dawn that followed the darkness.

Matt Levinsohn



Reflections on how Curacy has gone so far

Hello everyone, wow I can't believe it's already been over 8 months since I started here back in July. I never thought time would fly this quickly, but I think it's because me, Emily, and Lucas have been so welcomed and helped to settle into the lovely area of Eaglescliffe. It has been a time of lots of firsts for me. First time helping set up a new ministry (Kintsugi Hope, which will soon be starting up) , first time leading a funeral, and so on. But throughout this time, I have been supported and encouraged by so many of you. It has been a joy to lead and preach at services, some of the standouts being the Carol Service and Remembrance for me.

In such a short time I really feel like I have grown into this role, learning how to better myself in the process and getting loads of opportunities to try my hand at something new. Each day looks slightly different but there is often something happening in the weekly life of our church for me to come along to, or help lead and it has been a real joy to join with you all as you serve this area.

You are all so caring and have a real heart to serve and welcome people well, we have experienced this welcome as I mentioned at the start, and it has been such a joy to get to know you all better over this time. I still have a long way to go as I still haven't even finished my first year of curacy but for me that is a blessing as I still have so much to learn from being here. I cannot wait to see how God is going to be at work through All Saints' in the next couple of years and to see how I can join in too.

To finish, I have recently been encouraged by Romans 8:28, which reminds us 'that in all things God works for the good of those who love him'. God is at work in all that we do and let's continue to work hard as a church to serve him and this area. Thank you all for such a great start.

Ben Scott



Childrens' and Families Ministry Update

As you may be aware, we have been advertising for a new Children's and Families Ministry Leader. We are pleased to announce that Catherine Wakefield has been appointed to the role and will be joining us with her family in September.

My first visit to All Saints' was at the age of 14 in the year 2000; Jan's first Sunday as children's worker!

What an honour that God has called us to move back up north to join your church family. God kept this job on my mind and in my heart. Looking back, I can see how He has been preparing me for this role. I trained as a primary school teacher and taught year 1 and year 4 in Birmingham and Stoke. Whilst being a full-time mum I ran toddler groups and community events and most recently have been teaching music in nurseries, schools and parent/child sessions.

I'm excited to see what God has planned for the children and families at All Saints'. My desire is that all would be God connected and encounter Him.

Please pray for us as we prepare to move: houses, schools for our 3 children and that we would finish our time in Stoke well.



Festival Teesside

We would love you to save the date and join us at **Festival Teesside on 8th-9th June...**and bring your friends!

Churches from across Teesside have been praying and dreaming about a united effort to serve our region and share the hope that Jesus brings to those around us, and are planning a huge outreach event unlike anything Teesside has experienced for a generation! With over 60 churches involved it promises to be very exciting! Festival Teesside will be a huge, free family festival at Stewart Park, Middlesbrough, with live music from well-known Christian musicians, fairground rides, extreme sports, food vendors, kids and youth zones, and opportunities for people to hear the Gospel and connect with the local church. In the lead up to the Festival there will be some exciting things for us all to get involved with:

Prayer and Worship Event (Saturday 27 April 7pm at The Globe, Stockton)

The whole Teesside church is invited for a night of worship, prayer and teaching, where the vision of the Festival will be shared and we will be sent out to invite our friends and share our faith!

Friendship Evangelism Training (13-17 May)

There will be several evangelism training sessions across the region during this week, equipping us to share our faith confidently. The Stockton session will be on Tuesday 14th May at Stockton Baptist Church from 7pm-9pm.

Serving our Communities (1-19 May)

We want to see area-wide transformation, and to add momentum in the lead up to the festival churches will be running social action projects across Teesside between 1-19 May. More information coming soon on what this will look like for us at All Saints'.

Following our recent church vision morning, you will know that one of our priorities moving forwards is to be less busy and more family, inviting others to come and helping them find their place. Festival Teesside will be a wonderful opportunity to invite our friends and family to discover more about faith and help them to find their place in God's family. We would love to see you there!

Kathryn Belmont





PRAYER + WORSHIP EVENT

at the Stockton Globe

27 April

doors open **7pm**

speakers:

Andrew Palau + local leaders

worship: **Jake Isaac**

(Booking essential!)



www.festivalteesside.com
for **FREE** tickets

You can book your free tickets by scanning the QR code above - or click on this [link](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/festival-teesside-prayer-and-worship-tickets-764571843967)
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/festival-teesside-prayer-and-worship-tickets-764571843967>



APCM

Our APCM (annual church meeting) will be on Sunday 21 April in our 10am service.

Please come along to celebrate what God has done in 2023, as we look towards 2024.

If you might be interested in becoming a member of PCC, please speak to Matt.



Electoral Roll

If you have been at All Saints' for more than 6 months, you may be able to join the Electoral Roll (so you can vote at the annual church meeting)

Please contact the office, speak to Andrew Eley or complete a yellow form from the back of church



Church Camp, Fri 5 – Sun 7 July 2024



If you might be interested in attending Church Camp (either camping or as a day visitor), please can you **complete the questionnaire on ChurchSuite, by 5 March** so we can work out if the event can go ahead!

<https://allsaints.churchsuite.com/events/rh9gaxik>



You can find out more details by clicking on this link: <https://allsaints.churchsuite.com/events/rh9gaxik> or you can scan the QR code above or search 'Church Camp' under events in ChurchSuite



Easter Eggs

We are selling 'The Real Easter Eggs' from the Meaningful Chocolate Company

They will be on sale after our 10.30am service from 4 March and are £4.90 each.

Please contact Karen Killick if you have any questions.



Sunday 10 March, 3.15pm-4.45pm

We warmly invite you to Discovery church which will be on Mothers Day. Expect scones and cream and a slightly more fancy afternoon in honour of mums.

Please book your free tickets on this link, via our website or scan this QR code



<https://allsaints.churchsuite.com/events/wnht73tr>

GOING DEEPER

3 Mornings 9.00-12.30, 6 Topics,

Open to all who want to go deeper in their understanding of the bible and applying it to life.



2nd Dec * What is the big picture of the bible?
*What does 'the bible is the word of God' mean?

9th March *What is Romans all about?
*How have we got the church we have today? Whistle stop tour of key figures who have given us the church we have today.

4th May. *Science, Creation and Faith; understanding the world.
*What is our hope? Understanding what comes next.

ENCOUNTER

Sunday 24 March 6.00 pm

A time of extended worship, prayer & listening to God.



Services this month

Sunday 3 March

Deborah: Discerning and obeying God's voice
Judges 4:1-16, Luke 2:36-38

9am Morning Worship
1030am Communion

Speaker: Kathryn Belmont

Sunday 17 March

Gideon (ii) Gideon tests God and God tests Gideon
Judges 6:36-7:21, Matthew 15:21-28

9am Morning Worship
1030am Morning Worship & Baptism

Speaker Matt Levinsohn

Sunday 31 March Easter Day

Jesus' Resurrection
Matthew 28:1-10,
1 Thessalonians 4: 14-18

9am Communion
1030am Communion
Speaker: Ben Scott

Sunday 10 March Mothers Day

Gideon (i) God increasing courage
Judges 6:11-18 & 25-32, Psalm 89:5-8

9am Communion
1030am Morning Worship

Speaker: Rachel Levinsohn

Sunday 24 March

Gideon (iii) Idols in priestly disguise
Judges 8:22-28, Matthew 23:1-12

9am Communion
1030am Morning Worship
Speaker: David Munby

**Our 10.30am services are live-streamd
and you can watch them live or later on:
<https://www.youtube.com/@AllSaintsVideo/streams>**

Worship	Midweek	Youth	Children & Families	Other
Morning Prayer Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9.10am Zoom: 862 4733 2301 Password 316316	Informal Holy Communion Wed 9.30am Youth Rooms	Youth Life Groups <i>term time</i> Weds 6-8pm everyone to start in Youth Rooms, <i>last Life Group of term Weds 20 March</i>	Toddlers Thurs <i>term time</i> 9.45am -11.30am Centre	Favourite Hymn Singing Mon 25 Mar 6.30pm-7.30pm Church
Prayer & Worship Sat 23 Mar 9am-10am Meeting Room	Life Groups various days/times see noticeboard in Centre	Youth Club <i>term time</i> Fri, 7-9pm Centre	God's Giants Group (Y5&6) Tues 12 & 26 Mar 4.15pm-5.30pm Youth Room	Going Deeper Sat 9 Mar 9am-12.30pm Meeting Room More details above
Young Adults Gathering Sun 3 Mar 7.30pm-9pm Stockton Parish Church	Monday Morning Coffee Mondays 9.30am-11.30am Youth Room	Youth Church during our Sunday 10.30am services Youth Rooms	Gems (up to reception) and Trailblazers (Y1-Y6), during our Sunday 10.30am service Centre & Meeting Room	
Encounter Sun 24 Mar 6pm-7.30pm Church	Connect Lunch Tues 12 Mar-2pm Centre	Doulos Mon 18 Mar 7pm-9pm Youth Rooms	Discovery Church Sun 10 Mar 3.15pm-4.45pm Centre	
	Joyful Craft Thursdays 1.30pm-3pm, Youth Room	Youth Apprenticeships Sun 17 March during the 10.30am service		
	Ukraine Family Support Café Thurs 7 & 21 Mar 6.30pm-8.30pm Youth Room	Build Home Mexico Thurs 28 Mar - Mon 8 Apr		PCC Mon 18 Mar 7.30pm Meeting Room
		Café Church <i>back in May</i>		Standing Committee Mon 4 Mar 7.30pm Vicarage