



CONNECTED

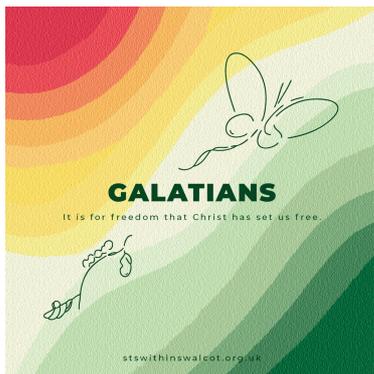
17th October 2021

“So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.”

Galatians 4. 7

Galatians

A warm welcome to St Swithin’s today. We’re delighted you’ve joined us to worship together.



We’re journeying through the Apostle Paul’s letter to the Galatians this Autumn and today John Davies and David Holden-White will be helping us to consider what it means to be a child and heir of God.

Having fairly fiercely rebuked the Galatians (in last week’s passage) for having lost their way and for being bewitched by their opponents, Paul now takes time to remind them who and whose they are.

All of us will have grown up in very different families. I wonder when you stop to think about the family you grew up in, whether you view it with gratitude or with pain? Or a mixture of both? How has it shaped your attitude to family?

Being adopted into God’s family is an amazing privilege, yet ironically it’s where we were all created to be. Living in relationship with our Loving Heavenly Father (our Dear Dad, as Les might have said!) as part of God’s beautiful, diverse multi-generational family provides a strong and much needed antidote to the hyper-individuality of the culture we live in.

We really do need each other. We were created for community and it’s amazing how a genuine sense of belonging to God’s family can radically change our attitudes, behaviours and our lives!

Lord may the truth of your Word sink deeper into our lives so that the power of your gospel changes both our own and other’s lives. AMEN



Tim



NOTICES

Ahead

We are continuing to follow the pattern of the last few months for our Sunday gatherings during October, while we consider the best way forward during the Autumn/Winter. Please do continue to follow the flow of people in the building. Children dropped off in the crypt, adults upstairs other than for an All-Age service. Do keep an eye out both here and online for further information.

There will be an **Evening Communion** here at St Swithin's tonight at 6pm. Do please book online and join us.

Next Sunday morning there will be an **All-Age service** with Café at 10 followed by worship altogether upstairs at 10.30 am.

Church Prayer meeting Tuesday 16th November at 7.30pm in church.

Starting in the Psalms



An evening to pause, reflect and explore using words to help shape our journeys for the days ahead. No previous poetry experience required.

**Sunday 31st October
6pm**

Want to be more involved, but not sure how?

There are so many ways to contribute and give to the life of the church. In your time, talents, money, homes and

yourself. If you would appreciate some help/time/advice, please do contact Tim/Fran/Nicola or James for more information.

Prayers for the city of Bath



Join Christians across the city in praying together, at Bath Abbey on **Tues 2nd November at 7.30pm**. All are welcome.

Galatians Teaching Evening

Thank you to those who joined to study Galatians in a bit more depth last Sunday Evening. Join us again on Sunday **24th of October at 6pm**. Be prepared to listen, engage, discover, ask questions and hunger for more of what God is revealing to us through his Word

Sunday Lunch



There will be a gathered Sunday Lunch after the service on the **7th November**. Ronnie's Roast is back for all! Book online in the usual place.



Please Pray

"if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. ¹Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place." – *2 Chronicles 7. 14,15*

HEAL THE LAND



Gracious, kind and loving Heavenly Father

Our High King of Heavenly Splendour,

Have mercy on our Land and upon us.

Revive your beloved Church of Walcot.

Pour your Holy Spirit out upon us and the city of Bath.

Out of your bountiful goodness bring healing

to the lost, the least, and the broken.

May your Kingdom come to our nation, today as it is in heaven

In Jesus' mighty name.

Amen.

(adapted from the Caleb prayer for Wales)



Walcot Whispers

"After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper". - 1 Kings 19:12



After the last tumultuous 18 months or so, when our lives have been turned upside down and pulled this way and that, how are we doing?

When there is so much noise in our lives, whether outside, with the chaos of Covid, or our work or family lives, or the inner turmoil that we sometimes experience, we can really struggle to hear God's voice.

God doesn't always shout in our lives, God comes to us in a whisper.

Are we learning to hear God's voice? Are we making time to listen to what He has to say to us? What is God saying to us? What if God's whisper are the very words of life we need to hear today?

God as a good shepherd loves his sheep to hear his voice and find their way. Let's pay attention to His whisper.

