

Intro 25th April 2021 – It's never too late – Luke 23. 38-43

Good morning and a very warm welcome to our all-age service today. For those gathering in person we're worshipping together in our gardens (hopefully in the warm spring sunshine!) and we continue to thank those of you who continue to connect with us online, we pray that the Lord will bless you today.

This morning I start with an apology that the zoom coffee didn't happen last week as we had some technical difficulties, so apologies to those who were inconvenienced, it's given you a new opportunity to exercise forgiveness, how good is that! Secondly, a big thank you to those who responded by praying this week after last Sunday's service. I've been really conscious all week of how as a church we get the opportunity to hold one another and lift each other up in prayer. It really does make a difference and I know that a good number of people have been blessed. Thank You, please keep praying!!

Over the last couple of weeks, it's been wonderful to be able to meet up with more people in gardens, to be in their presence, to see them face to face, to look someone in the eye and see how they're doing, to properly listen to someone and give them your attention. Being present with other people is at the heart of our humanity. **Your presence** to us really matters, we would love to see you over these summer months in person. Whether that's 1 to 1, in small groups, or in our gathered worship. We believe you will be encouraged.

This window of amazing spring sunshine has been such a gift after the harshness of Winter, it's an amazing opportunity for hospitality and reconnecting, that's one of the key things we can do this Summer, it's why we're running the pop-up café each week, want to give us the opportunity to Connect.

This first part of the Summer Term we're looking at the theme of 'Good News'. Christianity is good news. You and I have good news. WE have something good that's worth sharing with others. This morning we're looking at the thieves on the cross who died either side of Jesus. Both got to see Jesus, up close and personal at his most vulnerable. One chose to mock Jesus, the other saw Jesus for who He was and his life was changed forever. It's never too late to see Jesus. It's never too late!

Let's pray

Loving Father, help us to discover more of your goodness this term and help us to find ways to share that with others. In Jesus' name. Amen