

St. Matt's Midweek Update – 9th June 2023



I hope you have had a good week, and if you haven't, I pray you have the support and love around you to help you get through.

I have found this week quite hard. I am struggling with waiting, struggling with not knowing, struggling with seeing my mum as she is. But I have also had some small encouragements from God - a verse at the right time, a reminder that He has got this situation under control, knowing that my family and I are surrounded by love and prayer.

I have been reminded this week that I can cry out to God with anything, with whatever I am feeling, and He will hear me. Did you know that you can be angry at God? That you can yell at Him and cry at Him and tell Him it's all unfair? You can. David did in the Psalms, and we can too.

Psalms 55:16-17 says,

"As for me, I call to God, and the Lord saves me.

Evening, morning and noon I cry out in distress, and he hears my voice."

There are plenty of other places in the Psalms and in the Bible where people call out to God. Sometimes they feel like they get an answer and sometimes they don't, but God always hears them.

I read something on Facebook this week that said that children's behaviour is 800% worse with their mothers than with other people! I presume there is a similar thing with fathers too. The study said that (generally) children know their mothers are such a safe place that they can let out all their emotions and be completely themselves. It is sometimes very hard to cope with that as the parent, but what a privilege, to be that safe space for your child.

And it's the same with God - God is our Abba Father. He is our safe place, our place where we can be completely ourselves and the person we can be completely real with. And if that means crying out to Him from the bottom of your heart, then go ahead. He will hear it and knows what you are feeling.

Notices



Our **Revive breakfast for women** is tomorrow - do come along even if you haven't signed up, we'd love to see you.

8.30am - 10.30am, continental style breakfast, then worship, a talk from Isobel Broadie, and time for prayer and ministry at the end.

We'll have a basket out for donations for breakfast, or you can use the card machine.

This Sunday morning we are continuing our series "Resurrection People". We will have groups for our children and young people during the service.

We also have our 5pm service this Sunday - a more traditional service with tea and cake served from 4.30pm. Everyone is welcome.





New Wine have now released day tickets for the summer!

There will be a group from St. Matt's going to week A of United, but if you would like to join them for a day, book your tickets now! We suggest coming on the Saturday (29th July) if you can make it, so that most people are there on the same day, but come any of the other days if you can't get there on the Saturday. All the information and prices are

here <https://newwineunited.festivalpro.com/form/F7D55B5DBEDA8DC409BA/45>



This week has been volunteer's week, and we are so grateful for all of you who volunteer in so many ways in church.

For volunteer teams to be healthy and vibrant, people need to know that they can step down if they need to, and we trust that other people will be able to step up, even if only for a short time.

We have a few teams in church at the moment with spaces for people who are able to step up. **Could you volunteer in any of the following teams?**

Coffee team for the 10am service - 2 people per month needed

Welcome team (on the door) for 10am service - 1 more person per month

Computer and sound for the 10am service - both could do with another person at least to train up

Toddler group (Thursdays 9.30am - 11.30am) - one more person per month

Deeper (Mondays 3.30pm - 5pm for older primary children) - at least one more person per month

Ignite - (Tuesdays 6pm - 7.30pm for secondary school young people) - at least one more person per month

We aim for people to be serving once a month on a team if they can, but if you can do less frequently or more frequently, please do let me know.

Speak to Chris or I if you would like to volunteer or want to know a bit more about a team.

That's all for this week. If you need any help or support during the week, please be in touch with Chris or I via the office.

Have a good weekend and enjoy the sunshine!