



# Yours

Magazine of  
The United Church  
Winchester

March 2025



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Registered Charity no. 1135083

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## Tim's letter: The Church as the living presence of Christ's healing ministry

At a recent Worship & Learning Enabling Group meeting we were pondering some different forms of worship we might introduce (or re-introduce) to our diet. One idea was a service of healing, and an interesting conversation ensued! It got me thinking about how the Church, in a holistic sense, is the living presence of Christ's healing ministry now at work in the world.

From the very beginning of his ministry, Jesus demonstrated deep compassion for those who were hurting—physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Whether he was restoring sight to the blind, healing the sick, or offering words of grace to the outcast, his mission was one of restoration and reconciliation. As the body of Christ, the Church is called to continue this healing ministry within our communities today.

This ministry happened at several different levels. Firstly, his words and actions brought spiritual healing to those burdened with sin, guilt, and despair. Today, the Church serves as that same beacon of hope, offering guidance, prayer, and the message of salvation. Through worship, Bible study, and pastoral care, the Church provides spiritual nourishment, helping people find strength in their faith amid life's struggles. By pointing individuals to Christ, the ultimate healer, the Church fulfils its mission of bringing wholeness to the soul.

But Jesus' response wasn't just limited to the spiritual, he cared for those who were sick and suffering in body and mind too. In the same way, the Church plays a crucial role in supporting physical and emotional well-being. Many churches, such as ours, host health clinics, counselling services, and support groups for those facing crises such as addiction, grief, or mental illness. By

partnering with medical professionals, social workers, and community organisations, the Church ensures that practical needs are met, reflecting Christ's love in tangible ways.

And finally, throughout the Gospels, Jesus reached out to the marginalized—lepers, the poor, the oppressed—offering them dignity and restoration. The Church mirrors this mission by welcoming all people, regardless of their background, race, or status. Food banks, homeless shelters, refugee engagement and outreach programmes are all ways that churches embody Christ's radical hospitality, reminding people that they are valued and loved. None of this will be news to you, but sometimes it's good to be reminded how much our shared work is achieving in Christ's name.

The Church is more than a place of worship; it is a living expression of Christ's healing ministry. By offering spiritual, emotional, and physical support, it brings light to dark places and hope to the broken-hearted. In so many ways we are already fulfilling his command to be the hands and feet of Jesus in a hurting world. As we embark on our Lenten journey, and the encounters with Jesus it invites, may God bless our endeavours to bring his healing and renewal to all.

In Christ, Tim

## Editorial

Rosemary MacMullen returns this month with some holiday adventures on page 16, but no mishaps this time! She also contributes a prize winning poem alongside a newly written composition by Tony Wood.

We have news of another successful Christmas Project, a look ahead to Lent and the showing of an inspiring new TV series about Jesus and his disciples.

See page 20 to read about our front cover. Do you know who is featured in this beautiful stained glass window and where you can go to see it?

Thank you to all our contributors.

**Yours Team—Bob Lord, Dorothy Lusmore and Sophie Armstrong**

## News of the United Church Family

Friends will be very sorry to hear that Jill Cook died on 4 February.

Jill has been a much loved and valued member of our church community, and we shall miss her a great deal.



Latterly, Jill lived at Winchester Heights Care Home. Although she had not been able to join us in church during that time, she did remain very much a part of our church family. Church members visited and Jill kept in contact with us. In September 2024 Jill shared her thoughts with us on care and giving up independence, in an article in *YOURS*. As always, a positive and inspiring perspective. She ended in saying that on moving into a care home... 'The companionship of Christ is still a vital part of one's humanity. One is not alone.'

Our thoughts and prayers are with Jill and with Ruth, Shirley, Andrew and all the family.

Following cremation in the morning of 18 February, a service of Thanksgiving for Jill's life was held at our church in the afternoon.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Yvonne on the recent death of her younger brother.

We celebrate with Pauline and Roger Brooks on the arrival in late January of a grandson. A new addition to the family for their

daughter Catherine and Dale and Aubrey.

*Please do let me know if you would like me to include anything in future editions of YOURS.*

**Jane Lawson, Pastoral lead**

## **Winchester Churches Christmas Project 2024**

This Christmas we offered help to 42 adults and 75 children (29 families and 4 single people) - a total of 117. Our 56 volunteers from 13 different Winchester churches (together with some volunteers from Home-Start) have made a big difference. Thank you all!

### **A flavour of the feedback from volunteers-**

*'It is a privilege to be involved in what to me is the true meaning of Christmas , bringing joy to others '.*

*'The client was so touched to have been nominated .... and so grateful for the generosity of total strangers at Christmas'*

### **From the referring agencies -**

*'Thank you so much for your ongoing support, it provides so much relief to those clients who struggle around Christmas time.'*

*'Every year I am humbled by the kindness and generosity of this unique project and the volunteers, who support the most vulnerable in Winchester'.*

*'The families I referred this year, have spoken about how this project made their Christmas better. Having the generous donation allowed them to buy what their children wanted and had asked Santa for. To have treats in the cupboard, for the children, freeing up money to spend on making it special, rather than worrying about how they would have been able to afford Christmas. I hope this project continues to bring joy, laughter, and love to those who most need it.'*

*'One family, who had an exceptionally traumatic year, chose to buy a ticket to Marwell so that they could make some happy memories'.*

*'Thank you so much for the wonderful support that you provided to our families'.*

**From some of the families themselves –**

*'Everything was fantastic. The people who came were so kind and lovely. They made things easy for me, they worked around me and my children. They ordered things for the children to be delivered and sent me an Iceland voucher which was so helpful. I cannot praise them enough, thank you so much!'*

*'Thank you so much to the Christmas project who made it possible for me to treat my children to ice skating and dinner and also a little gift card treat for myself after a really tough year, they are kind amazing people!'*

*'This is amazing. I really don't know how we would have managed this year without this unexpected support. Please will you thank everyone'.*

Thank you to everyone for your support through prayers, donations and practical action.

**Helen McTiffin**  
(Joint Co-ordinator with Janet Stewart)

### **Dates for Your Diary**

The first two of a series of evening piano concerts have been confirmed.

Roger Owens will be performing a classical concert on 10 May and Robert Carter will be giving a jazz concert on the 12 July. More details will appear in April Yours.

## Book Review: Pope Francis' Autobiography; Hope

Pope Francis begins his autobiography by talking about the experiences of his great-grandparents and grandparents, people for whom hope was a key. His ancestors had been farmers in Southern Italy for many years, but poverty and the threat of being drafted into the army as fascism developed, led his grandfather to decide to take his family to Argentina, to join the previous generation who had emigrated seven years before. They set out in hope to build a better life for their families. Beginning as a labourer, his great-grandfather had developed a small business laying asphalt, but after great-grandfather's death, the Great Depression hit hard, and the business went bankrupt in 1932. Through the kindness of a priest the family were given a grant to enable them to start a small shop and rebuild from nothing. A story of hope coupled with hard work building a strong and positive family life,

Writing about how his sense of calling developed, Pope Francis wrote:

'I have a dogmatic certainty: God is in the life of every person; God is in the life of each one. Even if a person's life has been wracked by vices, by drugs, by whatever else, God is in that life. He can and must be sought in every human life. Even in a land that is full of thorns and weeds, there is always a space in which good seed can grow.....God offers hope of new life...

If we do not close the door, ... It is enough to leave a narrow chink for God to enter - then God will show his mercy.

In the final chapter Pope Francis writes more generally about hope:

"For we Christians the future has a name, and that name is hope. To have hope does not mean being naive optimists who ignore the tragedy of human evil. Hope is the virtue of a heart that doesn't close itself in the dark, doesn't stop in the past, doesn't



scrape along in the present, but can clearly see tomorrow.

Restless and joyous is how we Christians must be.

Happiness is always an encounter with others, and those others are always an opportunity to encounter Christ himself. Evangelisation in our time will be possible through an infection of joy and hope.'

POPE FRANCIS

# HOPE

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY



The overall impression from the book is of a deeply prayerful, sensitive, and genuinely humble man, who, though called to high office, has not lost touch with his roots and his friends among ordinary people in Argentina. A thoughtful book including wise words worth pondering.

**Pat Fry**

*Any views or opinions expressed in Yours are the views and opinions of the individual contributors and do not represent the views or opinions of The United Church unless clearly stated.*

## Two Poems

The Abbots Barton House Group led the morning service on 24 February, when extracts of Pope Francis' Autobiography 'Hope' were included. (see pages 6-7).

Tony Wood and Rosemary MacMullen read out their own poems: 'Hope' written by Tony just recently and 'Just One Hour' by Rosie, which won 'Poem of the Year' in the Express a few years ago.

### Just One Hour by Rosemary MacMullen

Their backs against the wall, they stare  
At yet another come to Care .  
We're fine, we're coping. Can't you see?  
We've fought worse battle, her and me.  
I close my eyes to dirt and dust  
To slime-scaled baths, to spots of rust  
I sip a mug of long-stewed tea  
And learn that what they need from me  
Is recognition of their pride.  
They may be old but still inside  
They burn with anger, feel the shame  
Of losing strength. They're not to blame  
But suddenly it's all gone sour.  
What can I do in just one hour?

## Hope by Tony Wood

Not seen in mind or reason  
Hope lingers, unexpressed,  
A dream, a chance, a longing,  
A journey not redressed

The freezing morning's sunrise  
Ablaze from far-off star,  
The icy way yet melting  
The waiting hours afar.

Yet sunlight urges forward  
A winding path unseen,  
Through many shadows parting,  
Revealing Nature's green.

And when the hours departing  
Roll onward brooding night,  
Still through the darkness piercing,  
Appears a flickering light.

And seeking for its lustre  
I fain would find its noon,  
Time's countless moments telling  
A glimpse of wonder soon?

## The Chosen

On three Wednesday evenings during March, we plan to show three episodes of 'The Chosen' as an introduction to the series and we encourage anyone who is able to come along and find out what so many are talking about.



The Chosen is a groundbreaking historical drama based on the life of Jesus seen through the eyes of those who knew Him. It is an American TV series written and developed by an independent Christian team led by Dallas Jenkins. All expenses have been raised from the public by crowd funding. This means there is no obligation to any commercial organisation, and it may be available freely to all. The initial vision raised only enough money to film four episodes and all actors who were cast in the roles, bar one, were unknown and sometimes struggling actors. As more money was donated, the eight episodes of Season One were completed and released. Quickly becoming popular and the highest-grossing crowdfunded media project in history, news of the series spread, mostly by word of mouth.

It has been released worldwide in 180 countries, subtitled with 26 different languages and dubbed in many more. Set against the backdrop of daily life under Roman occupation in first

century Israel, the Chosen gives an authentic and intimate look at Jesus's life and teachings and how he interacted with the people around Him. Season Five is now complete and due to be released in April.

Some responses -

'It brings Scripture to life, - it's living it with them, not just words'  
'gives breadth and depth to the stories'

'The portrayal of Jesus is particularly good at treading the line between, and showing both, fully man and fully God.'

'Humour running through it helps in realism and relatability'

'Jesus chose people who were all different but needed to get on together'

'Makes you want to go back and read what it actually says in Scripture.'

*Disclaimer in the series -*

*"The Chosen is based on the true stories of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Some locations and timelines have been combined or condensed. Back stories and some characters have been added. However, all Biblical content and any artistic imaginations are designed to support the truth and intention of the Scriptures. Viewers are encouraged to read the gospels."*

**Dorothy Lusmore**

## **Jonathan Roumie**

**Jonathan Roumie**, the actor at the centre of the highest-grossing crowdfunded media project in history, *The Chosen*, credits his Catholic faith as the foundation of his portrayal of Jesus. The actor revealed how, providentially, events within his life led to his casting in *The Chosen*, a series highlighting the ministry of Jesus.



‘My mother is Roman Catholic — she’s from Ireland — and my father is from Egypt, and his father is from Syria. I was raised Greek Orthodox, baptized Greek Orthodox, but later transitioned to Roman Catholic, when we moved from New York City to the suburbs,’ Roumie told the

*Catholic Register*. ‘What really has resonated with me is that both are sacramentally based. This is how I have found myself really going deeper into my faith — through the sacraments.’

Jonathan explained that, while never falling away from his faith, he did have what he called a ‘deeper conversion’ within the last few years. ‘There was never really a point in my life where I felt I was disconnected from my faith: maybe a little lukewarm, a little casual at times — never disconnected. God’s been too prevalent in my life, from as long as I can remember.’

Discussing how he has navigated an industry rife with moral compromise, he admitted that he had never faced having to turn down a high-paying role that violated his “red lines” of faith and morals. ‘Looking back, I know it must have been God preserving me until I was strong enough to face this reality. He stressed, ‘I’m interested in doing projects that uplift the human spirit.’ ‘I’m also very cognizant of the responsibility I have, now, playing this role of Jesus,’ he explained.

Speaking about his role as the Son of God, Roumie mused, ‘For me, as a Christian, if I really am practicing my faith, God is part of my existence in everything that I do; so I’m not only acknowledging him, fully and completely with my being, but I am trying to evaluate how this role can better be served through my faith, through the lens of my faith.’

## Encounters with Jesus – Lent theme

Our theme for Lent this year is 'Encounters with Jesus'. Sunday morning services will include a Lent liturgy, placing objects below the bare cross, to help us focus our thoughts on Jesus' journey to the Cross.

Then, instead of following the set lectionary readings, for the first four weeks, preachers will be invited to choose a story about an encounter with Jesus which they have found particularly meaningful and share their thoughts.

This will complement the series of episodes from The Chosen being shown on Wednesdays, but will be just as meaningful for those who have not been able to see the films.

## Maundy Thursday

For many years it was our custom to have a simple meal followed by the service of Tenebrae on Maundy Thursday Evening.

Since lockdown we have had a simpler Tenebrae service in the church in the evening, but no meal, and just a handful of people have attended.

The Tenebrae Service is an ancient tradition: Bible readings tell the story of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and lights are gradually extinguished as the story unfolds.

We have not put anything in the plan this year, but waited to see what demand there would be. If you would appreciate a Tenebrae service of some kind on Maundy Thursday evening, and are likely to attend, please let Pat Fry or Rev. Tim Searle know by Sunday 9 March at the latest, and if there is sufficient demand we will plan accordingly.

**Pat Fry, Worship Lead**

## Highlights of Holiday in Spain and North Africa.

### (Part 1 of Rosie MacMullen's Trip)

After a few rocky days on board with no access to the deck apart from brief forays by a few brave passengers, I was glad to dock at Cadiz. Enjoying the sunshine I strolled along the pretty pedestrian area then aimed uphill to the Cathedral. It was a long climb to this imposing building, which took 130 years to build, so it was a relief to enter.



Started in Baroque style and completed in Neoclassical the Cathedral contains rococo elements. Its chapels have many paintings and relics from

the old cathedral and from monasteries from throughout Spain. I noticed how Christ's image was darker faced than I had ever seen and there was a golden angel on the column of the main Chapel. I did not think I should be clicking my camera as it was very quiet, but photographs are available online. There was a detailed auditory guide which I have to admit was so full of information my poor brain didn't take it all in. Google would come to my rescue when I got home. It was all so crammed with glorious paintings and gold and silver artefacts I found it overwhelming. Head spinning, I felt I needed a restorative cappuccino, so headed for a cafe and tried out my rusty spanish on the friendly barista.





I found my way to the stunning Plaza de Espana with its large trees giving welcoming shade and its magnificent Monument to the Cortez of Cadiz of 1812.

It was designed to represent a theatre stage on

which stand two figures representing Spain and Hercules. The scene is completed by other allegorical figures symbolising peace, war, industry and agriculture. Relief sculptures depict scenes from the War of Independence. At the centre there is a tall group of columns, crowned by statues of female figures holding up the Book of the 1812 Constitution. This monument gave such a passionate picture of Spanish history.

I felt so glad I had had the courage to go solo. Without boundaries I was able to walk at my own pace and wander at will. I felt free and part of the scene being not just one of a guided tour.

Back on board I gave my legs a well-earned rest, had an al-fresco chicken salad and then had a swim before easing my stiff shoulders in the bubbly jacuzzi. I felt as bubbly as the jacuzzi having had my first adventure without mishap!

**Rosemary MacMullen**

## Caring for Others.

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.' **Luke 10:38-42**

If you're someone who has many burdens laid on them, who feels as if you're the only one doing the work, then it is easy to see yourself in this story – even down to the lashing out at those whom you love. If you're someone who spends time in contemplation and reflection, then this passage might resonate because you may have felt yourself belittled and chastised because others don't think that you pull your weight.

In reading this passage, it is all too easy to jump to the conclusion that one type – the reflective and meditative type exemplified by Mary – is better than the busy and hardworking type that is exemplified by Martha. Jesus is obviously making a distinction between the sisters, but it can in no way suggest that there is only one way to behave whatever the time or situation. If that were the case, then very little, if anything would ever be achieved at all.

We should be wary of trying to distinguish and classify different ways of being faithful. There is a place for reflection and contemplation, just as there is a place for action. Neither is good in isolation, and neither is to be seen as being superior.

It is not what we do, per se, that is the problem, but it is the motivation behind our action that reveals our heart. It was not that Martha was busying herself preparing food and exercising hospitality that was an issue, for surely Jesus would have appreciated whatever provision was given to him.

What was a problem however, was that Martha seemed to be more caught up in the doing, in the fulfilment of the role of hostess, than she was in the actual care of her guest. Martha was not aware of what Jesus wanted; she was only aware of what she thought she had to do.

William Barclay draws our attention to this tendency to 'decide that we have to do something' that is in us all. He says, "So often we want to be kind to people – but we want to be kind to them in our way."

This is a dangerous way to model our actions, and we need to guard against it. Whenever we seek to care for others, we truly need to look to their needs and not our own.

### **Prayer**

Loving God,

Help us to reflect your compassionate heart in our lives.

Help us to truly look out for others' needs

and not simply give them what we think will be best for them.

May we give as we have ourselves received,

without prejudice, and without expecting anything in return.

In Jesus' name, we pray.

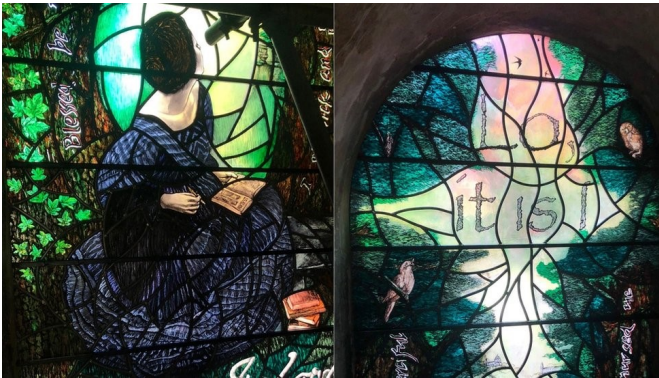
Amen.

The Revd Martyn Neads, Minister, from URC Daily Devotions

*Elena Popova writes about someone from the United Church who lives out this 'true care for others' on page 22. (Ed.)*

## This Month's Front Cover

This month's front cover is a photo of the Calling Window in Romsey Abbey. It depicts a 'modest Hampshire woman who went on to have a global impact on many aspects of social care, health, sanitation and nursing' in the words of the designer, Sophie Hacker.



Florence Nightingale is known to all as the founder of nursing, an inspirational figure in the Crimean War. When Helen

Popova talked to the South Wonston House Group about the life of Florence, in a series on famous Christians, those of us present were not so aware of her calling, at the age of sixteen. It took place on Good Friday, as she was seated on a stone bench in the grounds of Embley Park, turning towards a bright light breaking in between the twin trunks of a cedar tree.

Four words emerge, 'Lo, it is I'. For Nightingale, these words summed up the essence of Christian faith, as Christ rises above the chaos of the world, walking on troubled waters, bringing consolation and peace. This faith was the source of her inspiring work and influence throughout her life.

The light radiates outwards, in the shape of the cross. For Nightingale, Good Friday represented the most important day of

the Christian year, reflecting her lifelong choice to place sacrifice and service above all things.

There is so much to meditate on in this window and you can see a full description on Sophie Hacker's website [bit.ly/4hNiq2w](https://bit.ly/4hNiq2w). It was installed in 2022. The House Group is going on an outing to see it in May.

**Bob Lord**



**Vintage Fun**

All welcome!



**Spring Quiz**

**Monday 10th March**

**2 - 4 pm**

At the

**United Church**

Jewry Street, Winchester SO23 8RZ

**Vintage Fun** is a monthly afternoon of friendship over a cup of tea. Each afternoon will offer a variety of activities, with tea and cake.



## A Volunteer

She radiates happiness and contentment as if nothing could ever trouble her. Always smiling and ready for a friendly chat, she stands out because her interest is genuine. When she asks how you are, it's not just polite conversation—she truly wants to know.

Another remarkable aspect of Yvonne is how busy she always seems to be. What keeps her so occupied? Many things, but family comes first. Her large, extended family spans several generations, and everyone—nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, and her three children—holds a special place in her heart and schedule. These deep family bonds bring vibrant colour to her life and fuel her travels across the UK and beyond.

Volunteering is another significant part of Yvonne's life. She's everywhere—playing with children at the Saturday Meet and Greet hubs welcoming people at Sunday services, visiting seniors or ill friends, and more.

Yet, her greatest passion is the Link to Hope Shoe Appeal, a cause she has dedicated over 20 years to. Tireless, focused, and energetic, Yvonne channels her devotion into creating small boxes filled with essential items: erasers and rulers, warm gloves and hats, toy cars, torches, and more. These boxes bring hope and relief to those in war-torn or disaster-affected regions, including Ukraine.

Yvonne's unwavering dedication and compassion make her truly extraordinary.

I love and admire you, dear, dear Yvonne.



**Elena Popova**

## News of the Wider Church



**Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)** founder and a World War II veteran, Jack Hemmings, died on 24 January aged 103. A former RAF Squadron Leader, his aviation career began at 19, volunteering as an air crewman in 1940. Stationed in British India, he fought against Imperial Japan and earned the Air Force Cross for gallantry while flying. In

1945 Hemmings co-founded MAF with fellow RAF veteran Stuart King, initially in UK and America. During the following four years MAF was launched in Mexico, Africa, Australia, and the Pacific. "The international Good Samaritan of the air," grew into one of the world's largest aerial aid organisations and is committed to isolated communities, delivering aid across the world.



Jack Hemmings is also thought to be the oldest man ever to fly a Spitfire, taking to the skies in the iconic aircraft just last year. *"We were all of one mind; namely that wartime had given us a skill that we wanted to offer to God. There was much prayer. And Stuart and I, well,*

*we just went."*

For more information about Mission Aviation Fellowship see [maf-uk.org/](http://maf-uk.org/)

**Pope Francis** sharply criticised U.S. President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown in an unusual open letter to America's Catholic bishops, saying criminalising migrants and taking measures built on force "will end badly". The Pope, who last month called Trump's plan to deport millions of migrants a "disgrace", said it was wrong to assume that all undocumented

immigrants were criminals. 'I exhort all the faithful of the Catholic Church ... not to give in to narratives that discriminate against and cause unnecessary suffering to our migrant and refugee brothers and sisters,' said the pontiff.

**Several Christian humanitarian organisations** are raising alarm over the Trump administration's decision to cut USAID-funded programs and offices worldwide. Major refugee organisations have taken legal action against the administration. The International Refugee Assistance Project, representing Church World Service and other faith-based groups, has filed a lawsuit challenging the executive order that suspended the federal refugee resettlement program and its funding.

**Christian leaders** are voicing strong opposition to the Assisted Dying Bill as new amendments are introduced to ensure more rigorous safeguards. New proposals include requiring doctors to outline a full spectrum of care options—including palliative care—before assisted dying is discussed. Christian MP, Rachael Maskell, who voted against the bill, has launched a commission into palliative and end-of-life care. She is advocating for a comprehensive public consultation, emphasising the need to consider the lived experiences of those facing end-of-life decisions. Speaking to Premier Christian News, Maskell criticised the legislative process, stating the bill is being 'forced through Parliament. 'This process is asking MPs, who don't know anything about medicine to prescribe what happens at the end of someone's life? This isn't how we should be doing politics,'





**Communion cannot be gluten free** or non-alcoholic say Anglican rules. At the Church of England's general Synod Rev Canon Alice Kemp is proposing a motion to expand inclusivity by permitting the use of gluten-free bread and non-alcoholic wine during communion. Last week Synod voted against the proposal.

A spokesperson for the Church of England says that currently, there are 'non-alcoholic' and 'gluten-free' options available in churches – yet both alternatives contain very low traces of alcohol or gluten, making them technically legitimate communion under the canon. Foods which contain less the 20 parts of gluten per milligram can be labelled gluten-free



**Folk-rock band Mumford and Sons** have released a teaser to their upcoming album, which includes an apparent reference to the Bible. The short clip features lead singer Marcus Mumford singing the line 'You're all I want, you're all I need, and I'll find peace beneath the shadow of your wings', which appears to be a paraphrase of

Psalm 17:8. 'Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.' The track is likely to appear on the band's new album 'Rushmere', due for release on 28th March. The Grammy award-winning group have alluded to the Bible in many of their songs and often write lyrics themed around grace, redemption and hope.

**Marcus Mumford** is the son of **Vineyard Churches UK and Ireland** founders, John and Eleanor Mumford.

**Dorothy Lusmore**

## Comedy Corner



Much better than that other weird restaurant which seated us on only one side of a long table



The deadline for April Yours is **Monday 17 March** All contributions welcome. Send to [yours@ucw.org.uk](mailto:yours@ucw.org.uk).





# The CHOSEN



Taster Sessions

7pm 5 12 19 March

All Welcome

**The United Church, Jewry St, Winchester**

The Chosen is a groundbreaking historical drama based on the life of Jesus seen through the eyes of those who knew Him. It is an American TV series written and developed by an independent Christian team led by Dallas Jenkins. All expenses have been raised from the public by crowd funding. This means there is no obligation to any commercial organisation and it may be available freely to all. Quickly becoming popular, news of the series spread, mostly by word of mouth.

It has been watched worldwide, subtitled with 26 different languages and dubbed in many more. Set against the backdrop of daily life under Roman occupation in first century Israel, the Chosen gives an authentic and intimate look at Jesus's life and teachings and how he interacted with the people around Him,



*See pages 10-11 for more information (Ed.)*



## Services for March 2025

In-person and live-streamed

### 2 MARCH

10.30 am **Morning Worship (HC)** Revd Tim Searle

### 9 MARCH LENT 1

10.30 am **Morning Worship** Pat Fry

### 16 MARCH LENT 2

9.00 am **Holy Communion** Revd Tim Searle

10.30 am **Morning Worship** Revd Tim Searle

*followed by the Annual Church Meeting*

### 23 MARCH LENT 3

10.30 am **Morning Worship** Tom Belshaw

### 30 MARCH LENT 4 MOTHERING SUNDAY

10.30 am **Morning Worship** Margaret Axford

HC: Holy Communion

UCW website: [ucw.org.uk/streamed-services/](https://ucw.org.uk/streamed-services/)

YouTube: [tinyurl.com/ucw-services](https://tinyurl.com/ucw-services)

