



September 2020



Our love for God is shown by the way we treat others

To all our lovely families,

Welcome back to Teatime Church!

We hope that you had a really wonderful summer holiday and managed to enjoy some rest and recuperation over the past six weeks – hard with little ones to entertain, I know!

September's Teatime Church theme is all about how we treat one another in our communities, helping one another to live as Jesus wants us to. We can only live well if we help each other, as the recent situation has shown.



STORYTIME ONLINE

Thank you so much for all your views of our May, June and July's online Storytime Sessions – our online Teatime Church Service videos. These are still currently available to view via <https://www.westbury-parish-church.org.uk/youth-and-family/4-o-clock-service/> but will shortly be taken down so please do have a look this week if you haven't already! In total, they have had over 250 views, which is such great news! Watch out for my cat, Tink, making a surprise guest appearance in July's service, presented from my garden! September's online service will be out later this month on our website, so watch this space!



TEATIME CHURCH



July Teatime Church Newsletter [Download](#)

Be friends with others; be friends with God

Today's Teatime Church theme is based on the Gospel of Matthew 18: 15-20.



“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

Jesus is teaching his disciples how to talk with each other. To maintain friendships, Jesus is teaching his disciples how to let hurt feelings out through talking things through – one to one or within a supportive group.

At the end of today's passage, Jesus says that wherever two or more of his disciples are gathered, that is also where he is. When they are gathered together, with Jesus, then they will be much better able to know how to receive and share God's love.

Creative activities

These suggested activities are designed to encourage the family to consider today's Gospel passage whilst having fun together and getting creative in an easy, accessible way.

Make a symbol of restored relationships



You will need: A piece of card, a pack of different coloured paper, glue.

Give your child/children a different coloured piece of paper. Ask them to think of times they have been wronged or upset, and to tear a piece off their paper for each one.

As they do this, begin to gather their torn pieces of paper together.

When they have reflected on the events and ripped up their paper, ask your child/children to use all the pieces of paper to create a mosaic of something beautiful, e.g. a tree, a flower, a heart or a butterfly.

After they have finished, talk with the children about how beautiful things can come from dealing with things that have upset us.

Make a friendship cloud to list the best qualities of your friend or sibling



Make a friendship bracelet



Watch the following YouTube video to give you simple step by step instructions to make these lovely bracelets! You will need: three colours of different embroidery threads, a safety pin and a button <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2rq-btMNF1>

We would love to see any pictures of your creative activities from any of our newsletters over the past few months. Please email them to me at familyworker@westbury-parish-church.org.uk

A prayer about friendship

Dear God,
we go back to our communities;
the places where we live,
where we learn to listen to you
and to each other
and act on what we hear.
Be with us, Lord.
Amen.

We would love to see prayers that you or your child/children/grandchildren have written in our online services, newsletters or Parish Magazine. Please just email them to me and they will be included!

Supporting Family Worship in the home

If you want a bit more support with engaging with family worship and prayer in the home during this time then you might find the following website helpful:

<https://redland.org.uk/resources>

Scripture Union, which offers resources to support the mental health of children of all ages, has produced a great range of resources. Visit <https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/lockdown>

Remember that if you visit our website: <https://www.westbury-parish-church.org.uk> or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/wotchurch/> you can access our services online.

Please remember that the clergy team and congregation at Holy Trinity church are always here to support you. Please contact me or the parish office office@westbury-parish-church.org.uk for prayer support or to have an informal chat with a member of the clergy/youth team.

Community announcements

Westbury CE Academy starters 2020



Has your child started at Westbury-on-Trym CE Academy in September 2020? Would you like to meet other parents from Holy Trinity Church who also have children that have started at the Academy? If so, please email me and I can put you all in touch!

Limited re-opening of the church



The church building is now open for some services and for private prayer at limited times. Please visit the website or contact the Parish Office for further details.



Questionnaire to help inform our next steps

We are really keen to hear YOUR views on the current set-up of Teatime Church and how we can best support our children and families.

You will shortly receive an email with a few questions about the current set-up and what you would like to see happen over the next few months.

We would really appreciate you taking the time to complete the questions to help guide us in our next step forwards. Thank you so much.

Georgie
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