



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

Broadfield Community Centre, Broadfield Barton, Crawley. Reg. Charity no. 1081321

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NewsFlash!

Sunday 7th May 2023

This morning 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall
Worship: Viv Evans; Speaker: Ian Johnson

*We offer a warm welcome to all visitors to our worship today
If you would like to know more about us, please ask one of the leaders*

Monday 7.00pm: Prayer Meeting on Zoom
Tuesday 7.30pm: Home Group at Steph & Shell's
Wednesday 9.15am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall
Next Sunday 9.00am: Open up and set up hall for worship
9.30am: Prayer Meeting
10.00am: Tea & Coffee
10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall
Led by students from IBTI

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

The Coronation of King Charles III and its Christian Significance

I couldn't really not mention it, so I'm sharing with you an excerpt from article in *Christianity*:

In the Bible, kings and rulers generally don't have very positive reviews. In the Old Testament, the people of God are led by judges and priests, until they start crying out for a king to be like other nations. Previously, God has been seen as the people's king, and so this desire for a human ruler is not well received. In the end, God approves their request and Saul is chosen as the first King of Israel. Saul starts well but ends badly and is replaced by King David. David reigns for a long time and is held up as the archetypal good king – a man after God's own heart – despite his many failing and foibles, including adultery, murder, self-indulgence and vanity.

After David comes his son Solomon, described as the wisest man who ever lived, but Solomon also goes off the rails, and by the time his son Rehoboam takes over, the nation is not in good shape, eventually dividing into two – Israel and Judah. After that, most of the kings who are written about in the Old Testament are portrayed negatively.

In the New Testament, Jesus is also described as a king, the true king of Israel and indeed of the whole world. Even Pontius Pilate, who signs Jesus' death warrant, writes on it "the King of the Jews." But his model of kingship is very different to that of those Old Testament rulers, and indeed many rulers today. His kingship is not about power or prestige, wealth or status. Most people who came across him in the 1st Century would not have thought he was a king of any kind, and when he was sentenced to death and crucified, then faith in Jesus as God's chosen king would have been very difficult to sustain. But the consistent witness of those who were there and wrote about these things is that Jesus rose from death after three days, and that one day he will return to this world. At that point heaven and earth will be renewed and reconciled, and Jesus will reign, the King of justice and of peace.

Much of this lies behind the symbolism of the coronation of King Charles III. For example, the ring he will receive is marked with a cross, a reminder of the ultimate King in whose footsteps he follows. The rod he will receive is topped with a dove, the symbol of the Holy Spirit, whose wisdom he will need to rule well. The orb, a representation of the earth, is crowned with a cross as a reminder that Jesus is the ultimate king of the world. And the oil with which he will be anointed is another symbol of the Holy Spirit, a prayer that God will anoint and equip the King to serve this nation.

So while Christians will differ in how they think about the system of monarchy and how they feel about the coronation of our new King, all will agree that Jesus is in the end the world's one King, and will want to pray that King Charles will be led by the Holy Spirit to follow in Jesus' footsteps.

From <https://www.christianity.org.uk/article/the-coronation-of-king-charles-iii-and-the-christian-faith>

Diary Dates

Tuesday 23rd May, 7.00pm: Church Meeting in the Small Hall

Saturday/Sunday 17th/18th June, 12.00–4.00pm: Broadfield Arts Festival

Saturday 29th–Saturday 5th August 2023: Revive 2023 "Pursuing The Unshakeable" at Ashburnham Place with Pete Greig; bookings now open at revivelive.co.uk, 10% discount for bookings made and paid for by 31st May

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing. (Isaiah 43:18-19a)