



15-21 May 2022 • Faith 24/7

What next?

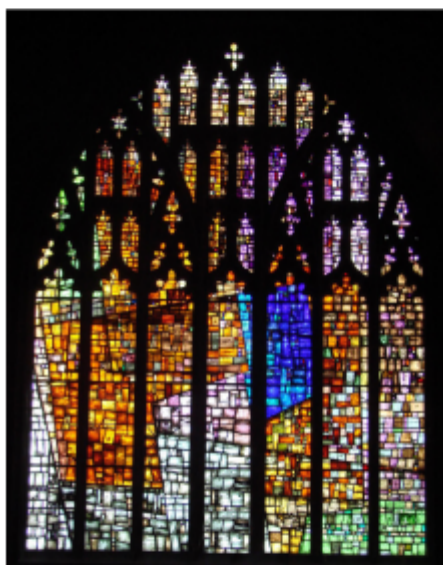
Revelation 21.1-6

John sees a vision of a new heaven and a new earth. As God's city, descends to the earth, he hears a voice saying that God is coming to live with human beings.

Now read Revelation 21.1-6 see p.2 for text.

A note on the passage

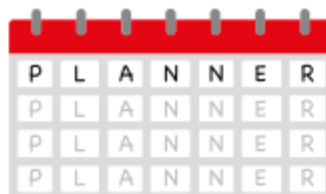
As the Christians of Asia Minor in the first century AD looked around them, they must have seen the world as a hostile place. As they suffered persecution, they may have felt that God was far away, too distant to offer them the protection they desired. What could be more reassuring then, than John's vision? In it, the frightening world around them was made new and God was coming down from heaven to live with them. They could live in the present knowing that this future had been promised to them.



What glimpses of heaven can be seen in the world around us?



Using Lego™ blocks, or Minecraft™, try to build the new Jerusalem as you imagine it might have appeared to John. If you need some inspiration, try looking at this model: <http://blog.susanevans.org/lego-new-jerusalem/>
 Do you picture more buildings than this? What would they look like?



Every evening this week, think ahead to the next day. What are your plans? Have you scheduled in any time for God? In Revelation, John sees God's plan to make everything new. Can you plan to do something new every day this week? Write your ideas down so that you remember to try!

Pray

The people with whom John first shared his vision were worried about the persecution they faced every day. We probably worry about different things, but we can bring those worries to God, asking for reassurance. Think about what worries you the most and say this prayer:
 Loving God, I know that you are the beginning and the end, and that you have a plan for your creation. I'm really worried about [...]. Please help me to see that one day you will make everything new. **Amen.**



We can look forward to a future when God comes to live among humanity, but, at present, we have the responsibility to protect the world we live in. Take a walk in your neighbourhood. Has the area been spoiled by people who have dropped litter? Play your part in renewing the world God has given to us by taking a bin bag and picking up the rubbish you find.



Place Jesus on the Throne

On a large piece of paper, draw the throne in heaven which John describes in his vision. Draw a picture of Jesus to fit the throne and cut it out. Attach the throne picture to a wall or a door. Now play a game based on 'pin the tail on the donkey', blindfolding each participant in turn and challenging them to seat Jesus on the throne.



Please continue to pray for Olga, Orest and their three children as they make their way to Worcester.

Pray for Ukraine

Lots of Dates for the Diary

<p style="text-align: center;">Chelmsford Court</p> <p>is holding an 'Open Morning' on Friday 20th May from 9.30 - 12.30. We have been invited to attend and to invite anyone else who is interested There is also a Coffee Morning to raise funds. Flyers about this will be available to take away.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ascension Day</p> <p>is a major festival in the church calendar, and everyone should make every effort to be in church. This year the Deanery are coming together for the service at St Martin's Church 7.00 p.m. on Thursday 26th May. Please do try to be there.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">ATIC Thanksgiving Service for the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 29th May 10.00 a.m. at Ronkswood Community Centre.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Everyone is welcome - do invite others to come.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Community Jubilee Party on Thursday 2nd June from 2-4 pm on Newtown Green - bookable but free! We are running a Tombola for the event so any donations of non-perishable household items, sweets, trinkets etc would be gratefully received. Plus offers of help on the day. Please speak to Penny if you can help.</p>	

Acts 11.1-18 in brief...Peter explains his encounter with Cornelius, the Roman centurion, and why he had baptized Gentiles who had accepted the word of God and received the Holy Spirit. The pouring of the Spirit on Jewish Christians was interpreted as the fulfilment of God's word through the prophet Joel (Acts 2.14-21) and, remembering Jesus. The same God, who had inspired the prophets and spoken in Jesus, granted Peter his vision as he was praying in Joppa (10.9-16). The response of the Church is to praise the God now leading them forward to become a community drawn from all nations.

Daily Readings for week commencing 16th May, 2022		
Monday	Numbers 9: 15-end; 10: 33-end	Luke 4: 38-end
Tuesday	Numbers 11: 1-33	Luke 5: 1-11
Wednesday	Numbers 12	Luke 5: 12-26
Thursday	Numbers 13: 1-3, 17-end	Luke 5: 27-end
Friday	Numbers 14: 1-25	Luke 6: 1-11
Saturday	Numbers 14: 26-end	Luke 6: 12-26

Pray for those in need...Please pray for the people of Ukraine...for those in need of God's healing touch...Heather, Dorothy, Pat, Sue, Joyce, Maureen, Shane, Bryn, Katie-Lou, Margaret and Alison... **Please pray for those who mourn the loss of a loved one, remembering the souls of ...Pamela, Eric, and Jane.**