

Battle Baptist Church

Being Transformed Together



21st November 2021

Have you not known?
Have you not heard?

The Lord is the
everlasting God,

the Creator of the
ends of the earth.

Isaiah 40:28



Our God is near

In the early years of space exploration, the journey around the Earth and the later Moon landings, perhaps the most significant pictures we received were those of the Earth itself and the audibly emotional response of the astronauts to the views of our planet. The colours of our blue, gold, green and white sphere suspended in the black universe were overwhelmingly amazing.

The views made us wonder about the activities on our planet from the vantage point of the spaceship cameras and how such a beautiful creation could be the home of so much poverty, racial disharmony, physical and mental suffering, greed, serial warfare, disease and environmental pollution.

But we are all aware through what we know by TV and radio reports and world history going back thousands of years that this is a true reflection of what exists.

We can all find our little bit of heaven if we visit the Lake District, ramble through the beautiful Sussex countryside or cruise the rivers and oceans (if we can afford to); but deep down we know this is far from overall reality and that the world around us has been contaminated by sin originating from disobedience to God the Creator as recorded in Genesis chapter 3. So we are thankful that we have a Saviour who loves us and through whom we have salvation and a relationship with the Living God.

In 1990 a song entitled "From a Distance" (written by American song writer Julie Gold) was recorded by Bette Midler and became very popular. The song takes up the theme of our beautiful planet and the tongue in cheek unreality of believing it is all as perfect as it appears. If you are able, try and download the song, but here are the lyrics:

'What are mere mortals
that you should think about
them, human beings that
you should care for them?'

Psalm 8:4

"What is the price of five
sparrows - two copper
coins? Yet God does not
forget a single one of them,
And the very hairs on your
head are all numbered. So
don't be afraid; you are
more valuable to God than a
whole flock of sparrows."

Luke 12:6,7

From a distance	It's the voice of hope	We are instruments
The world looks blue and green	It's the voice of peace	Marching in a common band
And the snow-capped mountains white.	It's the voice of every man	Playing songs of hope
From a distance	From a distance	Playing songs of peace
The oceans meet the streams	We all have enough	They are the songs of every man
And the eagle takes to flight	And no one is in need	
From a distance	There are no guns	<i>God is watching us</i>
There is harmony	No bombs, and no disease	<i>God is watching us</i>
And it echoes through the land	No hungry mouths to feed	<i>God is watching us</i>
	From a distance	<i>From a distance...¹</i>

However, the chorus, "God is watching us from a distance," is just not true. Even though we live in troubled times with so much conflict spoiling our wonderful world, as we maintain our trust in Christ as Lord we can know security in Him for now and all eternity.

Keith

¹ © Wing & Wheel Music / Julie Gold Music

'Sing for joy, O heavens!
Rejoice, O earth!
Burst into song,
O mountains!
For the Lord has comforted
his people and will have
compassion on them in
their suffering...

See, I have written your
name on the palms of my
hands.'

Isaiah 49:13,16a

PRAYER POINTERS

Ethiopia

For over a year, there has in effect been civil war in the Tigray region of Ethiopia. A blockade is preventing aid from reaching the area, and many people have been displaced and are facing a dire humanitarian situation.

For our fellowship

Please pray for those in our fellowship who are ill, and for those who have long term health issues. For good sleep and a closeness to our Saviour. For resilience and peace. For effective medical treatments and recovery.

Renew 1066

Please be praying for the team as they seek to find a premises to meet in from the new year. And pray for those in our community who are using the space: may they sense the love of the Lord as they spend time here.

NEWSLETTER

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Battle Baptist Church is part of Life with Hope Trust; registered charity 1134288, Mount Street, Battle,

East Sussex TN33 0EG.

- Website: www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk
- Telephone and answerphone (01424) 774825 • Email: office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk
- Caterpillar Preschool direct telephone line: (01424) 774997.

Church maintenance issues:

zionpremisesteam@gmail.com



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our next **Garden Work Party** will be on Wednesday 24th November at 9.30am. We would love to see you there! Please message Melanie on 07956 084681 to let her know you can help.

Membership: An application for membership has been received from Ewan Jones. As is our custom, if any member would like to comment on Ewan's application, please get in touch with the Elders.

Men's breakfast: Andy Dyer will be speaking at the next Men's breakfast at The Chequers Inn on 11th December (meet at 9am). Contact Rob Hamilton to book a place. **Revised cost:** £10, to include food and unlimited drinks.

Foodbank: This week donations of the following items would be particularly welcome: tins of cold meat; jam; pasta sauce; sponge puddings; rice pudding; custard. **Christmas:** The Foodbank would value festive donations by Tuesday 7th

December if at all possible. Items such as mince pies (please check dates); small Christmas cakes; Christmas puddings; chocolate and sweets would be much appreciated.

WORLD VIEW

'By the end of 2023, the UK will have a new landmark: a monument to answered prayer, visible from six miles away. The [Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer](#) will be made from a million bricks, each one representing an answered prayer. It is designed to declare: 'Jesus is alive. He listens. He answers.'

It's a Möbius strip. The idea is that it's a never-ending loop which represents no-one being on the outside: so it's a very invitational design. It means you can just keep going and exploring. And each answered prayer will represent a facet of God's character that is eternal.' Source: WEC



What's on this week...

Caterpillar Pre-School is open Monday - Friday this week..

Sunday 21st November - Remembrance Sunday

- 10am **Worship Gathering** with Communion at the Chapel followed by refreshments in the Manna House

Monday 22nd November

- 9.30am **Prayer Meeting**
- 9 - 11am **Caterpillar Toddlers**
- 3.30 - 5pm **Chosta** for years 7 - 13.
- 7.30pm **Leadership Meeting** in the Youth Room

Tuesday 23rd November

- 10 - 11am **Walking Football** at the Rec
- 2pm **Tuesday Fellowship** Speaker: Jenny Dudgeon

Wednesday 24th November

- 10am - 12 noon **Renew 1066** in the Manna House
- 12.30pm **Elders' business meeting** (Youth Room)
- 6.30pm **BTFC Runners** meet at the Chapel

Thursday 25th November

- 9.30am **Prayer Meeting**
- 3.15 - 5pm **After School Club** for KS2 children

Friday 26th November

- 7.30 - 8.15am **Early Morning Prayers** in the Youth Room followed by do-it-yourself breakfast.
- 10.30am - 12 noon **Coffee Club** in the Youth Room
- 7 - 9pm **BBC Youth**

Sunday 28th November

- 10am **Worship Gathering** at the Chapel followed by refreshments in the Manna House
- 4pm **Family Service** in the Chapel (in person only). Join us for craft, music, games and fun with puppets!