

The Watford Word

www.watfordchurchofchrist.org

What's on

Sunday 06th Oct: 10:30 AM service. *Stefan speaking*

Sunday 13th Oct: 10:30 AM Harvest service.

Malcolm speaking

Sunday 20th Oct: 10:30 AM. *Malcolm speaking*

Sunday 27th Oct: 10:30 AM. *Malcolm speaking*

Sunday 03rd Nov: 10:30 AM service. *Stefan speaking.*

Sunday 10th Nov: 10:30 AM. *Remembrance Sunday.*

Lance Owen speaking

Sunday 17th Nov: 10:30 AM. *"Safeguarding Sunday"*

Sunday 24th Nov: 10:30 AM. *Malcolm speaking*

Sunday 01st Dec: 10:30 AM. *Stefan speaking*

Saturday 7th Dec: AIM UK&I - *"World Views"*

Sunday 08th Dec: 10:30 AM. *Dr Andy Boakye speaking.*

Sunday 15th Dec: 10:30 AM. *Malcolm speaking*

Sunday 22nd Dec: 10:30 AM. *Carol service*

Sunday 29th Dec: 10:30 AM. *Malcolm speaking*

Harvest Collection 13 October

This year, we will collect food items for the breakfast 'toast stations' at Laurance Haines School (where Becky works). Every classroom has a 'toast station' to ensure all children have breakfast before school begins. The school receives free donations of bread, but they need to buy jam and butter.



Please bring in jam or donate money towards butter. Any type of jam in jars will be fine. As the butter would need to be kept cold, we are requesting monetary donations towards butter.

Thank you! Steve & Sharon Clark

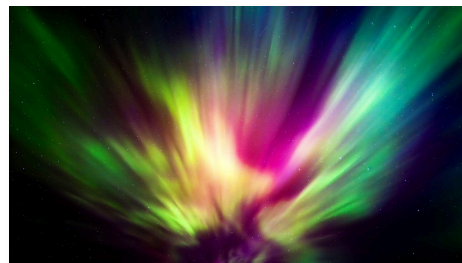
Guidance For Those Hosting Parts of Sunday Worship - Part 11.

Wrapping up the series

Today, we wrap up our series exploring why we do what we do at a Sunday gathering.

We have covered the New Testament and Old Testament perspectives, an introduction to the concept of 'hosting' worship, the aims of worship, general guidelines for attitude and practice, welcoming people, praying on our behalf, announcements and updates, testimonies, the Lord's Supper, the closing prayer, preaching, and in-between bits and pieces.

Let me offer a few final thoughts on what is *happening* when we gather for worship.



I. Cosmic Worship

What we do when we gather for worship here in this simple building echoes in the cosmos. As John Mark Hicks, Bobby Valentine, and Mark Wilson put it:

"Through Assembly, we enter the Holy of Holies as a community drawn from every nation, language, and tribe, and we join the community already gathered there—the saints who have gone before us." *Embracing Creation*

Jesus himself worships with us when we gather. He 'preaches' to us and sings with us,

“He says, “I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises.””
(Hebrews 2:12 NIV11)

When we sing, pray, fellowship, take the Lord's Supper, and learn together, we connect with all the Lord's people past and present. Our worship adds to the vast worship chorus of eternity.

2. God at work

God is with us at all times, but perhaps our awareness of his presence is most liminal at times of worship with our spiritual family. He offers himself to us for whatever we need. He is willing and able to provide what we require.

As an example from Scripture, consider that it was collective prayer that moved God to send his Holy Spirit and progress his mission by supplying boldness to his people,

“After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.” (Acts 4:31)

When we worship, God works.

Conclusion

As you can see, meeting on Sunday is *much more* than tea and teaching!

How do these thoughts make you feel about coming to worship on a Sunday? How does it help *you* in *your* worship? Will you *think* differently about anything? Will you *behave* differently in worship? Will you *prepare* differently before coming on Sunday? Why not share your ideas with another person here today?

Finally, pray that God will make us more aware of our cosmic connections and how he can empower us to get his work done.

God bless, Malcolm

Watford Outreach

Lance, Emi, Stefan, Bronwen, and I have been working on ideas to help with our common vision of spreading the Gospel in Watford. We are

looking at creating two connected but different resources.

Equipping

The first is an equipping series to give us confidence in sharing the Gospel. We are talking about things like how to start conversations about faith, how to answer common questions and objections about Christianity, and how to teach the Bible effectively to people who are seeking God.

Gathering

The second is a regular time and space to invite our friends to learn together. These occasions could comprise a mix of teaching gospel basics (elements of what we call the 'guard the gospel' series), testimonies, and answering questions. The aim is for our friends to experience the promise of Jesus:

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30)

How do these ideas sound to you? Please give us some feedback.

Watford Contribution Details

Church bank account: Three Counties churches of Christ HSBC

Sort Code: 401915

Account Number: 04759613

Watford Media

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watfordchurchofchrist6708>

Podcast: <https://www.podbean.com/pu/pbblog-aiinq-1aef90>

