



3rd edition, 19 April 2020

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Words that meant so much as we shouted them towards the sea on Easter Sunday morning after we had watched a sliver of the sun as it rose above the horizon and before it disappeared behind the blanket of cloud wrapped across the rest of the skyline. It could potentially have been much less of a sight, as we had initially been looking much further South where the sky was a beautiful salmon pink with just a few patches of cloud and where we thought the sun was about to rise!

We hope that those of you who were able to view the Easter Sunday service that we produced felt joined with us through the power of the Holy Spirit (as well as that of the internet). If you haven't yet seen it you can find it on YouTube at this link: <https://youtu.be/UpFF3OMf9Fc> or search for "Monkseaton URC Easter service". For anyone that doesn't have access to the internet but does have a DVD player then we can make copies of it available to view that way instead. Please call us on 01670 354834 and leave a message and we will get one posted to you.

In this edition, in addition to our now regular features, we've got a biblical crossword to keep you puzzled for a while and an article from Lucy on her childhood connection with Newcastle Cathedral that has brought new meaning 40 years later. Please do consider submitting articles by email (standrewsnewstand@gmail.com) or by post to 4, Kingfisher Way, Blyth, NE24 3QR.



We hope that you continue to keep yourselves safe, in good spirits and in touch with each other and leave you with this final quotation:

"Remember, today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday." Dale Carnegie

*With love in Christ,
Tim Cooke*

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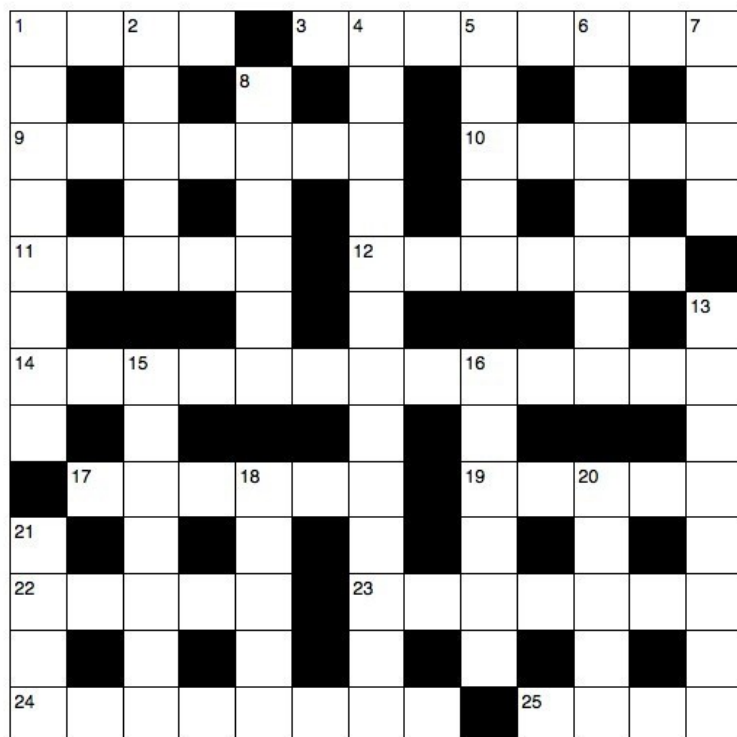
<http://standrewsmonseatonurc.org.uk>

   [monkseatonurc](https://www.instagram.com/monkseatonurc)

A crossword in place of any cross words

though you might have a few whilst doing this one!

You'll need your Bibles (and some history books). Answers on page 7.



Across

- 1 'Therefore let us — passing judgment on one another' (Romans 14:13) (4)
- 3 'I — — these persons here present' (Marriage service) (4,4)
- 9 According to a prearranged timetable (Numbers 28:3) (7)
- 10 Group of eight (5)
- 11 The cell into which the Philippian jailer put Paul and Silas (Acts 16:24) (5)
- 12 — Taylor, pioneer missionary to China (6)
- 14 Otherwise known as the Eucharist, Breaking of Bread, the Lord's Table (4,9)
- 17 'So that after I have preached to others, I — will not be disqualified for the prize' (1 Corinthians 9:27) (6)
- 19 Attend to (3,2)
- 22 Approximately (Acts 4:4) (5)
- 23 Tea rite (anag.) (7)
- 24 Rule of sovereign (8)
- 25 Test (anag.) (4)

Down

- 1 The name of the street where Judas lived in Damascus and where Saul of Tarsus stayed (Acts 9:11) (8)
- 2 'The playing of the merry — , sweet singing in the choir' (5)
- 4 'We have been saying that — — was credited to him as righteous' (Romans 4:9) (8,5)
- 5 Dr Martyn — Jones, famous for his ministry at Westminster Chapel (5)
- 6 Port at which Paul landed on his way to Rome (Acts 28:13) (7)
- 7 Observe (Ruth 3:4) (4)
- 8 Minister of religion (6)
- 13 'I am — of this man's blood. It is your responsibility' (Matthew 27:24) (8)
- 15 'Greater love has no one than this, that he — — his life for his friends' (John 15:13) (3,4)
- 16 Archbishop who calculated that the world began in 4004BC (6)
- 18 'No one can — the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit' (John 3:5) (5)
- 20 Establish by law (5)
- 21 Product of Gilead noted for its healing properties (Jeremiah 46:11) (4)

Minister's Musings

Dear Friends,

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

We are now in the season of Eastertide, which will last until Pentecost, 31 May this year.

After the resurrection, Christ appears – his wounds visible – to Mary Magdalene (John 20:11-18), the disciples on a mountain (Matthew 27:16) and in a locked room (John 20:19-29), Cleopas and his mate on

the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), and finally Peter, Thomas, Nathaniel, brothers James and John and two others on the shore of the Sea of Tiberias where they had breakfast (John 21). Each story has its marvel and poignancy; each speaks to

us in this time of quiet reflection. Mary thinks he's the gardener through her veil of tears and tries to cling to him when she realises it is he. The mountain top disciples receive a commission to share the good news the world over. The locked room disciples receive the gift of peace and the knowledge that they have the power to forgive sins. Cleopas and friend meet the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread, their hearts warmed within them. And on the lakeshore – the place they were first called – Peter heard the call to *Feed my sheep; tend my lambs*.

The resurrection appearances tell us that the risen Christ wants to live on in the bodies of those who love and follow him. As we enter our fifth week of lockdown, I reflect on the wonderful ways I have seen and heard Christ's love living on in the bodies of ordinary women and men. In our own congregation, I know of people who are shopping and delivering food for those who

are unable. Phone calls are being made, keeping us all connected, and cards are being written. One man, too deaf to be able to hear on a telephone, called his elder who has been faithfully writing cards, and sang to her on the telephone! People are reaching out from their gardens or daily walks or patios to connect with others. Someone is dressing up for Clap for Carers. You may not think much of it as you are doing it, but what you are doing is

extending Christ's love to others. You are reassuring them: you are not alone; we are in this together.

You will have your own stories of kindnesses received and witnessed. We are all tickled to bits (actually to tears) that soon

to be 100 year old Captain Tom Moore has raised millions for the NHS by walking laps in his garden. Every Thursday evening at 8pm I am moved (again to tears) as we all stand outside our houses and clap, whistle, whoop, bang and holler for the carers and key workers who every day are putting their lives on the line to keep us safe and healthy. Even the many jokes and videos

that pour into my email box and roll through Facebook are a healing balm. We need each other, in the flesh, by the phone, through the web. The better angels of our nature have emerged

and are winging through the sky, keeping us sane in a challenging time.

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Which we are all the more able to sing thanks to the precious gift the Cooke family gave to us on Easter morning.

Love,
Carla

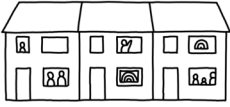
**"the risen Christ
wants to live on in the
bodies of those who
love and follow him"**



BEATITUDES

FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

BLESSED ARE THOSE
WHO STAY INDOORS



FOR THEY HAVE
PROTECTED OTHERS

BLESSED ARE THE
UNEMPLOYED AND THE
SELF-EMPLOYED



FOR THEIR NEED OF
GOD IS GREAT

BLESSED ARE THE
CORNER SHOPKEEPERS



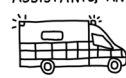
FOR THEY ARE THE
PURVEYORS OF SCARCE
THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE DELIVERY
DRIVERS AND THE POSTAL
WORKERS



FOR THEY ARE THE
BRINGERS OF ESSENTIAL
THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE HOSPITAL
WORKERS; THE AMBULANCE CREWS,
THE DOCTORS, THE NURSES, THE CARE
ASSISTANTS, AND THE CLEANERS



FOR THEY STAND BETWEEN US AND
THE GRAVE, AND THE KINGDOM OF
HEAVEN IS SURELY THEIRS

BLESSED ARE THE
CHECKOUT WORKERS



FOR THEY HAVE PATIENCE AND
FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF
OVERWORK AND FRUSTRATION

BLESSED ARE THE
REFUSE COLLECTORS



FOR THEY WILL SEE
GOD DESPITE THE
MOUNTAINS OF WASTE

BLESSED ARE THE
TEACHERS



FOR THEY REMAIN
STEADFAST AND
CONSTANT IN
DISTURBING TIMES

BLESSED ARE THE CHURCH
WORKERS; THE DEACONS,
PRIESTS AND BISHOPS



FOR THEY ARE A COMFORTING
PRESENCE IN A HURTING
WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO
SIGNPOST TOWARDS GOD

BLESSED ARE THE SINGLE
PARENTS,



FOR THEY ARE COPING
ALONE WITH THEIR
RESPONSIBILITIES AND
THERE IS NO RESPIRE

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO
ARE ALONE.



FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF
GOD AND WITH HIM THEY
WILL NEVER BE LONELY

BLESSED ARE THE
BEREAVED,



FOR WHOM THE WORST HAS
ALREADY HAPPENED. THEY
SHALL BE COMFORTED

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO
ARE ISOLATED WITH THEIR
ABUSERS



FOR ONE DAY-WE PRAY-
THEY WILL KNOW SAFETY

BLESSED ARE ALL DURING THIS TIME WHO HAVE PURE HEARTS;
ALL WHO STILL HUNGER AND THIRST FOR JUSTICE; ALL WHO
WORK FOR PEACE AND WHO MODEL MERCY



MAY YOU KNOW COMFORT. MAY YOU KNOW CALM. AND MAY THE
GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND
THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE WITH US ALL. AMEN

TEXT: JAYNE MANFREDI

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CartoonChurch.com

A hymn parody for all gardeners

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.
But what we never mention,
though gardeners know it's true,
Is when he made the goodies,
he made the baddies too.
All things spray and swatatable,
disasters great and small,
All things paraquatable,
the Lord God made them all.
The greenfly on the roses,
the maggots in the peas,
Manure that fills our noses
he also gave us these.
The fungus on the goose-gogs,
the club root on the greens,

The slugs that eat the lettuce
and chew the aubergines.
The drought that kills the fuchsias,
the frost that nips the buds,
The rain that drowns the seedlings,
the blight that hits the spuds.
The midges and mosquitoes,
the nettles and the weeds,
The pigeons in the green stuff,
the sparrows on the seeds.
The fly that gets the carrots,
the wasp that eats the plums,
How black the gardeners' outlook,
though green may be their thumbs.
But still we gardeners labour,
midst vegetables and flowers,
And pray that what hits neighbours
will somehow bypass ours.

Tuesday Prayers—at 9:30

Let us pray:

Prayer of Approach

We are the people of God, may we see You, hear You, feel You and touch You, may we know Your presence with us now.

And let us say the prayer our Lord Jesus Christ taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

Living and Loving Lord, we come before You with our prayers of Intercession and concerns for the needs of Your world.

At this time in our story we pray for the people of Your world who are in great need of Your comfort and strength, a world suffering from a global pandemic that has cut across all nations: the wealthy and powerful, the poverty-stricken, exploited and oppressed. Your world has been brought together by sickness, suffering and death.

Living and Loving God, we pray for the people who are sick, those in well-equipped hospitals and those in fragile make-shift shelters. We pray for all who are undergoing life-saving treatments at this time. We pray that they may feel Your presence, strength, comfort and love.

Living and Loving God, we hold before You all those who care, we ask Your blessings on nurses, doctors, nurses and carers in nursing homes, cleaners, ambulance drivers, and

support services. We pray for all those around the world working to maintain essential services bringing Your world together in care. We pray they may feel Your presence strength, comfort and love.

We hold in our prayers those who have died. Grant them rest and peace in the glory of Your kingdom. And we pray for all who are bereaved at this time, suffering deeply in their loss with no time to say goodbye to loved ones. May they feel Your presence, Your comfort, strength and love.

Living and Loving God, we pray for all who are locked in their own worlds, coping with dementia and mental health issues, struggling with the changing situations of this present time. May they find in Your presence comfort and love.



At this time in our story, the ways of Your world are facing desperate challenges. Yet Old Testament stories tell of the traumas and disasters the people of God faced in ancient times and the prophets' messages of the continual reassurance of the presence of the Lord God.

May we turn to these words and find that same presence and God's grace gives strength, comfort and love today.

'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for I the Lord God, am with You wherever You go.' *Joshua 1:9.*

Accept these prayers we offer in the love of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen

Blessing

Lord Jesus touch us with Your presence. May we feel the strength, comfort and love of Your presence and be Your presence to others through prayer.

May the grace of God, the love of our Lord Jesus Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with each of us now and for ever more. Amen

Submitted by the Hope 4 Team

Cathedral Connections

Many of you know that last August, I started a new job at Newcastle Cathedral as Volunteer Coordinator. I've been working in the field of heritage sector volunteer management for 16 years but this is definitely my dream job - combining profession, vocation and calling. I recently wrote a blog for the Cathedral website explaining why it was so important to me and I thought I would share it with you all.

I was born and brought up in Newcastle and have spent most of my life in the North East apart from a 4 year stint at University. Some of my fondest childhood memories involve trips into the city centre when my parents would often offer me a choice of something to do aside from shopping! I would inevitably choose to visit either the Joicey Museum (sadly no longer there) or the Cathedral. We were not a religious or church-going family but there was something about the Cathedral that drew me in even at an early age. I was especially fond of the Thornton Brass and remember having hours of fun creating rubbings of brasses and stones around the building. As I grew up, although my visits became fewer in number and I moved further away from any interest in the church or faith, the Cathedral remained as a special place for me and somewhere I would be drawn to if I needed some space to think. I never imagined though that I could end up working in this wonderful place but

almost 40 years after, as a little girl, I stood in awe in front of the large Thornton Brass, which is exactly what has happened!

As a member of staff my route to get here has been slightly different from that of the volunteers I support but I imagine my desire to work here comes from a very similar place. Having developed a sense

of faith fairly recently there is something in that that motivates me to be here too although I am delighted that faith isn't seen as a prerequisite to being either a volunteer or member of paid staff. Not surprisingly perhaps, the Thornton Brass is no longer my favourite item in the Cathedral now that I have grown up (!) I am now drawn to the Stephen Cox Sculpture, a beautiful piece depicting the broken host of the Eucharist and the ellipse of a tilted chalice, proclaiming the love of God broken for the needs



of the world. It articulates perfectly the draw the Cathedral has on me. There seems to be a certain serendipity in that it sits above the medieval brass that I remember so fondly from my childhood too. It's as if 8 and 48 year old me come together standing in front of these very different works of art.

The Cathedral is currently embarking on the next stage of its journey, starting with a major capital works programme of refurbishment. Perhaps I can share more stories of this wonderful building with you in future editions of Newstand Lite.

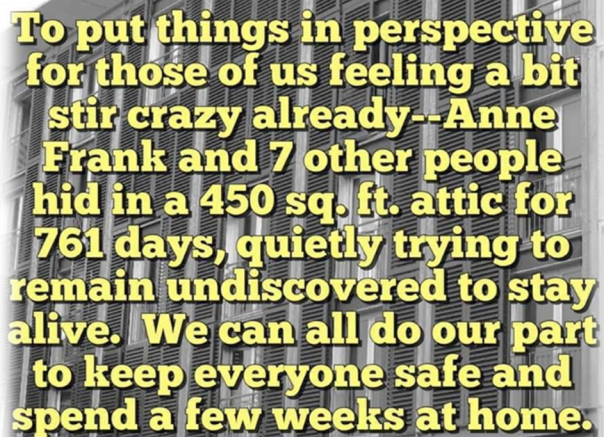
Lucy Cooke

Extension of Transitional Ministry

I am delighted to tell you that the Elders have agreed to Northern Synod's proposal that the Revd Carla's ministry with us be extended as from 20th April 2020 for a period of between 6 and 12 months. A review in August 2020 will determine the actual length of the extension. The scoping for the post will be at 20% (flexible 8 hours per week).

I am sure that you all, like the Elders, will be grateful that St Andrew's will now have the opportunity to conclude the Transitional Ministry satisfactorily and for us all St Andrew's to say a proper 'thank you' and 'farewell' to Carla.

Ray
Church Secretary



To put things in perspective for those of us feeling a bit stir crazy already--Anne Frank and 7 other people hid in a 450 sq. ft. attic for 761 days, quietly trying to remain undiscovered to stay alive. We can all do our part to keep everyone safe and spend a few weeks at home.

It's not so boring at home, but it is interesting how one bag of rice has 7,489 grains, and the other only 7,456.

Crossword answers.

ACROSS: 1, Stop. 3, Call upon. 9, Regular. 10, Octet. 11, Inner. 12, Hudson. 14, Holy Communion. 17, Myself. 19, See to. 22, About. 23, Iterate. 24, Monarchy. 25, Stet.

DOWN: 1, Straight. 2, Organ. 4, Abraham's faith. 5, Lloyd. 6, Puteoli. 7, Note. 8, Cleric. 13, Innocent. 15, Lay down. 16, Ussher. 18, Enter. 20, Enact. 21, Balm.

You are not alone!

St. Andrew's Elders and Pastoral team are only a phone call away and will be keeping in touch with you all. If you need someone to talk to and pray with, please do give them a call.

If you don't have contact details for your Elder or Pastoral Visitor, please contact Ray or Ann Hammond on 0191 252 3319 or Carole Mallett on 0191 252 1723.

Prayers and thoughts for this moment

Loving God,
If we are ill, strengthen us.
If we are tired, fortify our spirits.
If we are anxious, help us to consider the lilies of
the field and the birds of the air.
Help us not to stockpile treasures from
supermarkets in the barns of our larders.
Don't let fear cause us to overlook the needs of
others more vulnerable than ourselves.
Fix our eyes on your story
and our hearts on your grace.
Help us always to hold fast to the good,
see the good in others,
and remember there is just one world,
one hope,
one everlasting love,
with baskets of bread for everyone.
In Jesus we make our prayer,
the one who suffered, died
and was raised to new life,
in whom we trust these days and all days,
Amen.

*Revd Barbara Glasson,
President of the Methodist Conference*



Why my soul survives

He is with me in the morning
He is with me in the night
He is with me in the peace
And in the fight
He is with me
In the terror
Spilling words to calm my fear
And remind me of his sovereign
Presence near
That is why my soul survives

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