

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9 (NRSVA)

¹⁸ Forget the former things;

do not dwell on the past.

¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 43: 18-19 (NIV)

⁴⁴ 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ 'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' ⁵² And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

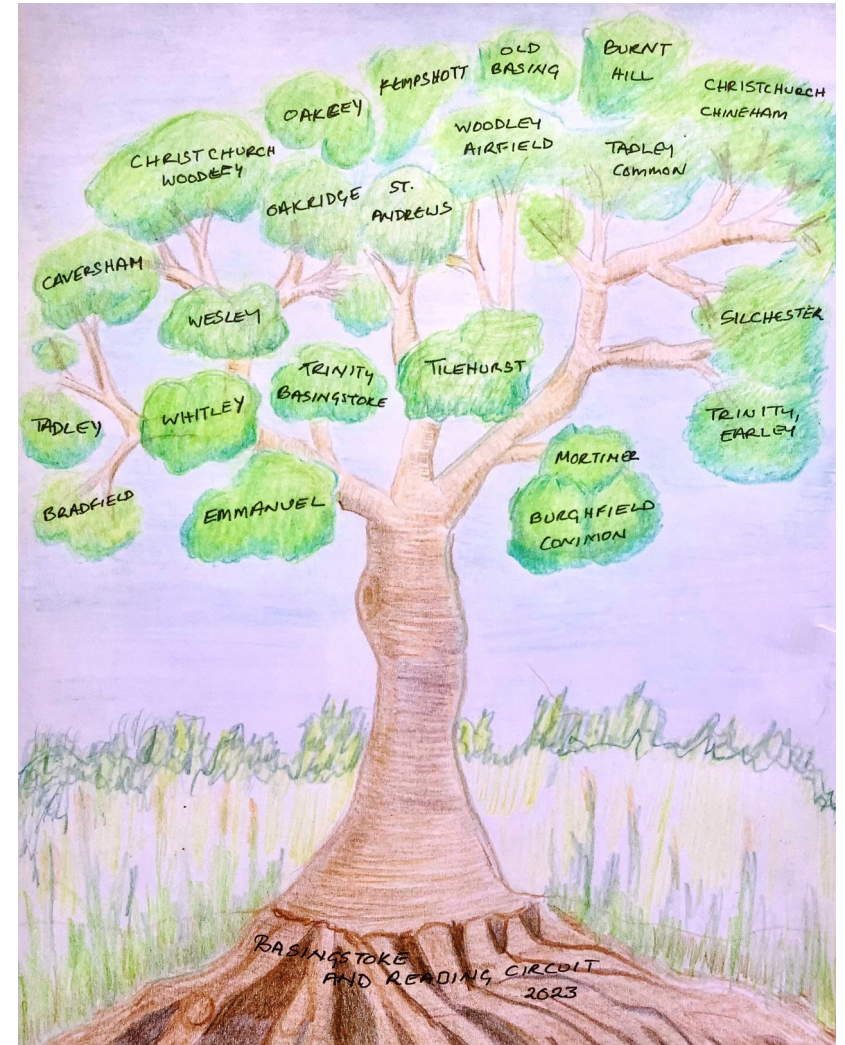
Matthew 13: 44-52 (NRSVA)



We offer you our thanksgiving for Mary Ludlow, David Shaw, and Audrey Browne, for their gifts, their ministry and their friendship, and we pray your blessing on them in the next stage of their journeys.

We pray for Claire Simpson, John Banks, and Jeongsook Kim, as they come among us. By your Holy Spirit, enable them to use the gifts you have given them for the work of our circuit.

Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Prayers June to August 2023 Transition and Change



Our circuit text; Hebrews 10: 23-25

²³ Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (NIV)

Prayers from the churches

Tilehurst; Risen Jesus, transfigure the deserts of our lives into blossoms of love and peace, touching all those in need.

Burghfield Common; Thank you Lord for the continued outpouring of your Grace.

Tadley Main Road; Father, we give thanks for your unending care for us.

Old Basing; Lord let the Spirit guide us in our way forward, helping us to find the means to reach our goal to your glory.

Trinity Church Earley; Bless our incredible volunteers, Father, may they never lose their passion and enthusiasm to serve others in Your name and continue to bless the work of Torch, and the ministry of the ReFresh Cafe, in our community.

Caversham; We pray for children in their anxiety: for those approaching examinations, for those coming to the end of a particular stage in their journey, and those who struggle with special needs and a lack of support. Raise them above the fear and bring them your peace.

Oakridge; We pray that all the community groups, and their volunteers who use our churches during the week, will feel the presence of God's love.

St Andrews; In faith we go forward together, upheld by prayer and love, always remembering that this is God's work.

Bradfield & Burnt Hill; Keep us flexible O Lord and open our eyes to new possibilities for our church so that we don't grow rigid with fixed opinions as we get older, which prevent us experiencing new things.

Tadley Common; We pray for Rev. John Banks and his family, looking forward to his arrival and a closer working with the other churches in the Section.

Christ Church Woodley; We pray for Jeongsook Kim who will begin her ministry with us in September.

Kempshott; Please pray for us to further our on-line mission and to have the enthusiasm to make it work.

Emmanuel; Pray for our local community and for God to watch over us as so many are seriously ill.

Trinity Basingstoke; We ask, dear Lord, for your guidance as we move forward with you.

Silchester; Pray for energy for the events we have planned this summer.

Christ Church Chineham; Our membership has changed significantly since 2020 including a mostly unknown online contingent, please pray that we can understand how best to draw the newcomers into using their gifts and engage properly with the online group.

Mortimer; Dear Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for all you are doing in our lives; help us to reach out to one another over the coming months. Be with us, strengthen us and bless us all we pray in Jesus name. Amen

Oakley; We pray for the circuit in the Basingstoke area as changes take place for Kempshott and Trinity.

Wesley & Whitley; Dear God, You are our constant in our every changing world, thank you for being our anchor and we ask for your will to be done in our church. Amen

Loving God, we call upon your everlasting stewardship during this transition period as change at times come with anxiety and uncertainty, and also help us to use our gifts so that people continue encountering you. Amen.

Woodley Airfield Church; Please pray for all the churches in Woodley, for the leaders - lay and ordained, and for the new ministers due to join us in September.



Gracious and Faithful Trinity,
Community of Love, we worship and adore you.
In these times of transition, sometimes we are fearful;
Sometimes dismayed at the fast pace of change
Or the slowness of progress.
When struggles or challenges face us,
We ask for your strength and courage to see us through
And for the knowledge deep in our hearts
That you are with us wherever we go.

As we move forward with you, teach us
To see where you are at work bringing new life
And to follow where you lead
Treasuring wisdom received on the journey so far
But leaving behind all that hinders us moving forward.

Help us to look forward to discovering new treasures
As the influence of your Community of Love increases.
We ask these prayers in Jesus name.
Amen.