

VICTORIA *Life*

Sunday 24th/31st May

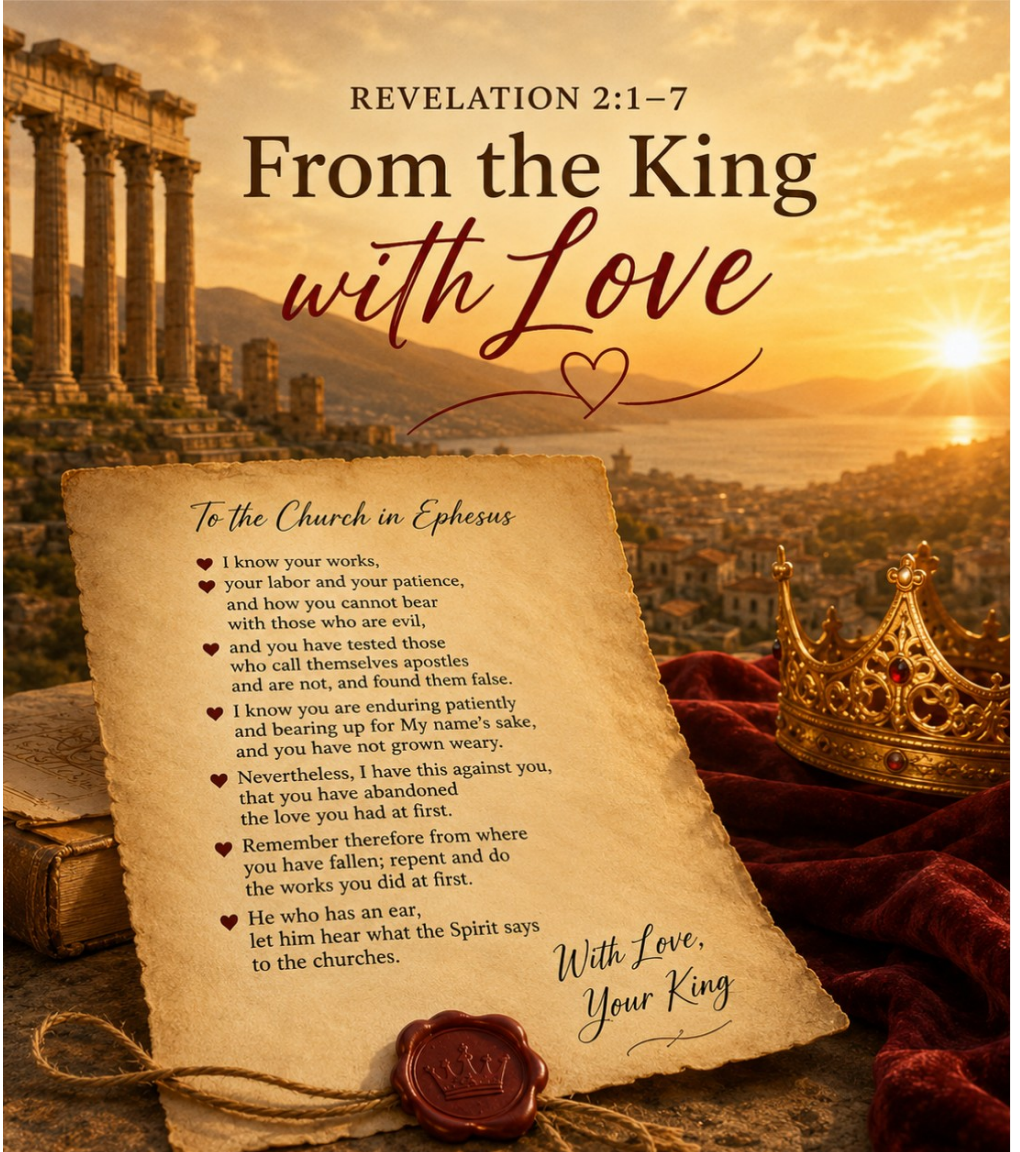
REVELATION 2:1-7

From the King *with Love*

To the Church in Ephesus

- ♥ I know your works,
♥ your labor and your patience,
and how you cannot bear
with those who are evil,
♥ and you have tested those
who call themselves apostles
and are not, and found them false.
- ♥ I know you are enduring patiently
and bearing up for My name's sake,
and you have not grown weary.
- ♥ Nevertheless, I have this against you,
that you have abandoned
the love you had at first.
- ♥ Remember therefore from where
you have fallen; repent and do
the works you did at first.
- ♥ He who has an ear,
let him hear what the Spirit says
to the churches.

*With Love,
Your King*





**The Revelation of Jesus Christ -
From the King, with Love**
Revelation 2:1-7 – 24 May 2026

“You have forsaken the love you had at first. Consider how far you have fallen!” (Revelation 2:4-5)

This morning we have two celebrations. The first is the Thanksgiving and Dedication of Eli Duncan Thomson. We welcome Ellie Glover and Julian Thomson (supporting Ellie as she makes her promises) on this special day.



Today is also Pentecost. This is the anniversary of the day when the long-promised Holy Spirit was poured out on those believing and receiving Jesus as Lord. On this day, the disciples received power to take the good news of Jesus Christ to the whole world. Without the power and presence of the Holy Spirit there would be no Christian church. Let's pray for His continuing work among us, drawing hearts to God.

We also return, this morning, to our series in the book of Revelation. Together we'll read the first of seven letters and hear the priority of Jesus for His church. I hope you will be able to join us.

Next Week (31ST May) - Next week's Live@10 will be led by Chris Short, continuing his series in the Book of Revelation.

And the week after (7TH June) ... we have Lucy Craggs bringing God's Word to us, focusing on Matthew 6. Chris will be leading our time of Communion.

STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for the next 2 weeks. The office is closed on Bank Holiday Monday.

Sandra, Jez, Emily, Lucy & Simon on leave 25th - 29th May

Emily is off on Thursday 28th.

Chris is off the following week (1st to 4th June).

All other staff will be working to their usual routine.

Senior Minister

Chris Short

PA to Senior Minister

Sandra Taylor

Church Administrator

Colin McMahon

Caretaker

Kevin Virgo

Head of Family Ministries

Emily Jenkins

Children's Ministries

Simon Grimes

CAP Debt Centre Manager

Phil Papps

CAP Debt Coach

Nadine Crawford-Piper

Finance Manager

Mark Evason

Finance Assistant

Julie Hanks

Ministry Assistants

Lucy Craggs (Women)

Tim Nunn (Discipleship)

Jez Taylor (Life Groups)

Staff contact details:

firstname@victoriabaptist.org.uk

(eg *chris@victoriabaptist.org.uk*)

VBC Bank Details

Account Name:

Victoria Baptist Church Trust

Account Number: 00010297

Sort Code: 40-52-40

01323 737974

Eldon Road, Eastbourne BN21 1UE

helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk

www.victoriabaptist.org.uk

- Sun 24 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
 10.00am Live@10 with Chris Short
 7.00pm Sunday Evening Youth
- Mon 25 BANK HOLIDAY - Office closed
- Tue 26
- Wed 27 7.00am Prayer Meeting
 8.15am Community Fridge
- Thu 28 7.30am Men's Prayer Meeting
 Men's Fellowship - next meeting Jun 4th
 2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Graham Leeper (RNLI)
 6.45pm Omega (contact Tim or Ruth Nunn for details)
 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
- Fri 29 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting
- Sat 30
- Sun 31 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
 10.00am Live@10 with Chris Short
 12noon Bring & Share Lunch
 4.00pm Prospective Members' Meeting
- Mon 1 6.00pm Girls Brigade
- Tues 2
- Wed 3 7.00am Prayer Meeting
 8.15am Community Fridge
 10.00am Vicky Bees
 3.00pm Youth Alpha - "Who is the Holy Spirit?"
- Thu 4 7.30am Men's Prayer Meeting
 10.15am Men's Fellowship with Peterson Anand (Hope Baptist)
 2.30pm Women's Fellowship - "Songs of Praise" & Annual Report
 6.45pm Omega (contact Tim or Ruth Nunn for details)
 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
- Fri 5 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting
 10.00am Vicky Bees
 5.00pm Kids Club
 7.00pm Friday Night Youth

Two Weeks Ahead

Sat 6

Sun 7 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
10.00am Live@10 with Lucy Craggs inc Communion
6.30pm Prayer Meeting
7.00pm Sunday Evening Youth

MAY
31

Everyone is welcome!



BRING & SHARE LUNCH

#2

After church until 2pm

Share • Enjoy • Connect

The last one was so good...
we thought we'd do it all over again!
If you missed out last time, please come and join the fun!

(Bring some food to share if you're able to,
but it's not compulsory.)

Questions? Speak to Amanda or Luanda

PRAYER DIARY 1 : 25TH - 31ST May



“When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them”. Acts 2

Monday As we reflect on the birth of the church at Pentecost, give thanks to God the Father for those who have gone before us and had the Fire of Christ in their hearts. Give thanks for the Early Church, for faithful saints over the centuries, and for those who brought the message of Christ's love to you, personally. Pray too, for those who to whom God is prompting you to spread this fire.

Tuesday Pause to think of the fire that Moses saw at the burning bush. What a message of freedom, commission and holiness that was. Give thanks for the consecration of the people and the presence of God on Mount Sinai when it was wrapped in smoke because the Lord had descended on it in fire. Give thanks for the guidance of the pillar of fire by night, as the Israelites were guided by God. Ask for more of God's presence in your own life and in the lives of those you love.

Wednesday Fire was used as protection of faithful men of God and to show God's presence with them in the fiery furnace. Pray for those around our world who are persecuted as Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were in Daniel 3. Pray for God's protection and comfort to be with our troubled friends worldwide, and for them to know, as those in ancient Babylon did, that they are surrounded by God's love and hope for the future.

Thursday Father God, as we reflect on Your power and majesty, help us, like those in 1 Kings 18, who saw Your power and dominion in Elijah's time on Mt Carmel. Remind us that You are sovereign, You are trustworthy, our conqueror. You are the way, the truth and the life. Forgive us when we lose our focus on You and bring us back to You in Your mercy. Show us, Lord, more of Your truth and faithfulness. Thank You for these Old Testament examples we can reflect on.

Friday Jesus taught us about preparedness with a parable about tiny fires. We are to keep our lamps burning and to be prepared at all times. Keep us prepared, Father, by focusing on You and Your word. Help us Lord to be prepared to light the way for others, to spread Your word to others. Prompt us, Father to see You in all situations and to be prepared to speak Your word and to give account.

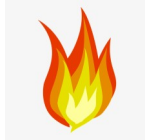
Saturday John the Baptist said of Jesus: "I am baptising You with water as evidence of repentance, but the one who is coming after me is stronger than I am, and I am not worthy to carry His sandals. It is He who will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Give thanks to God for those who have been baptised recently. Praise God for their witness and ask God for their protection. Many of us can look back to our own baptism and how God's fire burned brightly at that time. Ask God to fan your flame of love for Him and to make you radiate God's love in our neighbourhoods, amongst our friends and family, and in our town. Pray for those groups of people.

Sunday

Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire Is to be holy
Set apart for You Lord. I choose to be holy

Ask God to refine us as we gather to worship. Give thanks that Jesus, the perfect sacrifice, was given once and for all and that He is with us always

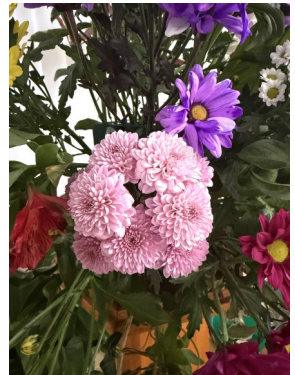
"So that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire - may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 1:7



FLOWER MINISTRY

With no service last Sunday, we had no flowers on display - but we have an urgent need for the next 2 months whereby flower donations are needed for June & July - only 3 dates filled so far in these 2 months. Please contact Chris McMahon if you would like to help.

And from a couple of weeks ago - "Please pass on my thanks for the lovely flowers I received recently. They certainly cheered me up after a long session at the DGH! JB"



Community Fridge



A group of customers from Community Fridge have been busy crocheting on a Wednesday morning, and recently gave this beautiful blanket to another of our customers who is unwell.

If any crocheters or knitters would like to join us for coffee and crochet on a Wednesday, please feel free to come along. Their next project is “twiddler muffs” for people with dementia.



Breeze



We would encourage those of you whose first language is not English to use the Breeze software on your smart phone. This will translate what is being said into the language of your choice and you will be able to keep up with everything.

And for those of you whose first language is indeed English, if you are hard of hearing and find that you miss out on hearing all that is said at the front, try using Breeze with your choice of language being English. This could be very helpful to those of you who have hearing difficulties.

membership MATTERS

If you would like to know more about becoming a member of the church, then join Richard Kirk, our Membership Coordinator, on **Sunday 31st May, 4pm** in The Hive, when he will explain the benefits and responsibilities of membership. You can contact Richard by email: richard@victoriabaptist.org.uk

VICTORIA
Baptist Church Eastbourne

KINGDOM BUILDERS

Holiday Club

Reception to Yr 6

WE NEED YOUR
LEGO

6 AUGUST
10am - 12:30pm

THURSDAY

7 AUGUST
10am - 12:30pm

FRIDAY

8 AUGUST
10am - 12:30pm
SATURDAY

Do you have any LEGO you no longer need? Please can we have it for this years Holiday Club 'Kingdom Builders'.

Info: simon@victoriabaptist.org.uk
or 01323 737974

“THE SCRIBE’S REBUTTAL: GRACE WITH A SIDE OF GRIT”

I’ve copied scrolls from dusk till dawn,
From Sinai’s blaze to Christ now gone.
I’ve inked the Law, the Psalms, the Creed
And now comes Paul with lightning speed.
He speaks of grace, then lists my flaws,
He quotes the Law, then breaks its claws.
He says I’m free, then warns of sin
I’m dizzy, Paul, where to begin?
“You’re saved by faith!” he shouts with cheer,
“But check your morals, Paul is near!”
He loves the Gentiles, hates their vice,
Then tells me not to judge them twice.
He circumcised young Tim, no less,
Then told the Galatians, “Don’t obsess!”
He fasts, he feasts, he weeps, he roars
He’s got more footnotes than the Torah’s laws.
I asked him once, “What must I do?”
He said, “Be dead, then live anew.”
I said, “Define that, if you can.”
He grinned, “In Christ, not under man.”
So here I sit, my quill now dry,
My scroll’s in knots, my brain awry.
I’ll trust in grace, I’ll love, I’ll pray
But Paul? He knows just what to say.

Richard Kirk

Life groups @ VBC

Friendship, Faith and Fun at the heart of our community



You can find the Life Group notes for today’s message through this link:

<https://victoriabaptist.org.uk/midweekgroups/life-groups/resources/most-recent-bible-studies.php>

PRAYER DIARY 2 : 1ST - 7TH June

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on to good deeds.” Hebrews 10:4

Monday As we consider the above verse, let us pray for all the stewards who helped at the recent Bible by the Beach weekend, giving thanks to God for their helpful attitude, smiles and care, and praying that these actions will have a knock-on effect, encouraging all of us to show love and kindness to strangers. Please pray that the teaching at BBB will have a lasting impact on lives, be thought provoking and that God will bless its growth and leaders into the future.

Tuesday Please pray for all Christian churches in Eastbourne. Some have very small congregations, some have buildings in need of repair, perhaps with restrictions on alterations that make it difficult for them to function effectively in a modern era. Pray for the ministers dealing with added challenges. May God strengthen, encourage, and fill these churches with His Spirit so that people in Eastbourne who are searching for God will find salvation. Give thanks to God for the buildings that we have at VBC, and pray that God will bless the way they are used in His service.

Wednesday It is still exam season in our local schools! Pray that staff and pupils at Cavendish will be surprised and encouraged by all the support and care offered by VBC. And pray that all the ongoing visits to schools by Simon and Emily will bear much fruit for the kingdom as indeed we witnessed at a recent baptism at VBC.

Thursday Please pray for Youth Alpha, continuing now after half term, remembering that Emily requested finances to buy bibles for young people, bibles which may change their lives forever. Pray for the continued spiritual growth of those who attended the recently completed adult Alpha course.

Friday Lucy recently reminded the ladies in our church of all the activities specifically for women. Please pray for the ladies' bible study on a Thursday morning; pray for the women's fellowship on a Thursday afternoon; the bi-monthly ladies prayer breakfast; discipleship groups; and bible journaling. May God guide non-Christian women to these activities.

Saturday Please pray for our government, uncertainty over leadership, economic growth and interest rates, all of which impact the lives of the people you love. Pray that the Labour party will seek God's guidance for its future direction and be brave enough to proudly declare this fact. That would be truly revolutionary but we must pray outrageously. God is all powerful and you are a part of His revolution!!

Sunday Lucy is preaching this morning. May the Holy Spirit inspire her, may she speak boldly, and may the Holy Spirit open our eyes to God's message. Please pray for lay preachers all around the country who are preaching this morning as God has blessed them with an opportunity to reach our country with the gospel. And pray that God will reveal His will clearly to those whom He plans to take this further, leading them into full time ministry. Amen

VICTORIA

Baptist Church Eastbourne

PRESENTS

THE

VBC

OPEN

GOLF TOURNAMENT



FRIDAY
24TH JULY



4PM



AT
WILLINGDON
GOLF CLUB



This is the 5th year of the VBC Open, an event not to be missed! Please register your interest with Colin or Jez as soon as possible so that we can book the right number of tee slots. The cost to enter this highly prestigious tournament is £30, worth every penny when you consider you will be in the company of some real star golfers!