



## Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Sunday worship on is on  YouTube

The easiest way to find the link to the YouTube meeting each Sunday is to find the link on the Corps web page. Type.....

[www.salvationarmy.org.uk/ramsgate](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/ramsgate) and select **Church on YouTube**

You can also find us by searching on YouTube and on the Ramsgate Facebook page.

**But we want to still “meet together”** and share our thoughts and prayers and testimonies. It will give a chance to share how God has spoken to us during the meeting – and allow us to encourage each other.

Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> 10 am	Ramsgate Church at Home (YouTube)
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> 11.15 am	ZOOM fellowship
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> 12 noon	ZOOM Youth Group
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> 4.30 pm	ZOOM Children’s Church Kids Club (up to 11 years)
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> 9.30am	CTiR Prayers (Text Carl for password)
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	APEST (more later)
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> 7pm	ZOOM Bible study

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> 12 noon      YouTube HMD service(link on website)  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> 2pm      ZOOM HMD Service (link on website)  
Wednesday evening      No ZOOM social/quiz this week.

### Advance notice

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> 7pm      Corps Council

## Ramsgate ZOOM 8651865167

If you have no internet that we are providing each week's service on a DVD which we will deliver to you.



Please let us know if you **do not want** a DVD each week.

Also tell us if you **need help** watching the DVDs we are sending.



There is a full day of activities on Fortress Radio.

<https://www.fortressradio.online/listen-now.html>

### Songs of Praise Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January 13.15pm

Marking Songs of Praise's sixtieth year, Aled Jones recalls special moments with fellow presenter Pam Rhodes, including the Queen's celebrated appearance on the programme in 2018.



**Holocaust Memorial Day Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> 2pm**

You may remember that last year **Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD)** was observed at our hall.



Understandably that cannot happen this year, so the event has been recorded and is available on YouTube. I will put the link on the Salvation Army Ramsgate site. This can be watched from 12 noon on 27<sup>th</sup> January.

There is also a ZOOM service at 2pm where the Mayor will be joined by faith leaders to reflect upon the service and how we might work to end all future genocide.

The theme for this year is being light in the darkness.



Loving God, we come to you with heavy hearts, remembering the six million Jewish souls murdered during the Holocaust.

In the horrors of that history, when so many groups were targeted because of their identity, and in genocides which followed, we recognise destructive prejudices that drive people apart.

Forgive us when we give space to fear, negativity and hatred of others, simply because they are different from us.

In the light of God, we see everyone as equally precious manifestations of the Divine, and can know the courage to face the darkness.

Through our prayers and actions, help us to stand together with those who are suffering, so that light may banish all darkness, love will prevail over hate and good will triumph over evil.

**Amen**

**Maggie** is available with the constant prayer line where you can call or text for prayer. You can contact her on 07840 753 603

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.



### **Birthdays**

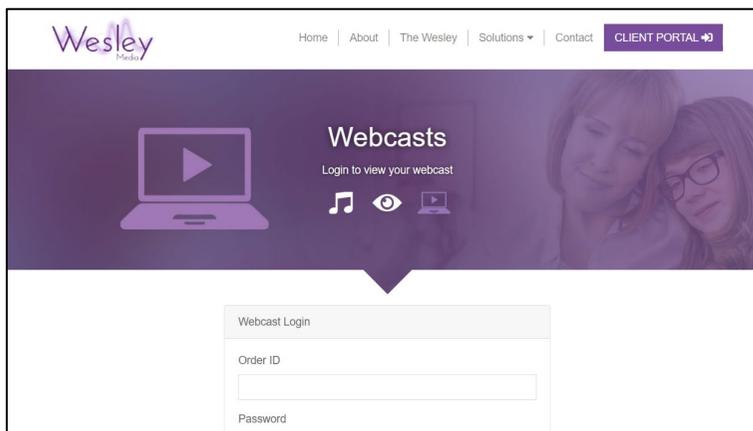
Heather            31 January

## Prayers please for

For the family and friends of **Liz Harden** as they prepare for her funeral on Thursday. For the family of Jan Penfold suffering with Covid, we continue to pray for **Muriel** recovering at home, for **Inga**, for **Grant** who will need further treatment at Kings Hospital in London. For **Al**, and **David** also awaiting surgery. Pray this will come soon. **Kate** recovering at home from COVID-19. **Paul**, son of Hazel who continues his chemotherapy; – and for **Archie** Lisa and Scott. We thank God for the recent medical appointment and ask that this will now lead to a health solution. Amen

We think of all the family and friends of **Liz Harden**. Her funeral will take place on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 13.45. With Covid restrictions you cannot join the family at the service, but you can watch it broadcast over the internet.

[www.wesleymedia.co.uk/webcast-view](http://www.wesleymedia.co.uk/webcast-view)

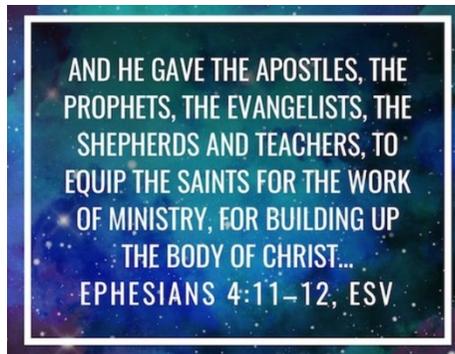


The screenshot shows the Wesley Media website's webcast login interface. At the top left is the Wesley Media logo. The navigation menu includes Home, About, The Wesley, Solutions, and Contact, along with a CLIENT PORTAL button. The main heading is 'Webcasts' with the subtext 'Login to view your webcast'. Below this are icons for music, an eye, and a laptop. A 'Webcast Login' form is visible, containing fields for 'Order ID' and 'Password'.

Order ID 69104

Password jdpwvcmm

On Wednesday during the “In Conversation” zoom meeting with DHQ an introduction was made to APEST.



Paul explains (to the church in Ephesus – and us) that the church needs people who can fulfil these roles for it to be able to grow in strength and numbers.

APEST was developed 10 years ago by Alan Hirsch, Jeff Weber and Jonathan Reitz and has been seen to be very effective in helping churches strengthen their leadership ministry. Once a church realises that it does not have ..... say evangelists.... it can pray that God will gift and develop (or maybe send) those with these gifts.

Likewise, as we learn what each of these ministries involves we may find that this is a gifting God has given us, but that we have not recognised – or been allowed to exercise. APEST does two things, Shows the church what it lacks. Shows us what God has given us.

There is a great excitement within the Salvation Army. APEST could revolutionise our ministry. Pray for this new teaching for the Salvation Army and how it might shape our ministry here in Ramsgate

Dear Father God, we desire as a church to take hold of the vision You have for us and pray that You would lead and guide us to take a collective step of faith in the direction that You would have us go.

Help us we pray, to grasp the church vision that You have for us, and may we be sensitive to Your leading and guidance. Prevent us from seeking to implement

our own inferior ideas, or substitute our own manmade notions for Your plans and purposes.



Draw us closer to each other and to You, as we seek Your face together in prayer. May we be strengthened in the inner man, united together in the unity of the faith and prompted to carry out Your plans and purposes to Your greater glory.

We pray that the church vision that emerges in our hearts, will have been prompted by the Holy Spirit, for the edification of the saints and to Your praise and glory. This we ask in Jesus' name.

Amen. .

## The Tooth Fairy

In the 'Salvationist' last week (16 Jan. P5) was a picture that captured my attention. A small boy was standing with his corps officers behind a big presentation cheque.

The copy read.

'Zachary Renouf, aged six, was inspired after the corps (Guernsey) raised money to help a Salvation Army water project in Nigeria. He wanted to do more, in hope that one day, everyone in the world will have access to clean, running water. He raised £300 for the Watershed projects through a JustGiving page as well as a donation from his own pocket money and tooth fairy money. He presented a cheque to corps officers Majors Claire and Jamie Hill during a Sunday meeting, gave a speech thanking everyone and led the Corps in prayer for people who do not have water.'

He sounds like a remarkable six year old, sensitive, generous, and confident. I thought it was very sweet that he had given his tooth fairy money.

My mind turned to the boy who gave his lunch of five barley loaves and two small fish, in John's account of the feeding of the five thousand, so that they could all be fed.

I haven't got so many teeth left at my age, so I can ill afford to give teeth fairy money (if adults still get it), but I hope I will follow Zachary's example and always be generous.

I have often quoted a verse by the late Commissioner Albert Dalziel which challenged me in my thinking on generosity and giving...

There is no real impoverishment in giving,  
And no enrichment if we live to take;  
For in such taking I would lose more deeply,  
But, O what gain to give for Jesus' sake!

## Time to Smile

Actually overheard in church...

The rector was praying for the sick and said: 'We must remember Mrs Godson in our prayers who has recently had all her teeth taken out and a new gas stove put in.'

I've got a new job collecting all the jumpers left in the park at weekends, but it's not easy. They keep moving the goalposts.

A plumber was telephoned one evening by a doctor whose kitchen sink had become blocked. 'Can you come round and sort it out right away?' Asked the doctor.

'It's past six o'clock,' said the plumber. 'The men have all gone home. We can't do anything until the morning.'

The doctor replied 'In our profession, you know, we're expected to turn out at any time of the day or night if someone is in trouble.'

The plumber took this to heart and said he'd be round as quickly as he could.

When he arrived at the doctor's house, the plumber went straight to the kitchen, took out a bottle of aspirins out of his toolbox, unscrewed the cap and dropped a couple of tablets down the plug hole.

'Well, let's see how you get on with those,' he said. 'I'll be back in the morning if it's no better!'

### Quiz

1. Aylesbury and Milton Keynes are both in which county?
2. Which animal was used by Jenner to develop the vaccine against smallpox?
3. What is the name given to the principal singer in an opera?
4. Who composed the music for 'The Good, the Bad and the Ugly'?
5. Which almond cake is traditionally made for Mothering Sunday?

**TV Gold**

1. Who found fame as 'The Saint'?
2. Who conducted Eric Morecambe playing Grieg's Piano Concerto?
3. Which series told the bizarre life of the Clampett family?
4. Which show has numbered David Jacobs, Noel Edmunds and Rosemarie Ford among its presenters?
5. Who was the main character on 'The Phil Silvers Show'?

**Anagrams of New Testament Books**

1. HEMWATT    2. VIOLENTERA    3. LASTAGAIN    4. ASHEEPSIN    5. ONMARS

**Answers****Quiz**

1. Buckinghamshire    2. Cow    3. Prima Donna    4. Ennio Morricone
5. Simnel cake

**T.V Gold**

1. Roger Moore    2. Andre Previn    3. The Beverly Hillbillies    4. Come Dancing
5. Bilko

**Anagrams**

1. Matthew    2. Revelation    3. Galatians    4. Ephesians    5. Romans

**About Ramsgate**

We have characters a plenty  
 There are smiles and stout faces  
 Lots of feet, fast movements  
 People going all over  
 But the thing about Ramsgate

Is how diverse it is  
We struggle  
We cry  
We laugh together

We celebrate our art  
Our achievements  
Happy memories  
Sometimes we grumble  
We get annoyed

But our town is beautiful  
From the seagulls on the beach  
The boarded up shops  
People playing the keyboard in the street  
We all have a story

The thing about Ramsgate's story  
Is that it goes on  
Always changing  
Always blossoming  
Finding new things  
Loving those new things

We can't gather now  
But one day soon we will all share  
In that love and laughter  
With joy and happiness  
In Ramsgate,

We are home."

By Hollie Freeston

**We return to David's memories of Ramsgate next week.**

## Church at Home 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Opening Prayer  
(based on Jeremiah 31: 31-34)

O God of our Hearts  
You yearn to be so close to us  
that we can know you in every breath,  
in every hope, in every relationship.

Meet us here today and  
teach us to recognize  
the covenant of justice, peace and love  
you have written on our hearts.

So may our desires become your desires,  
our work become your work,  
and our community  
the place where you are sought and found.  
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Who has watched this programme?



It's really quite heart warming. Every clip I saw there were floods of tears as an owner was reunited with their broken treasure - made new.

What a perfect introduction for this week as we continue

to think about covenant. You will remember we explored what the covenant promise was for us – God has chosen us to bring his good news to this dark world. We spoke about what it means to be His chosen people – both the joy of knowing we are a child of God – and the responsibility of being light bringers.

We had the briefest of history lessons – the key point was that the Israelites kept wandering off – didn't keep focussed – lost their way.

And every time God came back to find them and give them another chance – the *repair* here was one of relationship. And you will all know that it happened time after time. God – through his kings and prophets – did his work of *repair* – but the gift was shattered – and the consequences were...

well a bit like this....

(Carl will now demonstrate a repair!)

Song Number 610

My life must be Christ's broken bread,  
My love his outpoured wine,  
A cup o'erfilled, a table spread  
Beneath his name and sign,  
That other souls, refreshed and fed,  
May share his life through mine.

2 My all is in the Master's hands  
For him to bless and break;  
Beyond the brook his winepress stands  
And thence my way I take,  
Resolved the whole of love's demands  
To give, for his dear sake.

3 Lord, let me share that grace of thine  
Wherewith thou didst sustain  
The burden of the fruitful vine,  
The gift of buried grain.  
Who dies with thee, O Word divine,  
Shall rise and live again.

Albert Orsborn (1886-1967)

We may keep quiet about this, especially when young, we tend deep down to be rather hopeful that we will manage to find perfection in a number of areas.

We dream one day of securing an ideally harmonious relationship deeply fulfilling work a happy family life and the respect of others. But life has a habit of dealing us with a range of blows and leaving nothing much of this array of fine dreams. save some shattered fragments.

It's at moments of disillusion that we might turn our minds to what God might be able to do when our lives are broken.

In the Far East, China and Japan, they came to believe that pots and cups that have become damaged shouldn't simply be neglected or thrown away. They should continue to attract our respect and attention and be repaired with enormous care.

This process symbolizing a reconciliation with the flaws and accidents of time, can help us to understand what God wants to do in our lives.

The word given to this tradition of ceramic repair is Kin Tsugi

Kin - golden Tsugi - joinery.

It means quite literally to join with gold

In the Eastern mind the broken pieces of an accidentally smashed pot should be carefully picked up, assembled and then glued together with lacquer inflected the most expensive gold powder.

There should be no attempt to disguise the damage. The point is to render the fault lines beautiful and strong.

The precious veins of gold help us, as Christians, to recognize the wounds of Jesus.

The origins of Kin Tsugi are said to date to the Muromachi period.

The Shogun of Japan broke his favourite tea bowl. And so distraught sent it to be repaired in China.

He was horrified on its return by the ugly metal staples that have been used to join the broken pieces and charged his craftsmen with devising a more appropriate solution.

What they came up with was a method that didn't disguise the damage but made something properly artful out of it.

A story is told of a great teacher Ruki. He was on a journey through southern Japan

Once he was invited to a dinner with a host who thought would be impressed by an elaborate and expensive jar he had bought from China.

But Ruki didn't even seem to notice this item and instead spent the time chatting and admiring a branch swaying in the breeze outside.

At his lack of Interest once Ruki left, the devastated host smashed the jar to and pieces and retired to his room.

The other guests more wisely gathered the fragments and stuck them together through Kin Tsugi.

When Ruki next came to visit, he returned to the repaired jar and with a knowing smile exclaimed,

**“now, it's magnificent”.**

In an age that tells us we have to be the perfect size and shape and appearance the art of Kin Tsugi helps us to see a truth from God about brokenness and healing



The suffering and death of Jesus must never be forgotten because no matter how broken our lives have been - he can mend us.

No matter how damaged we are, and no matter how scarred with Jesus as our Kin Tsugi, we too are magnificent.

## Song 998

Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair,  
Lord, in your suffering world this is our prayer.  
Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace,  
Sunrise to sunset your Kingdom increase!

2 Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills,  
Work for the craftsmen, trade for their skills.  
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak,  
Voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak.

God of the poor, friend of the weak,  
Give us compassion we pray.  
Melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain;  
Come, change our love from a spark to a flame.

3 Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear,  
Cities for sanctuary, freedoms to share.  
Peace to the killing fields, scorched earth to green,  
Christ for the bitterness, his cross for the pain.

4 Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams  
Plundered and poisoned - our future, our dreams.  
Lord, end our madness, carelessness, greed;  
Make us content with the things that we need.

5 Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame  
Until your justice burns brightly again;  
Until the nations learn of your ways,  
Seek your salvation and bring you their praise.

Graham Kendrick

## Jeremiah 31:31-34

<sup>31</sup> “The days are coming,” declares the LORD,  
“when I will make a new covenant  
with the people of Israel  
and with the people of Judah.

<sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant  
I made with their ancestors  
when I took them by the hand  
to lead them out of Egypt,  
because they broke my covenant,  
though I was a husband to them,”  
declares the LORD.

<sup>33</sup> “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel  
after that time,” declares the LORD.

“I will put my law in their minds  
and write it on their hearts.  
I will be their God,  
and they will be my people.

<sup>34</sup> No longer will they teach their neighbour,  
or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’  
because they will all know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest,”  
declares the LORD.

“For I will forgive their wickedness  
and will remember their sins no more.”

So what was going on here?

Jeremiah is called at a time when Judah is in serious trouble. His career spans a time of incredible catastrophe for the people of Judah. Jeremiah is called to speak while the Babylonians are invading Judah, burning Jerusalem, and carrying vast numbers of Jewish people into exile. Jeremiah is one of a small remnant left in Judah, living in the midst of the rubble. The people who had

been promised God's protection and deliverance were in a place of desolation.

Why?

God has called his people – he has told them what they must do through the leaders he has appointed and prophets he has called,

But as we said earlier that have disobeyed and ignored him – and time and again they are left to face the consequences.

But God will not give up – and is about to try something very different.

This is the New covenant and its going to be very different. He is very determined.

I cannot remember when but in the last few days someone was talking about Holman Hunts great painting the light of the world.

We've talked about it several times. So much power in one picture

The well-known story we have also told when Holman Hunt first displays it, a startled viewer cries – you've made a mistake - you've forgotten to paint a handle on the door.

Of course no mistake.

It is the theology that we are very familiar with. Jesus will not force himself onto you.

He gently knocks and we have to open the door and let him in

We sing many songs on that very theme.



The poetry of Fanny Crosby shows it perfectly

Behold me standing at the door,  
And hear me pleading evermore  
With gentle voice: O heart of sin,  
May I come in? May I come in?

Behold me standing at the door,  
And hear me pleading evermore:  
Say, weary heart, oppressed with sin,  
May I come in? May I come in?

2 I bore the cruel thorns for thee,  
I waited long and patiently;  
Say, weary heart, oppressed with sin,  
May I come in? May I come in?

3 I would not plead with thee in vain;  
Remember all my grief and pain;  
I died to ransom thee from sin,  
May I come in? May I come in?

4 I bring thee joy from Heaven above,  
I bring thee pardon, peace and love;  
Say, weary heart, oppressed with sin,  
May I come in? May I come in?

Fanny Crosby (1820-1915)

Jesus is gentle and it is us who must decide to follow.

But this is very different

I will make a new covenant  
I will put my law in their minds and

I will write it on their hearts.

I will be their God, and they will be my people. and they will know me, from the least of them to the greatest,”

For I will forgive their wickedness and

I will remember their sins no more.”

Is this a God you recognise? Would you like God to be like this? What do you think it meant?

If Holman Hunt had been reading Jeremiah when he was painting his picture, then Jesus would have a battering ram and be shouting I'm coming in ready or not!

Let's be clear the people were not asking for this new covenant.

No one in Jeremiah's day was speaking sweetly of “letting God into” his heart. They had rebelled. Turned their backs. They did not care. That is why they were in the state they were in.

There is no hint of an invitation on the part of the people. As Walter Brueggemann points out, this covenant is given by God without reason or explanation. God wants the relationship with the people and decides to have it.

But I want us to focus on this phrase – I will make a new covenant and write it on their hearts.

What?

Think of a tattoo. Better still, think of getting branded. Now that tattoos have gone normal and everyone has a tattoo.

Well, there's a question. If we were together, I could ask for a show of hands – I'd probably have to ask – hands up if you don't have a tattoo.

We will save that question for the zoom meeting. Maybe we will publish the results in next week's newsletter!

Anyway, as most people have tattoos, those who stay ahead of trends are getting branded. It hurts a great deal and it hurts for a very long time. It becomes a scar and you remain “branded for life.”

Tattoos and brands are more or less permanent. To get rid of a tattoo involves painful surgery that leaves a scar. A brand is itself a scar and can only be removed through costly laser surgery. Before you even think about one the tattooist will warn you to be sure that you want the mark you are getting because it will be permanent.

Whatever symbol a person chooses says something about him or her.

That’s why tattoos and brands are chosen in the first place—as a mark of identity.

An Olympian sports a set of Olympic rings.

Lovers put each other’s names on their bodies.

Some Christians get a scripture verse or a cross

Our friend Eric – who was 70 year old at the time – had recently become a Christian at the Salvation Army and decided to have the crest tattooed on his back. His officer told him it was not a good idea – but he had it done anyway.

Fascinating conversations with the tattooist – what are those round balls? gospel shots – what’s a gospel shot?....

Pain, indelibility, identity. These are the central aspects of what it means to be marked. If it didn’t involve pain, it wouldn’t be indelible: marks that don’t hurt are the ones that wash off.

If it were not permanent, what it revealed about a person’s identity wouldn’t be so critical. Tattoo your arm with “Heather” in your 20s, and you better still be married to her 30 years later.

Pain, indelibility and identity are also the hallmarks of God writing the covenant on the heart of the people.

The old covenant was broken – literally when the commandment stones were broken – and then metaphorically when the Israelites ignored God and followed their own way.

So God is saying I've had enough. I have called you for an eternal task, you cannot let me down.

God inscribing himself into souls. God is invading the heart. Yes, this will make them God's people, but it will also mean a death of the self. I am no longer free to do what I want. God you are now in charge.

This is not the people overcoming their sinful natures; this is God overcoming the people.

How I want a heart like that. A God marked heart – a God shaped heart –

A heart that means I want to please him in everything I do

A heart that means I will be faithful and obedient.

Is this a permanent as any brand or tattoo?

Whereas laws written in stone can be broken and put aside, is God's covenant in the heart more enduring.

Can God's hold on us be erased? It can't can it?

Only if we cut out our hearts could we lose our salvation. Are our Calvinist brothers right?

Song Number 497

I want, dear Lord, a heart that's true and clean,  
A sunlit heart, with not a cloud between;  
A heart like thine, a heart divine,  
A heart as white as snow;  
On me, dear Lord, a heart like this bestow.

2 I want, dear Lord, a love that cares for all,  
A deep, strong love that answers every call;  
A love like thine, a love divine,  
A love to come or go;  
On me, dear Lord, a love like this bestow.  
3 I want, dear Lord, a soul on fire for thee,  
A soul baptised with heavenly energy;  
A willing mind, a ready hand  
To do whate'er I know,  
To spread thy light wherever I may go.

George Galloway Jackson (1866-1893)

I want to finish by looking at the last part of this new covenant promise.

For I will forgive their wickedness and  
I will remember their sins no more.”

We need to go back to the beginning when we looked at the repair of the broken.

The theme running through today has been putting things right.

The TV show where people are overwhelmed when they see something that was a ruin made new –

In his time, in his time  
He makes all things beautiful  
In his time  
Lord please show me everyday  
As you're teaching me your way  
That you do just what you say  
In your time

The art of Kin Tsugi showed us that we must value everyone - no one can be discarded and thrown away. The broken must be seen as precious – and indeed once God has healed them they are even more beautiful than before.

Then we saw God’s covenant – to a people in the decimated cities -living in the ruins and those in captivity.

God said I will mend this as well – because I am going to be your God – and I will forgive you and remember sins no more

This is the F word and this is the key to covenant –

As we will see next week what Jeremiah prophesised was not fulfilled in the life times of those who heard the message. It was only – and is only the most dramatic repair in all of creation – with the death of Jesus that the covenant was fulfilled.

Just before Jesus was crucified he gathers his followers and shared one last meal with them.

In front of their eyes this is what happens

<sup>19</sup> And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”



<sup>20</sup> In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.” <sup>21</sup>

Luke 22:1-20

This is my body – broken for you

It was on the cross that the words of Jeremiah finally came true.

I will make a new covenant

I will put my law in their minds and

I will write it on their hearts.

I will be their God, and they will be my people. and they will know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest,”

For I will forgive their wickedness and

I will remember their sins no more.”

The new covenant could only happen when Christ’s body was broken, and his blood was poured out.

The horror of the cross saw our God killed before the eyes of those who loved him.

And then three days later raised from the dead

And yes just as in Kin Tsugi we see that Jesus arose with a more glorious body

We sings these words

Those dear tokens of his passion

Still his dazzling body bears;

Cause of endless exultation

To his ransomed worshippers;

With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture

Gaze we on those glorious scars!

Come see his hands and his feet,

The scars that speak of sacrifice;

Hands that flung stars into space

To cruel nails surrendered.

Jesus did not hide those scars. The evidence of his brokenness shows the glory of his resurrection. Without his death – there could be no new covenant.

Without the cross

Without the nail holes

Without the hole in his side

There could be no new covenant

There could be no repair for our brokenness

There could be no new heart for us

And there could be no forgiveness for us

But His death and resurrection, His brokenness and repair – it is only through them that God can say

I will be their God. Gracious God

We come to you broken –

from that which confines us:

the prejudice buried,

weighted down with fear

distorted self-protection

breaking me, breaking you.

And, so we come to you

seeking to be made whole.

For you, God, put your love within us;

you wrote it on our hearts,

that we may be your people.

On this night/day we pray for those who weep,

who are struggling from lack of

clean water

healthy food,

quality, affordable health care.

Women who want to make decisions

about their families, their lives,

their bodies, how and when, and with whom.  
And, so we come to you seeking to be made whole.  
For you, God, put your love within us;  
you wrote it on our hearts,  
that we may be your people.

Compassionate God,  
God of covenant,  
God of love,  
We come to you tired,  
yearning for peace and harmony.  
Loving God,  
we offer up our suffering  
and come to you seeking to be made whole.  
For you, God, put your love within us;  
you wrote it on our hearts,  
that we may be your people.

Gentle God,  
God of covenant,  
of Love,  
Glorify us through Your love.  
Draw us to you, into you.  
Anoint us with your peace.  
Write your compassion in our hearts  
that we may love as you love.  
Amen.

## Song 199

Such love, pure as the whitest snow;  
Such love, weeps for the shame I know;  
Such love, paying the debt I owe;  
O Jesus, such love.

2 Such love, stilling my restlessness;  
Such love, filling my emptiness;  
Such love, showing me holiness;  
O Jesus, such love.

3 Such love, springs from eternity;  
Such love, streaming through history;  
Such love, fountain of life to me;  
O Jesus, such love.

Graham Kendrick

We finish today by  
looking forward to next  
week and the last of our  
covenant thoughts.

But I leave with this

Have you heard the “F”  
word this week?



There can be no new covenant without forgiveness. We will ask what that means next week – but as we finish I ask again

Have you received and given forgiveness this week?

I will make a new covenant  
I will put my law in their minds and

I will write it on their hearts.  
I will be their God, and they will be my people. and they will know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest,”  
For I will forgive their wickedness and  
I will remember their sins no more.”



## Soldier's hymn

Father of this Army, Captain of our soldiers  
May Your glory fill the earth  
As this world grows colder, may Your troops be bolder  
May we fight with only love  
May the crosses we bear be the weapons of our warfare  
May we even more dare for You  
May we even more dare for You

Let our uniform be holiness and mercy  
Justice clothed with grace and truth  
Those who speak be fearless, those who serve be blameless  
Dreams old and visioned youth  
Save us when we look past Jesus as an outcast  
Shining, let us hold fast to You

Shining, let us hold fast to You  
Breathe onto these dry bones, search the Spirit's deep groans  
Speak into these calloused minds  
Faith to make our dreams new, hope as we await You  
Love to serve with joy and might  
Onward to the conquest, north to south and east to west  
Forward to the glorious fight of love  
Forward to the glorious fight of love  
Onward to the conquest, north to south and east to west  
Forward to the glorious fight of love  
Forward to the glorious fight of love

### **Benediction**

“May God bless you with a restless discomfort about easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships, so that you may seek truth boldly and love deep within your heart.

May God bless you with holy anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may tirelessly work for justice, freedom, and peace among all people.

May God bless you with the gift of tears to shed with those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, or the loss of all that they cherish, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and transform their pain into joy.

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you really CAN make a difference in this world, so that you are able, with God’s grace, to do what others claim cannot be done.

And the blessing of God the Supreme Majesty and our Creator, Jesus Christ the Incarnate Word who is our brother and Saviour, and the Holy Spirit, our Advocate and Guide, be with you and remain with you, this day and forevermore.

Amen.”

D L A W W I T H I N T H E M E  
 P N F E L P O E P Y M R A U R  
 D H A I M E R E J Z N T A W Z  
 G T P H N S L A T E C L E A N  
 S I O N T H E I R H E A R T S  
 L M L C H S K M A K E J J M J  
 D E T E F O R G E T L K E Q L  
 W C X N A O I I U M H E O D V  
 L O N I A R J A F O T U L R F  
 L M K N W N S W E N D N A R B  
 E E B E T H E I R G O D J G S  
 A S O Q W X R V E X G B U H K  
 D E N N I S K N O W M E D D X  
 T I E T I R W E P C D N A H W  
 G E E E R C E D S D O G H M G

**JEREMIAH** 31: 31-34 (MSG)

<sup>31-32</sup> “That’s right. The time is coming when I will **MAKE** a

**BRAND-NEW** covenant with **ISRAEL** and **JUDAH**. It won’t be a repeat of the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took their **HAND** to **LEAD** them out of the land of Egypt. They **BROKE** that covenant even though I did my part as their Master.” **GOD’S DECREE.**

<sup>33-34</sup> “This is the brand-new **COVENANT** that I will make with Israel when the **TIME COMES**. I will put my **LAW WITHIN THEM** - **WRITE IT ON THEIR HEARTS!** - and **BE THEIR GOD.**

And they will be **MY PEOPLE**. They will no longer go around setting up schools to teach each other about GOD. They’ll **KNOW ME FIRSTHAND**, the dull and the bright, the smart and the slow. I’ll wipe the **SLATE CLEAN** for each of them. I’ll **FORGET** they ever **SINNED!** GOD’s decree.

CREATE  
a clean pure  
heart, O  
GOD  
AND RENEW  
a STEADFAST  
SPIRIT WITHIN  
ME.

PSALM 51:10