



Call me an old romantic, but this week the song that seems to be sticking in my head more than any other is that old 1977 classic by John Paul Young "Love is in the Air" – maybe not a name that's too familiar, but a quick YouTube search will have you swaying and crooning with the best of them.

Perhaps it's the afterglow of the royal wedding and the rather remarkable sermon from Bishop Michael Curry, but this theme of the power of love underlines the remarkable truth that we, as Christians, hold to – that God is love - love is in fact a person. Love then isn't merely some nice fluffy sentiment or romantic aspiration – it's the greatest power in the world to transform hearts, communities and nations.

In the words of Bishop Curry:

"When love is the way, we will let justice roll down like a mighty stream and righteousness like an ever-flowing brook,"

"When love is the way, poverty will become history. When love is the way, the Earth will be a sanctuary."

"When love is the way, we will lay down our swords and shields down by the river-side to study war no more."

"When love is the way, there's plenty good room, plenty good room for all of God's children."

"Because when love is the way, we actually treat each other...well...like we're actually family."

We need to experience God's love in our own hearts in order to fully share that love with the world. We heard in Harry's and Megan's Bible reading: *"love is as strong as death, its jealousy unyielding as the grave. It burns like blazing fire, like a mighty flame."*

Love is what Christ is. Love is who God is. We as disciples are called to love because: *"this is how everyone will know that you are my disciples."* Loving one another as Christ loved us is our command.

Of course, loving the lovely, like my family, my friends...you, is usually easy, but what about the unlovely, the rude, the judgemental, 'our enemies'? We often want to fix others in order to make them more lovable, to demand change so that they might be more worthy of our love.

But, disconcertingly, Jesus gave us this remarkable command: *"Love each other. Just as I have loved you."* ... and how did He love me? Well when I was selfish, disinterested, scared, angry, proud, confused and seemingly thoroughly unlovable...

That's true love - 'God love': Heart-transforming, tomb-busting, death-defeating, life-giving love. So, this month, while it's in the air, may you experience afresh His perfect Love.



Widcombe

ST THOMAS & ST MATT'S

www.widcombe.church

Opportunities

Coffee Morning Wednesday 10am-noon

Parish Hall, St Matthew's. Drop in for tea, coffee, biscuits and a chat. All welcome!

Pass on a poem, St Thomas, 7pm Tuesday 12th June

A Widcombe Association event held in our beautiful parish church, bring a poem (not your own) to share with others.

Widcombe Midsummer Party, noon - 7.30pm, Sunday 1st July

Another event kindly put on by the WA for the entertainment of our local community. St Thomas service as usual at 10.30am, but please note there will be no St Matt's service in the evening - instead we will be providing volunteers for the street party from 4.30pm - see Tim if you would like to help.



St. Matt's

Pastorate at St Matt's 7.30pm
20th June

Life Hubs in homes around the parish
mid-week throughout June

Contact office for more information

**Pastorate
&
Life Hubs**

NOTICES

Christian Aid Big Count

Thank you to everyone who collected around the parish. We will be counting the collection at St Matthew's, after Coffee Morning, on Wednesday 6 June. Please could you give all the envelopes with donations to Sian, Jenny or return them into the secure letter box in St Matthews.

Bring and share lunch, 10th June

After the one-off contemporary morning service at St Matt's, we would like to invite all members of both congregations, following their services, to join in a bring and share lunch at 12.15pm in the parish hall.

Jenny Buckler's priesting

Saturday 30 June, 3pm, St John's Church, Keynsham

All are welcome to attend the service when Jenny will be ordained a Priest, a very special day in the life of our curate! There will be refreshments back in Bath afterwards.

The following day she will preside for the first time at Holy Communion at St Thomas à Becket Church, at 10.30am and there will be a bring and share lunch afterwards. For more information about venues and to confirm attendance, please contact Jenny by 10th June.



**St Thomas
à Becket**

Parish Communion

Thursday 12noon
14th and 28th June

Sunday Services June 2018

Date	Time	Service		Venue
3rd June Trinity 1	10.30am	Sung Eucharist (CW)	Rev'd Tim Buckley	 St Thomas à Becket
	5-7pm	Contemporary service (Toast café from 4.30pm)		 St. Matt's
10th June Trinity 2	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev'd Caroline O'Neill	 St Thomas à Becket
	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev'd Jenny Buckler	
	10.30am	Contemporary service with Rev'd Tim Buckley (Joint bring & share lunch afterwards, all welcome!)		 St. Matt's
17th June Trinity 3	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	Rev'd Tim Buckley	 St Thomas à Becket
	5-7pm	Contemporary service (Toast café from 4.30pm)		 St. Matt's
24th June Trinity 4	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	tbc	 St Thomas à Becket
	10.30am	Morning Prayer (CW)	Team Service	
	5-7pm	Contemporary service (Toast café from 4.30pm)		 St. Matt's

Join us for tea and coffee after the 10.30am service every Sunday

OUR CHURCHES



St Thomas à Becket
Church Street
Bath
BA2 6AZ

St Matthew's
Widcombe Hill
Bath
BA2 6AA



Contact us

If you have general queries about services, opening times, or any other matters, please see our website www.widcombe.church

Vicar: Revd Tim Buckley 07810 543209 (vicar@widcombe.church)

Curate: Revd Jenny Buckler 01225 612244 (curate@widcombe.church)

If Tim and Jenny are unavailable, Revd Judith Harries can be contacted on 01225 332418.

Churchwardens St Thomas à Becket: Sian Lewis and Liz Holden-White

Chapelwardens St Matthew's: Bill James and Andrew Udale-Smith
Church Office, St Matthew's Church, Widcombe Hill, Bath, BA2 6AA

Phone: 01225 465065 (answer service out of hours)

For information about Life Hubs, getting married, baptism or giving:

Parish Administrator: Mary Udale-Smith (admin@widcombe.church)

For bookings, volunteering or community activities:

Community Administrator: Tamsin McMaster (community@widcombe.church)



We extend a warm welcome to **The German Lutheran Church** who hold occasional services at St Thomas à Becket. Their next services will be on 1st July and 2nd September.

www.ev-synode.org.uk/bristol.html
