

Church Family News and Prayers

The trap

: Matthew on money

We were in the Temple again and the cliques who run our city were talking in whispers about what they could do to catch Jesus out. I wondered what they were up to but, honestly, I didn't see the question coming. 'Teacher,' the Pharisees said to him, 'we know you are an honest man and don't say things just to please people. So tell us, frankly: is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?'

My mouth dropped open. If anyone understood the great pit that they'd opened up, it was me. I'd collected those taxes for long enough. For a minute, I was back at my counting table feeling the loathing of all the folk paying what the Emperor required of them. Jesus was cornered whatever his answer. If he said it was right to pay taxes to Caesar, he would appear to be putting the Roman Emperor before God himself and his support would begin to evaporate. If he said people shouldn't pay taxes to Caesar, he would be arrested and could quite possibly face the death penalty.

Jesus turned to face his enemies: 'You're playing games,' he told them with genuine anger. 'Bring me a coin.' They were puzzled but gave him a denarius. 'There,' he said, 'who is that on the coin? Whose name is there?'

'Caesar,' they replied. 'Well,' said Jesus, 'Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and make sure you give to God what is his.'

The Pharisees were speechless. Well, you would be, wouldn't you? Even an ex tax-collector like myself couldn't have fashioned an answer as good as that. But I wondered how often these unexpected twists in the story could go on happening before he was left with no more words that were able to make a difference.

The back pages during Lent and Eastertide are adapted from *Easter Inside Out* by David Kitchen (BRF). Available from Dave, BRF itself and all good booksellers. Also available on Kindle.

We continue to pray for those members of our Church Family and Friends who are unwell and all those who mourn.

Welcome to Cyncoed Methodist Church



part of Cardiff Methodist Circuit

**Church Notices for 23rd March 2025
Third Sunday in Lent**

Stewards: Angela and Heather Bailey

10.30am Rev. Cathy Gale - Communion

At Cyncoed Methodist Church

We are called to tell God's story by living as God's people through:

- Preaching and teaching the gospel
- Encouraging spiritual growth
- Outreach in the community
- Responding to opportunities for change

All inspired by God centred worship and prayer.

The Ministerial Team:

Rev. Cathy Gale

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Rev. Alexis Mahoney

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Church Office: 029 2039 3439

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Office hours 8:30am to 11:30 am Mon – Thurs

Sunday 30th March 2025

Fourth Sunday in Lent / Mothering Sunday

Stewards: Sue Tester

10.30am Roger Yeo



Informal mid-week Communion
Thursdays at 10.30am in the Fellowship Room
An oasis of peace in a busy week

Cyncoed Church Premises

For Out of Hours or Emergency access to the Cyncoed Church Premises please call Martin on 07849 632 394

Notices

- ❖ **Membership** Could anyone who is interested in becoming a member at Cyncoed please meet with Cathy following the morning worship service on Sunday March 23rd. Grab your tea or coffee and come to the front of the church for a brief conversation and to hear the plans. Many thanks
- ❖ **Cardiff Foodbank** We will be holding another '**Chocolate Collection Day**' for Cardiff Food Bank on Sunday 23rd March. Please help the Food Bank to put Easter Eggs in the parcels they will be giving out this Easter.
- ❖ **Jim James** There will be a Service in Celebration of the life of Jim James, a Local Preacher in the Circuit since 1956, to give thanks to God, and to share memories and stories of Jim's 94 wonderful years at **2pm on Friday 4th April at St. Andrew's Methodist Church**. This will be followed by afternoon tea in the Church Hall. Dress code: please don't feel you need to wear black.
- ❖ **The Pastoral Team** will meet on **Monday 31st March at 7:00pm**.

Please send items for the church notices to the Church Office or email to cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com before 5.00pm on Wednesday.