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18th January 2026 - the Second Sunday after Epiphany

John 1.29-42

“Come and see”

I wouldn't be surprised that when you were younger, you could see a lovely box of chocolates and thought, “these are seriously good.” This has certainly led many people to start munching their way through the box! For a while, the experience of consuming these succulent and luscious chocolates causes thoughts like, “how delicious are these”. But at the end of all this indulgence, are you truly satisfied?

Feasting, buying lots of ‘things’, going on trips and holidays, and therefore investing lots of time in pleasurable activities, are of course great in certain ways. But, the question is, do they leave you truly fulfilled and content? For many, they do for a while, but before you know it they are seeking further hedonistic experiences – ‘happy pills’.

In contrast to seeking ‘treats’ that we know are transitory and fleeting, the encounters with Jesus ‘the Lamb of God’ focuses our hearts on a common thread throughout the New Testament, namely seeking eternal treasures.

In this gospel passage Jesus is once again encouraging us to seek treasures which are incorruptible, unchangeable and eternal jewels. He begins by saying to us, “What are you looking for? What are you living for, and therefore what will completely satisfy your deepest desires? “What's for sure, it's not beguiling short lived experiences which are here to-day and gone tomorrow”.

The wonder of the Christian faith is that Christ draws us into a world which does not focus on temporary or transitory pleasures, and instead offers us to be marinated into the priceless jewels of God's Kingdom, and in so doing see a way through the swamp of illusions to what brings peace and long lasting contentment.

Deciding to daily follow the way of Christ means you have chosen to have a dialogue with Christ and what the Kingdom offers, instead of living in an endless monologue with what will always be transitory pleasures. Being in a dialogue with God will mean you are open to his words, “Come and see”, and if you dare to continue in this journey there is a chance that you will be shown how much God greatly values and desires you, and longs to reveal to you ‘the treasures of heaven’.

Stephen

Sunday Morning Worship in Christ Well, and on Zoom at 10.30 am will be led by our Moderator, Rev David Salsbury. Bible Readings: John 1.29-42: Isaiah 49.1-7.

Cycle of Prayer in the Region – we will pray for Hall Street. Llanelli

Tuesday, 20th – Tea and Chat –Talk on Nutrition with Arron Ring - 2-4pm



FAIR TRADE GOODS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO BUY AFTER MORNING SERVICE SUNDAY, 25TH JANUARY

Fair Trade biscuits will be served with the coffee and tea.

UNVEILING DIVINITY (Isaiah 49.1-7: Psalm 40.1-11: 1 Corinthians 1.1-9: John 1.29-42)

God of revelation, from the rousing of dawn's first light,
to the Magi's leading star by night, to speak, calling each of us –
to see, to know and to witness your unveiling of divine presence.

We yearn for moments of instant revelation, the apostle Paul's blinding light,
the Baptist's vision of a descending dove. We long to declare, I've had an epiphany,"
or exclaim, "Eureka" as if having solved a puzzle.

But seeing, and knowing, and witnessing is seldom so immediate.
It is a slow burn, a gradual unfolding, like the steady dawning light
revealing Jesus as fully human and fully divine.

As we follow Christ, the Lamb of God, may our hearts and minds be tuned
to your divine presence in all things, that we might know your touch
and reflect your divinity in our living, and our loving. **Amen.**

Jonnie Hill (URC Prayer Handbook 2026)



The United Reformed Church National Synod of Wales invites you to

'A More Able Church' Webinar on the theme of: How Can We Help?

In this session, we'll explore practical ways to help our churches become places where more disabled people can access the Gospel, experience Jesus' transforming love, belong in community, and share God-given gifts and skills. We'll think about this vision as a shared journey, supported by resources and guidance from Through the Roof, the URC, and others.

We'll look at biblical examples that show disability inclusion isn't just a tick-box exercise, but a natural expression of our love for Jesus and a powerful witness to the Gospel. There will be space to connect with one another, share our experiences, and reflect on our own church contexts—recognising that each of us has an essential part to play in the body of Christ.

Wherever you're coming from and whatever your experience, this session is for you. We're glad you're here. Let's take this journey together.

The Webinar is open to all – so please do come along and invite others

Tuesday 20th January 2026 at 7.00pm gathering for a 7.30pm start on Zoom

Please contact the Training and Development Officer for further details and to register for the Zoom link. We look forward to meeting you.