



Empty Hands

"His father saw him and was filled with compassion for him." Luke 15:20

Robert was embarrassed when he showed up for a breakfast meeting and realized he'd forgotten his wallet. It bothered him to the point that he pondered whether he should eat at all or simply get something to drink. After some convincing from his friend, he relaxed his resistance. He and his friend enjoyed their entrees, and his friend gladly paid the bill.

Perhaps you can identify with this dilemma or some other situation that puts you on the receiving end. Wanting to pay our own way is normal, but there are occasions when we must humbly receive what's graciously being given.

Some kind of payback may have been what the younger son had in mind in Luke 15:17–24 as he contemplated what he would say to his father. "I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants" (v. 19). Hired servant? His father would have no such thing! In his father's eyes, he was a much-loved son who'd come home. As such he was met with a father's embrace and an affectionate kiss (v. 20). What a grand gospel picture! It reminds us that by Jesus' death He revealed a loving Father who welcomes empty-handed children with open arms. One hymn writer expressed it like this: "Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling."

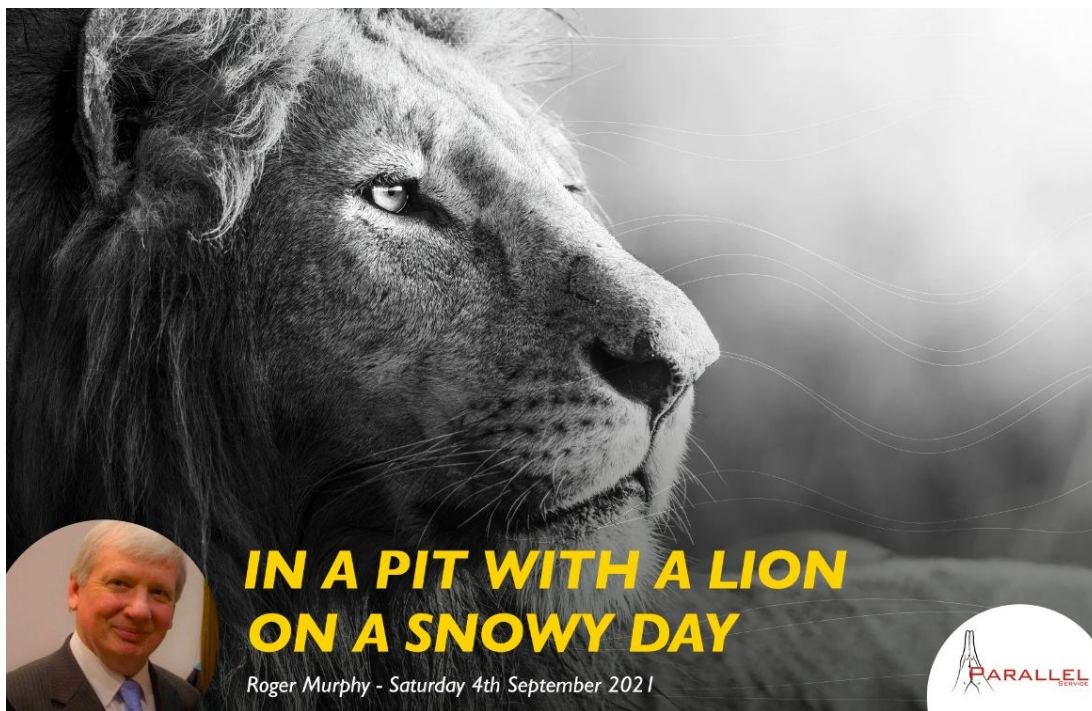
By: Arthur Jackson - Taken from odb.org





**"NEW TIMES, NEW
COMMANDMENT"**
Pastor Dejan Stojkovic - Saturday 4th September 2021



Watch the [Traditional Service](#) online with Pastor Dejan Stojkovic



**IN A PIT WITH A LION
ON A SNOWY DAY**
Roger Murphy - Saturday 4th September 2021



Watch the [Parallel Service](#) online with Roger Murphy
(will be at the park 12pm weather permitting)

Announcements / News

□ ***Dear Stanborough Park Church members,***

The business meeting on 25th July 2021 was held to discuss potential changes to SPC worship services timings in order to help meet the broader objectives of church mission. The intention was to assimilate the feedback provided during the business meeting with individual emails and the response to the questionnaire sent to members earlier this year and consider how the feedback impacts the draft proposal.

A revised draft proposal was intended to be shared with you prior to having a follow-up business meeting on 5th September 2021. Unfortunately, progress on this has not been as quick as originally hoped as some of the feedback rests with the Pastors and is currently not accessible. With the unexpected, prolonged illness of our Senior Pastor, Terry Messenger, this re-draft has not yet been completed. We are writing to you to inform you that this business meeting will **no longer be held on 5th September and will be scheduled for a later date** once the draft proposal has been revised and shared.

As we look to work through the next few weeks please continue to keep Pst Terry in your prayers.

On behalf of SPC Board of Elders, Ben

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- ***The flowers today*** are to give thanks for the goodness of God and to acknowledge His countless blessings on today's 42nd wedding anniversary of Cathy and Roland.

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- **Pastor Terry Messenger is off sick. Let's keep him and his family in our prayers.**

As pastor Geert is on his Sabbatical, if you need, please contact in the meantime one of the elders of our church or Pastor Nathan Stickland.

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- **HARVEST THANKSGIVING.** Even in these unusual times we have a lot to be thankful for every day. You can express your thankfulness to God by joining in the

service **on Sabbath 25th September**. Produce can be brought to the church on Thursday evening 23rd September 5.30-7.30 p.m. or Friday 1.30-5.30 p.m. If you would prefer to make a monetary gift then please send it to the church bank account reference HARVEST or place your gift in an envelope marked HARVEST and give it to Audrey or one of the deacons/deaconesses. Thank you.

□ **Children's Sabbath School Prayer Request**

Presently we are running five different Sabbath school groups: Cradle Roll, Kindergarten, Primary, Junior and Earliteen. Unfortunately, there is no leader for either the Kindergarten or Junior Sabbath schools. Cradle Roll is in need of more people to support the team. The team of people supporting Kindergarten is very small (about 2 adults and a handful of young people). The group supporting Primary is dwindling and is almost non-existent. The team supporting Junior is also very small (less than 5 and some of these are irregular supporters.) Thank you to the great team of people that are currently supporting Earliteen Sabbath school.

It is not and will not be possible to continue running Sabbath school with this level of support. Please pray for our Children's Sabbath School. Please pray that God will provide the support we desperately need and please prayerfully consider whether you are able to offer support in some practical way.

□ **Parallel Service tomorrow.** Weather permitting we will gather in the park from 12pm. Please bring camping chairs, a picnic rug, food and drinks to stay for the picnic. If the weather is unsuitable, we will move the meeting to the Cedar Sycamore room.

□ **Women's ministry.** Please join us for an informative afternoon programme presented by Mr Wale Ademuyiwa, a stress therapist from 3-5 pm today, 4th of September 2021. We look forward to seeing you. God bless.

Meeting ID - 727 965 9834 | Passcode - WMmeeting

□ **SPCM registration for 2021-2022** is scheduled for 6th-8th September from 3:00-7:30pm at the Centre. Please book your slot to visit the centre. We provide music lessons for all levels and ages, including preparing auditions for schools, GCSE and

A-level music etc. If anyone would like to join, please contact Jiae by email at spcmahn@gmail.com or info@spcm.org.uk

SPCM Exam Results. We had another year with 100% pass rate in the external exams and 80% passed with merit and distinction. A big thank you to the church for your prayers and support.

Lockdown News - August 2021: [Read Here](#)

- **Adult Sabbath School** has started meeting in person at church with two classes currently in the Maple Room and Armstrong Hall from 10am to 11am. The lessons will also be accessible via Zoom with the following links:

Armstrong Hall class: [LINK](#) Meeting ID: 830 8948 2472 | Passcode: 870665

Maple Class: [LINK](#) Meeting ID: 757 070 1887 || Passcode: 111000
(Or by phone: +44 203 481 5240)

- **ADRA ANNUAL APPEAL - great news!**

A number of donations have been made to Audrey's JustGiving Page for ADRA in the last few days and they have boosted the total to over £14,000.00! We give praise and thanks to God. Audrey is continuing to donate to ADRA on the birthdays of her family and friends throughout the year.

If you would like to join her by acknowledging a birthday or to give thanks to God by donating to ADRA - please go to <https://justgiving.com/fundraising/Audrey-Balderstone1> Thank you.

Cradle Roll Programme August edition Sabbath at 9:45am on [Youtube](#) and [Facebook](#).

WALK FOR ADRA: As a global humanitarian agency, ADRA has felt the impact of COVID-19 in its projects around the world. Most of ADRA-UK's overseas projects are financially challenged by the onset of the novel coronavirus. Bert Smit, CEO, stated, 'We have made commitments to complete these projects and to ease and eliminate the suffering of people in need. 'We need your help to fulfil these commitments'. As we commence this journey together, here's the process to follow in order to register to [WALKFORADRA](#).

1. Register using our online form at <https://adra.org.uk/walkforadra>
2. Create your Just Giving profile/page
3. Download the tracker, or use your phone health app/ watch to keep track of your miles walked then report your miles to us through our online form.
4. Remember to have fun, enjoy every moment while you WALK FOR ADRA!

- The Recommendations Committee has met and is bringing the following names to you to serve as the Nominating Committee, to nominate names for Church Officers for the period January 2022 to December 2023. These names will be left with you for a week and a vote taken next week, September 11. If you have any questions please contact David Burgess (d.burgess330@btinternet.com) or Audrey Balderstone (abalderstone@btconnect.com).

Pastor (Co-Chair)

David Burgess (Co-Chair)

Julio Brugos

Bernell Bussue

Fay Christie

Richard Gayle

Roland Guenin

Volker Herkner

Arto Keshishian

Nitish Khetavah

Mick Lilley

Annalisa Molteni

Sheena Murphy

Vanesa Pizzuto

Michele Vitry

Karen Vontzalidis

Traditional Worship Service - 4th September

Welcome & Announcements - Audrey Balderstone

Prelude (Ensemble)

Invocation - Audrey Balderstone

Opening Hymn SOF 780: How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Tithes & Offerings - Audrey Balderstone

Scripture Reading: John 13:34-35 NIV - Victoria Balan

Children's Story - Pastor Dejan Stojkovic

Family Prayer - Jef Nascimento

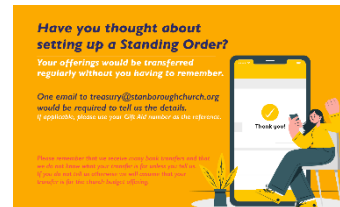
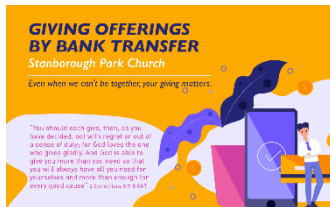
Musical Item: "The Love of God" - Ensemble

Sermon: "New Times, New Commandment" - Pastor Dejan Stojkovic

Closing Hymn NAH 673 - All Things Bright and Beautiful

Benediction - Pastor Dejan Stojkovic

Postlude (Ensemble)



Who on Earth can be trusted?



Cradle Roll Sabbath School

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Stanborough Park Church

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Church Clerk - Milimo Mumbo Milimo.mumbo@outlook.com - 07508 569757

Stanborough Park College of Music info@spcm.org.uk

Treasury Department treasury@stanboroughchurch.org

Bulletin Deadline Wednesday 6pm jef@stanboroughpark.org

www.stanboroughchurch.org

Stanborough Park Church is part of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church

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