



## Scapegoat Hill Baptist Church Sunday 5th January 2025

### Our Vision

To win the people of Scapegoat Hill and the surrounding areas to Christ and to nurture and develop maturing and witnessing Christians within a growing and loving fellowship, which promotes the values of God's kingdom in our area and beyond.

Today's Service is led by  
**Steve Daniel**

Today's Bible Reading is  
**Matthew 2: 1-12**



If you are a visitor and wish to find out more about our church please just ask the person next to you and they will point you in the right direction

Please feel free to stay seated during the service if you prefer

You are welcome to join us for refreshments which are served downstairs at the end of the service

## GOD IS ALWAYS LISTENING—KEEP ON PRAYING

### SUNDAY

Residents of Nettleton Hill / Trevor & Marilyn Briggs

### MONDAY

Brain Tumour Trust / Frances Brown

### TUESDAY

Kirkwood Hospice / David & Elaine Carter

### WEDNESDAY

Forget Me Not Children's Hospice / Arlene Creed

### THURSDAY

Welcome Centre Food Bank / Arthur & Josephine Daker

### FRIDAY

Residents of Golcar / Eileen Forrest

### SATURDAY

Operation Agri / Richard Fox



A banner for the 'Prayer Corner' featuring a sunset background and two hands in prayer. The text reads: 'Prayer Corner'. Below the banner, a white box contains the text: 'The prayer corner is at the front righthand side of church. If you need prayer for any reason please make your way there after the service'.

A decorative frame containing a bouquet of yellow and pink tulips. The text inside the frame reads: 'This weeks flowers donated by Sheila. In memory of a very dear Daughter—Rachel Joanne. Contact Pauline or Susan to donate flowers 655615'.

### A Chosen Person

As this New Year begins, many of us treat this time as an opportunity to evaluate our lives, to look back on the past twelve months. The ticking of time past midnight on New Year Eve is symbolic to us turning a page in the story of our lives. A fresh, blank, and crisp white page that over the year will be filled with what happens to us. The good, the bad and the ugly will be scrawled on that page. Some of this scrawl we can control and some we can't.

Barely a few days in to this New Year, it seems strange to ask you to focus on the cross of Easter. Whilst most people see Christmas as the main Christian event, we know, that this isn't the case. The Easter story, especially Good Friday, far outweighs anything Christmas can offer. However, both events are intrinsically linked.

In a month that is full of sayings such as "New year, new you", "It's time for a change" and when shops are full of health equipment to purchase and the adverts on TV offer special gym memberships to be a better version of you, who is it that is really telling us that we need to change? Of course, wanting to improve your health both physically and mentally is to be encouraged, to want to be the best version of 'you' is a good thing, but why are we made to feel that we are stating from the negative perspective?

In those times when you feel low, when you feel life is passing you by or you feel unhappy about being 'you' remember to look at yourself as God sees you.

**"He has covered me with clothes of salvation and wrapped me with a coat of goodness, like a bridegroom dressed for his wedding, like a bride dressed in jewels" Isaiah 61:10**

When your self esteem sags, when you feel low remember what YOU are worth.

**"You were bought not with something that ruins like gold or silver but with the precious blood of Christ, who was like a pure and perfect lamb" 1 Peter 1 18-19**

The cross of Easter is for you every day. It's the acknowledgment that Jesus hung on it for you, and that cross will carry you through the hard times of the next twelve months. The blood that Jesus shed, the cries of anguish and the humiliation He felt, was for you. When you feel insignificant or even unloved, remember that He never sees you that way. You were worthy of His suffering, you were the price He was willing to pay and when you speak to Him He listens, Intently, carefully.

So in this New Year, allow yourself the time and space to remember that you are loved more than you will ever know. You don't need to be a 'new you' this January, there isn't anything drastically wrong with the old. Allow Jesus to change the way you look at yourself from the inside out, because through His eyes you're doing okay. If you don't know Him yet, make 2025 the year where you do something amazing for yourself. Try saying hello to Him; I promise you, He can't wait to meet you.

Every blessing for the year ahead. Chris B



Last weeks collection was £304.09  
Please pray that these funds can be used wisely for  
the benefit of God's kingdom  
Raise money for Scape when you shop online with  
Easyfundraising - scan the QR code for more info



Monday 6th - 2pm - **LADIES FELLOWSHIP**

Wednesday 8th - 2pm - **CRAFT & CHAT**

Saturday 11th - 9am - **PRAYER BREAKFAST**

For future dates go to [www.scape.church](http://www.scape.church)>What's on>Calendar



Approach the New Year with resolve to find the opportunities hidden in each new day

## Contact us

Secretary—John Stephenson— 655615 / 07908 340697

Treasurer—Frances Brown—07828 611002

Caretaker—Danielle Rushworth

Prayer Chain/Craft&Chat/Prayer Breakfast/Ladies Fellowship

Email Frances : [hello@scape.church](mailto:hello@scape.church)



[www.scape.church](http://www.scape.church)



Follow us on Facebook

**Next Weeks Service will be led by  
Liz Hardy (Communion)**



Located in the Deacons Room  
—front right of church



Children's group  
Every other Weds 6pm –7.15pm  
[escape@scape.church](mailto:escape@scape.church)

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