

Reflection: Christian Unity in Creation

The source of Christian unity is the love of God and the unconditional love of all our brothers and sisters. This interconnection of love of God and love of neighbour is at the heart of the teaching of Jesus. So one of the hallmarks of Christianity is to live a caring life, to treat other people with reverence, and recognise the dignity of all created things. Another is appreciation of prayer as a way of being in touch with God, a way of changing things without being totally involved in them. And a third is the desire for justice which urges us to walk hand-in-hand with the oppressed and vulnerable, and leads to true compassion. In trying to do these things, God invites us to discover the ability to live fully in the time we have now – to live without the fear of the future, without the regrets of the past, but to live with joy and peace.

Christians believe that Jesus is the light shining in the darkness, and this is the flame that illuminates hope among us. Yes, the many different denominations do need to work more closely together, because a more visible unity would help us to spread the message of Jesus Christ more effectively. But unity is not the same as uniformity, and perhaps a greater need is for all Christians to recognise that there are many genuinely good people in this world who may be doing good things differently from the way we do them.

So as you walk this section, celebrate the good that Christians do, among themselves and for others, in the name of Jesus. In all these good works, the truth of God shines out radiantly. The Spirit leads us, guides us, so that we can see that truth reflected in our world and rejoice in it, wherever it may be found.

Pastrow Pilgrimage



Tangley
to



Hatherden

2.80 km (1.75 miles)

The Pastrow Benefice
Sharing the love, grace and truth of Jesus Christ

Route details: (numbers in brackets refer to pictures)

Start: St Thomas of Canterbury, Tangley, GR SU 3343 5248

Grid Ref	Directions
SU 3343 5248	Head East downhill from the church, 300m to X-roads with Chalkpit Cottage and Parish Council noticeboard on R (1).
SU 3372 5245	Turn R into Restricted Byeway (signpost), 1800m to 5-way jct (2).
SU 3473 5095	Turn R on tarmac road (caution!) 600m downhill to Hatherden.
SU 3443 5040	At the jct, cross the road to church.

End: Christ Church, Hatherden, GR SU 3440 5032

Refreshments: Fox Inn, Tangley (SU 334519): 600m S of church, follow track through woods
Old Bell & Crown PH, Hatherden, 300m S of church

Photographs:



(1)



(2)