



# Welcome to the 'virtual' Stoneleigh Methodist Church

## Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020

### 10:30am: Morning Worship with Richard Graham

#### Prayers

Please pray for Emma and Richard, and for others within the Church and beyond; and for the continued health of our key workers, and all of the National Health Service on whom we depend so much now, and at all times.

Please pray also for those of our Church family who are unwell or finding their mobility limited, and consider whether they might welcome a call from friends. And pray for the family and friends of Corrinne Payne who died recently.

*"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." Deuteronomy 31:8*

#### Notices

**Weekly News/Service sheet.** During the present restrictions we cannot meet or worship at Church, but we will continue to produce a weekly NewsSheet each Sunday, and a weekly service will be prepared for us. Thanks to all those who make this possible.

**Peter Poole's** funeral was last Friday (24<sup>th</sup>); the Service lead by Emma went very well, it was quiet and simple as he would have wanted. The Service sheet is included below, together with details of ways to donate in Peter's memory should you wish to do so. *Lesley*



**Property & Finance** – you might like to know that, whilst the Church Centre is closed it is being checked regularly in accordance with Insurance and Methodist requirements. Financially we are obviously not getting the weekly collection money, but we are receiving monthly standing orders which form the majority of our Offertory income.

If you would like to continue contributions that you would normally bring to Church, you could either send a cheque (payable to SMC) direct to me at 198 Stoneleigh Park Road, or pay direct through your bank. Let me know if you'd like to do the latter and I'll let you have the Church bank details and how to identify your payment. If cash is your only option give me a ring (020 8393 2155) and I'll talk you through the options. Thank you, and hope to be back with you all soon. *Denise*

**Ruxley Thursday Prayer Meeting** via Zoom. Ruxley have invited our members to join their regular Thursday morning meeting at 10:00am. This is led by Emma and Judy and, if you would like to try this out, please email Jenny on [publicity@ruxley-church.org.uk](mailto:publicity@ruxley-church.org.uk) so that she can send you the link. Zoom works on many sorts of computers and Smartphones - it is nice to see people's faces, but you can switch off video if you wish. If you want to stay on at the end for a little chat, you can, until the meeting times out (40 mins max.)

## From the Minister

All who managed to follow the Spring Harvest Home online I hope you have all been blessed. If you would like to share your experience about the series and perhaps what might have been your best/favourite/fun sessions then please share by emailing back to [emmacusack121019@yahoo.com](mailto:emmacusack121019@yahoo.com). You may wish to either include your name or not as it is intended to be collated and shared via our newsletter.

The same goes for all who joined in a study group and individual members who followed the prayer course during Lent please. *Emma*

## Around the Trolley

*A new section of the NewsSheet for less formal news and information exchanges. All contributions gratefully received – it's your NewsSheet! Robin*

**News/Service sheet delivery update.** As I walk down from Ruth's house towards Hilda and Jean's bungalows, I always look forward to seeing the blaze of colour in Tom's front garden.



It always makes me smile, and this year at the moment it has earned first place in the front garden category.

So thank you Tom. *Jeananne*

*Taken by the mill in Ewell Village by Lesley*



**On Jo Barker's travels – do you know where this post box is?**



**Being part of the Pastoral Team in Lockdown** has been really interesting and full of surprises. When I go out delivering, or just walking for exercise, I have had smiles and waves from our folk through their windows, bumped into people gardening and chatted, had people call out

unexpectedly; such a joy to have the time to spend with each other; blessings abound! Sending cards, having phone calls to keep in touch, laughing at comments, and sharing moments has been 'a bonus' of Lockdown for which I am very thankful. *Jeananne*

**3rd Stoneleigh Scout Group goes online.** Now that it is clear that our young people will not be able to meet for some time to come the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are going 'online', Beavers have already held their first meeting on Zoom (a virtual online meeting) which was enjoyed by all.

Cub leaders are offering an optional 40-minute Zoom meeting using their programme to do 'badges at home' focusing on specific badges unless the children make particular choices themselves. They will also be including crafts and other activities including an NHS heart colouring competition.

Zoom meetings have been held from Tuesday April 21<sup>st</sup> at the usual time of 6:30pm. Scouts are also using a similar programme for their young people to be able to take part in badge work and activities during this difficult time.

Sadly, all camps and District activity days have been cancelled or postponed and so we have to thank the section Leaders for the innovative ways they are trying to keep the young people in touch, involved and occupied. *Lesley*

## Updates . . .

Foodbank's special funding appeal to help them cope with the increased demand on their services— it's at <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/epsom-and-ewell-foodbank-covid19-crisis-appeal> and having achieved their £10,000 target, they are now reaching out for £12,000. *Lesley*

## Contact Details

**Postal Address:** 1 Stoneleigh Crescent, Stoneleigh, Epsom KT19 0RT

**Contact:** Jeananne (07729 028850) - [contact@stoneleighmethodist.church](mailto:contact@stoneleighmethodist.church)

**Minister:** 020 8393 2322, [emmacusack121019@yahoo.com](mailto:emmacusack121019@yahoo.com), or Skype is available by arrangement. The Minister's Rest Day is Friday.

**News/Service sheet.** During this time of forced 'social distancing', we at SMC are focussed on maintaining weekly contact with every one of our membership, plus others who may be interested, such as specific friends at Ruxley and Tuesday Fellowship.

The combined sheet is circulated to all members, either by email, or through your letter box if we possibly can; it will also be posted onto the Church website in the normal way. If you'd like to be added to our email circulation list, or know someone who might appreciate this, just let me know. Jeananne and I will do our very best to ensure all members are kept 'in the loop' – *Robin*

*Other Churches offer Services etc through the Internet such as:*

- **Christ Church with St Philip** in Worcester Park. Paul and Steph alternate Sunday mornings at 10:00am on Facebook at [facebook.com/christchurchsaintphilip](https://www.facebook.com/christchurchsaintphilip)
- **All Souls in Langham Place** who are producing very polished mid-week and Sunday Services at [allsouls.org](https://www.allsouls.org) – these are complete with music, singing and subtitles so you can follow along.

**All items for future NewsSheets** –please email to [news@stoneleighmethodist.church](mailto:news@stoneleighmethodist.church) or phone 020 8393 2155.

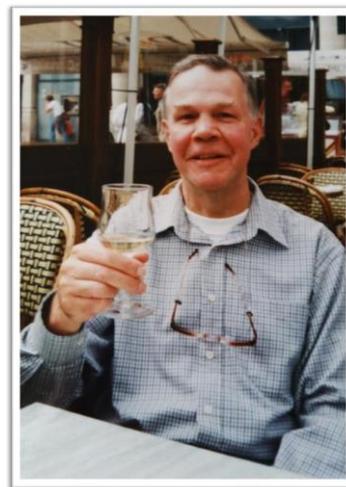
# Peter Sidney Poole

8<sup>th</sup> April 1936 - 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020

North East Surrey

Crematorium, Morden

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020, 11:20am



**TRIBUTE** by Lesley Lee

## Order of Service

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### ENTRY MUSIC

What a wonderful world – Louis  
Armstrong

### WELCOME & PRAYERS

Revd. Emma Cusack

### CELEBRATE

*Read by Andrew Eglon*

Weep not for me though I am gone  
Into the gentle night  
Grieve if you will, but not for long  
Upon my soul's sweet flight  
I am at peace, my soul's at rest  
There is no need for tears.

For with your love I was so blessed  
For all those many years.

There is no pain, I suffer not,  
The fear now all is gone.

Put now these things out of your thoughts  
In your memory I live on.

Remember not my fight for breath  
Remember not the strife

Please do not dwell upon my death,  
But celebrate my life.

*Author – Constance Jenkins*

### MUSIC

Will the Angels play their harps for me? –  
*Frank Luther*

### COMMENDATION

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against  
us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.

### COMMITTAL

#### PRAYER and BLESSING

#### EXIT MUSIC

Bring me sunshine – Eric Morecombe &  
Ernie Wise.

*Donations in memory of Peter can be made  
directly to either The British Heart Foundation  
or The Princess Alice Hospice, Esher.*

# Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> 2020 – with Richard Graham



Link to the full online Service video - <https://youtu.be/b7nvQMw9fXs>

**Psalms 116: 1-4, 12-19**

(NIV)

I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;  
he heard my cry for mercy.

Because he turned his ear to me,  
I will call on him as long as I live.

The cords of death entangled me,  
the anguish of the grave came over me;  
I was overcome by distress and sorrow.

Then I called on the name of the LORD:  
'LORD, save me!'

I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.  
I will fulfil my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the LORD  
is the death of his faithful servants.  
Truly I am your servant, LORD;  
I serve you just as my mother did;  
you have freed me from my chains.

## Hymn:

(Tune: 'Woodlands' / 'Tell out my Soul' (StF186))

The world we thought we knew is changing fast,  
and longingly we cling to what is past –  
that settled life which made no great demand  
Our foretaste of the hoped for promised land.

But as for you, dynamic, Pilgrim God,  
you do not linger on the path well trod,  
but ever lead your pilgrim people on  
to risk an unknown future with your Son.

I will sacrifice a thank-offering to you  
and call on the name of the LORD.  
I will fulfil my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the LORD –  
in your midst, Jerusalem.

Praise the Lord.

## A Prayer of Approach

(Roots)

Risen Saviour, risen Lord,  
we come to you today.  
We come to share in your story.  
We come to feast with you.  
We approach your throne with the knowledge  
that you died for us and rose again.  
Hallelujah, risen Lord Jesus.  
Hallelujah. Amen.

<https://youtu.be/QFzA-kQ1Puw>

The challenge of diversity and change  
will take us well beyond our former range.  
Exposing us to things we do not know,  
demanding all the love that we can show.

You take the stuff of chaos, fear and dread,  
and make a path where we can safely tread;  
and if we fear the wildness of the wave,  
we know your outstretched hand is there to save.

Words © Rosemary Wakelin,

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<<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/worship/singing-the-faith-plus/posts/the-world-we-thought-we-knew-is-changing-fast-website-only>>

## A Prayer of Confession

(Roots)

Risen Lord, we are sorry  
that we fail to recognise you in our midst,  
that we are too preoccupied with ourselves.

We are sorry  
that we let you down,  
that we feast and don't invite others  
to share with us.

We are sorry  
that we welcome friends  
but not always the stranger,  
or anyone who makes us feel uncomfortable.

Forgive us, Lord.  
Help us to be generous people,  
our church, our homes – and our hearts –  
always places of welcome. Amen.

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognising him.

He asked them, 'What are you discussing together as you walk along?'

They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, 'Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?'

'What things?' he asked.

'About Jesus of Nazareth,' they replied. 'He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.'

He said to them, 'How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?' And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going further. But they urged him strongly, 'Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?'

They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, 'It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognised by them when he broke the bread.

## **Reflection**

I think it's safe to say that this is not a time that any of us thought we would be living in, and for many the novelty value of it is now wearing off and people just want to get back to normal. There is a huge uncertainty to what is going on in our world at the moment – we've at least another three weeks of this, probably more. A couple of months ago, it was 'business as usual', we were thinking ahead to Easter and the events we were going to hold and our outreach into the community. And it all seems to have come crashing in on us with little warning.

So imagine what it was then like for the disciples. Their world had just come crashing down upon them – their Teacher, their Lord, and their Friend had just been executed in quite a brutal style. Only a few days earlier, it had been 'business as usual' for them – they were in Jerusalem for the Passover festival, they had had a party together as part of the celebrations, and then suddenly things went sour, He had gone, and now they were at a loss to what to do.

In John's Gospel, we read that Peter decided to go fishing. I have a certain empathy for him there – there was nothing else to do, so he went back to what he was good at to try and keep his mind off things. And in today's reading, we hear about these two people who are walking back home. Despondent. Confused. Upset. They had heard that Jesus' body was no longer in the tomb, but hadn't yet heard or seen that He had risen. They had heard that the angels had proclaimed the Risen King, but not that anybody had yet seen Him.

There are many theories as to why they did not recognise Jesus as He walked alongside them, but I think my favourite of these theories is simply that they didn't expect to see Him again. There would have been more to it than just that of course, but I just like the idea that because we don't expect to see somebody, we don't.

Christ is among us, even in our separation. The very fact that we are joining in this act of worship together is evidence of that, and many other churches across the country and across the world are meeting virtually today. Christ is present in our acts of hospitality, in our acts of prayer.

We should remember that just He walked with the two on their way to Emmaus on the day he rose again, in whatever way our minds are at the moment, Jesus *is* walking with us right now. It may not seem like it sometimes, and in this time of quarantine, isolation, and social distancing, it can be hard to remember that He indeed is with us.

Maybe even we are the 'Jesus' that is walking with others right now. I'm sure that we can all think of some people who we used to see on a regular basis – are we the Jesus that they need? A quick phone call or a text or WhatsApp message might be all they need to know that they are not alone right now.

### Hymn: StF297

<https://youtu.be/ohxaG7ZlxzE>

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Women and men, in age and youth,  
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,  
and find the way, the life, the truth,  
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive! No longer bound  
to distant years in Palestine,  
but saving, healing, here and now,  
and touching every place and time.

Christ is alive and comes to bring  
good news to this and every age,  
'til earth and sky and ocean ring  
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

In every insult, rift and war,  
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,  
and lives, where even hope has died.

Words: Brian Wren  
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### Prayers of Intercession & Petition

(From the Methodist Church website)

Faithful God, you are present in all aspects of life even when people don't see it.

We call on you today to send your Spirit to bring comfort and peace to all who find their path ahead difficult.

We pray for your church and all those seeking ways to be church in these times. May they recognise your living presence.

We pray for the world and all those seeking to offer leadership in the midst of uncertainty. May they recognise your living presence.

We pray for all those who suffer at this time in body, mind or spirit. May they recognise your living presence.

We pray for all who are bereaved whether through the loss of loved ones or the loss of human contact. May they recognise your living presence.

Merciful God, accept these our prayers today in and through the name of the living Christ. May we too recognise your living presence in the week ahead and trust in you for all that is to come.

## The Lord's Prayer

*As with the service I took last time we were together, I would encourage us to use the 'Modern Form' of the Lord's Prayer, particularly because of the line 'Save us from the time of trial'.*

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be Your Name,  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

## Hymn: StF 141

<https://youtu.be/XFwP1VizYVA>

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;  
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;  
heaven's morning breaks,  
and earth's vain shadows flee;  
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;  
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, O abide with me;  
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Henry Francis Lyte (1793–1847)

## Blessing

(Roots)

Lord Jesus,  
as you walked on the road to Emmaus,  
walk with us on the roads we travel.  
Help us to know your presence with us,  
and to be your presence to others.  
And, at the end of the day,  
may we all enjoy your feast. Amen.

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**Feedback:** Richard would appreciate a couple of 'volunteers' to give feedback on his Service video. If you watched it and would like to help Richard, just let me know and I'll forward the form to you. Thanks *Robin*