



SORRY – We are closed again due to Covid - *but we are always open on-line*

Welcome to Stoneleigh Methodist Church

Palm Sunday 28th March 2021

10:30am: Morning Worship led by the Rev Paul Timmis

You can join our Service today online or by telephone – details in the Service header



Clocks forward

Hope you all remembered to put your clocks FORWARD one hour by now (otherwise you will be too late for our Service broadcast today!) Luckily, all bar one of the clocks at Church change themselves automatically overnight, so I get a lay in! *Robin*

Prayers

Please pray for Paul preaching here today, for our Stewards, for others within the Church and beyond who continue to work tirelessly for the benefit of all, and for the continued health of the National Health Service staff and all our other key workers. And especially for Emma as she continues her sabbatical. 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.

“Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” Ephesians 4:31-32

Easter Services

With the single exception of Easter Sunday, all our current Services will be held only over YouTube and Zoom; access details are in the NewsSheet, under ‘Contact details’.

Our Easter Services start this week with **Palm Sunday on 28th March**, led by the Rev Paul Timmis, our Superintendent Minister, at **10:30am**.

The following **Thursday, April 1st at 4:00pm**, we will be holding a ‘Love Feast’ (Zoom only) for Maundy Thursday, led by our Leadership Team.*

On **Good Friday (2nd) at 11:00am** our Service will be led by Richard Graham.

And on **Easter Sunday (4th) at 10:30am**, our Service will be led by the Rev Chris Morley.

**if you would like to follow a Maundy Thursday Service locally, and prefer YouTube to Zoom, then details of Ruxley’s evening Service are at the end of our Notices.*

Lenten Thoughts - Sunday 28th March – Palm Sunday

Bible Reading: Psalm 118:26-27 (NLT)

“Bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. The Lord is God shining upon us. Bring forward the sacrifice and put it on the altar.”

Palm Sunday must have had a party atmosphere in Jerusalem, but the people did not realise what would happen. They just wanted to give worship and praise. How often do things happen to us, which change our lives completely. Sometimes good for bad, sometimes bad for good. The unexpected can cause us to wonder where we go from here. Christ was sacrificed for our sins, and we need to trust that God will be there for us too, whatever the circumstances

Hymn: StF277 My song is love unknown. StF 424 God forgave my sin.

Prayer: We thank you, that your ways are far greater than our ways. We give thanks for the good things in our lives, for times of celebration, (although, as you know, Lord, over the past year the opportunities for sharing celebration together have been limited). Throughout your life, Lord, there were times of celebration, but also times of difficulty and pain, help us to be grateful for the happy celebratory times and to learn from the harsh times. You had faith that your Father was there for you, but you still asked to be released from where your journey was taking you. Help us, Lord, to accept that there will be anxious, lonely, sad, painful and difficult times, but knowing that you are always there for us too. Help us to do your will through the bad and the good times. Thank you, Lord, for always being there with your peace, love and strength. **Amen**

What Can I Do: Think through the times when things have been difficult, painful, hurtful or frightening and remember that you managed to get through them or will get through them with God’s help and strength. Remember all the times you have celebrated and think about those happy memories. If you know someone who is unwell, in pain, or suffering loss perhaps you could contact them to see how they are and talk about happy times you have shared. Look forward to being able to share things again, once lockdown is over. Thank God for always being there in bad times and good.

Notices

Maundy Thursday (SMC)

As part of our Easter celebrations, we are planning a love feast on Maundy Thursday at 4:00pm. We will meet over ‘Zoom’ (link in the ‘Contact details’ table) and have fellowship together, worship, and pray and eat. Please have food and drink readily available (just a snack, not a full meal) and meet with the church on Zoom. We have invited Ruxley to join us, as they also have invited us.

Below is just one of the love-feast cake recipes from Yorkshire. This one has been adjusted and tested by Vivienne, so it's not too big, as we can't actually share the cake on the day. It produces a madeira-like cake.

4 oz (100g) plain flour
1 tsp baking powder
1 oz (30g) (a generous 1 oz) butter
2 oz (50g) sugar

spoonful of peel
1 oz (25g) sultanas
1 egg
50ml milk

rub the butter into the flour and baking powder, add the sugar, sultanas and peel.

Beat the egg and add to the dry ingredients.

Beat in the milk till the mixture is a soft consistency,

pour the mixture into the loaf tin (or other suitable dish/bowl/tin),

cook at 180 °C, 350 °F or gas mark 4 for at least 30 mins, then check till knife comes clean.

Enjoy it. *Vivienne*

***Maundy Thursday (Ruxley).** We are invited to join with Ruxley Church for their Maundy Thursday Service at 7:30pm via [YouTube](#) – also on their Easter page at ruxley-church.org.uk/holyweekandeaste.htm. “We will gather as the disciples did on Maundy Thursday, and retrace the events in the upper room, retelling the story, and worshipping together as we remember, pray and break bread with a spiritual communion.”



Church & Tenant Empowerment Worker. Hope into Action, Epsom is looking for someone to join the team for 8 hours a week as an Empowerment Worker.

You will be supporting our tenants who have been homeless. Tenants may be singles or families with support needs and you would empower them towards a fulfilled life. The initiative has just purchased its first house for the homeless. You will also be working with our partner churches to train, equip, encourage for their role in mentoring, befriending, and giving practical support to tenants.

For a job description & application pack please click the link below, and then the red download buttons: <https://epsom.hopeintoaction.org.uk/vacancies/empowerment-worker/da7fbe20-d214-46bc-99a3-ca3c2c1faa52>. The closing date for applications is 30th April 2021.

If you would like to know more about the work of ‘Hope into Action’, a national registered Charity founded in 2010 and with a local base at Epsom Methodist Church, have a look at their website at <https://epsom.hopeintoaction.org.uk>

Around the Trolley

Foodbank Epsom & Ewell. If you like to donate funds by text to Foodbank, the numbers are:-

☎ Text FOODBANKGIFT 2 to 70450 to donate £2, ☎ Text FOODBANKGIFT 3 to 70450 to donate £3

☎ Text FOODBANKGIFT 5 to 70450 to donate £5, ☎ Text FOODBANKGIFT 10 to 70450 to donate £10

☎ Text FOODBANKGIFT 15 to 70450 to donate £15, ☎ Text FOODBANKGIFT 20 to 70450 to donate £20

As you can imagine this help is needed more now than ever before and we truly appreciate every bit of support our local community have shown us 🙏

Conquest Art. Publication of the Conquest Art ‘lockdown’ pictures has been suspended for the Easter period. *Lesley*

Contact Details

Website: - stoneleighmethodist.church

Contact: Jeananne (07729 028850) - contact@stoneleighmethodist.church

All items for future NewsSheets – to news@stoneleighmethodist.church or phone 020 8393 2155

Our weekly News/Service sheet is delivered to every member, and also a YouTube or Zoom Sunday Service is available to those able to receive it, including by telephone. A video DVD or audio CD copy is also available – contact Jeananne.

The Ruxley/Stoneleigh Thursday Morning prayer (10:00am) by Zoom is open to all. It is followed by Chat Time and virtual tea/coffee from 10:45-11:15. Email to publicity@ruxley-church.org.uk by Tuesday for details and a copy of the liturgy too.

Zoom/YouTube details for on-line meetings – Zoom telephone number **020 3481 5240**

Group/Event	Day/Time	Meeting ID	Password	One Click
Lent Group (Monday)	Monday 8:00pm	882 9496 8024		
Lent Group (Wednesday)	Wednesday 3:00pm	818 9255 0864		
Fellowship	Tuesday 3:00pm	880 8308 5350		
Sunday Service (YouTube)	Sunday 10:30am			Click
Sunday Service (Zoom)	Sunday 10:30am	874 6773 6490		
Maundy Thursday	Thursday April 1, 4:00pm	874 6773 6490		
Good Friday (YouTube)	Friday April 2, 11:00am			Click

Morning Worship – Sunday 28 March, 10:30am

Palm Sunday - led by Rev Paul Timmis

Watch live on YouTube: youtu.be/UwVfB8qzauY or join on Zoom: bit.ly/2J5jvY8

To join the Morning Service through Zoom go to bit.ly/2J5jvY8
and if prompted, use Meeting ID: **874 6773 6490**, and Passcode **702336**.

On your home phone, dial **020 3481 5240**, listen to the announcement
and enter the meeting ID **874 6773 6490** followed by # (hash) when prompted;
just # on its own when asked for your Participant ID; and when prompted,
the passcode **702336** followed by #.

And that's it: you should be connected and are able to listen into the service.
Simply hang up when the service finishes, or whenever you want to leave.

To unmute yourself during the post-service chat time, press ***6**

Call to Worship

Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Jesus comes in the name of our God!

Praise to the Christ, the brave one!

Praise be to God.

Jesus rides through the people

in love and courage,

never turning away in fear.

Praise be to Jesus Christ!

Let us worship God.

Hymn: Singing the Faith 264

Make way, make way, for Christ the King
in splendour arrives;
fling wide the gates and welcome him
into your lives.

*Make way, make way,
for the King of kings;
make way, make way,
and let his Kingdom in.*

He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the prisoners to free;
the deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
the blind shall see.

And those who mourn with heavy hearts,
who weep and sigh,
with laughter, joy and royal crown
he'll beautify.

We call you now to worship him
as Lord of all,
to have no gods before him,
their thrones must fall!

*Make way, make way,
for the King of kings;
make way, make way,
and let his Kingdom in.*

Graham Kendrick
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Prayer of Invocation

We have prepared this place for your entry, Jesus Christ.
We have joined together to meet you
remembering the people stood by the road to Jerusalem,
hoping to be touched by your life and hope,
growing in conviction that the Messiah is among us.

**Be present to us today, Jesus Christ, the One for whom we wait.
Amen**

Prayer of Confession

Brave Jesus,
we confess that often we do not have your courage
or your faith and hope.
Our hearts fail within us
and we lose hold of our sense of connection with your life,
trying, as best we can, to survive on our own.
Remind us of who we are, Jesus Christ.

Forgive us as you did your early friends. Amen.

We are forgiven

Jesus never forgets us.
We are remembered every day of our lives.
We are loved and forgiven.

**Thanks be to God.
Amen.**

Readings

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29: A Song of Victory

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures for ever!

**Let Israel say,
'His steadfast love endures for ever.'**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
**that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.**

This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.

**I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.**

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

**This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes.**

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!
O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God,
and he has given us light.

**Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.**

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

Mark 11.1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethpage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?"

just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately." ' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

'Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Reflection

Prayers

Gracious God, there is no one who goes unnoticed as you tread the road of life with us.

Bring to our prayers for others your eyes of wisdom and care:

The people pray

God, who leads us on,
may we see the world as you see it.

Carry us into deeper places of concern.

**Show us ways of hearing the cries of people
and move us to justice and compassion.**

Show us ways of touching the lives of people

- despite all the limitations that we are currently faced with -

that we and others may be taken deeper into relationship and celebration.

**And then, dear God, be our company
as we dare to enter our own lives.**

**Invite us to change and grow
in fullness of life and grander faith.**

**Make this year's Easter journey
one which we enter in Spirit and in truth. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught his disciples, we pray:

**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.

Hymn/Reading: Singing the Faith 262

*All glory, laud, and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!*

Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and blessed One.

All glory . . .

The company of angels
are praising thee on high,
and mortal men and all things
created make reply.

All glory . . .

The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present.

All glory . . .

To thee before thy Passion
they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee now high exalted
our melody we raise.

All glory . . .

Thou didst accept their praises;
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King!

All glory . . .

A Prayer of Dismissal

Step lightly into this Holy Week.
Be ready to find holiness in unexpected places,
and walk lovingly,
for the love of our crucified Saviour
opens the door to all things on earth and in heaven.

Copyright Acknowledgements (where not already indicated above)

Liturgy drawn from 'Growing conviction' in Liturgies for High Days (SPCK, 2006), 'Roll Out The Red Carpet' in Liturgies for the Young in Years (SPCK, 2005, 2007) and 'A Liturgy for Lent (1)' in Liturgies for Daily Life SPCK, 2004) by Dorothy McRae-McMahan. Copyright © Dorothy McRae-McMahan, 2004, 2005, 2006 & 2007. Used with permission of the author.

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