



# Welcome to Stoneleigh Methodist Church

**Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021, 10:30am**

## **Morning Worship led by Richard Graham**

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

### **Prayers**

Please pray for Richard preaching here this morning and for Emma at Raynes Park; for our Stewards, for others within the Church and beyond who continue to work for the benefit of all, and for the continued health of the National Health Service staff and all our other key workers. 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.

### **Notices**

**Sad to report that our friend Stan Shepherd passed away on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> July, aged one hundred and one. May he rest in peace.**

The life that I have  
Is all that I have  
And the life that I have  
Is yours.

The love that I have  
Of the life that I have  
Is yours and yours and yours.

A sleep I shall have  
A rest I shall have  
Yet death will be but a pause.

For the peace of my years  
In the long green grass  
Will be yours and yours and yours.

*Leo Marks*

**NEXT WEEK (25<sup>th</sup>)** our Service will be a Circuit one, led by the Rev Emma Cusack, held at Ruxley Church **at 10:00am**, and streamed on [bit.ly/RuxleyYTC](https://bit.ly/RuxleyYTC) and our usual Zoom too.

As well as being able to watch at home, our Church will be open earlier than usual and you are welcome to come and watch the Service from Ruxley streamed live onto our big screen.

## Around the Trolley

**NOTES FROM A HOSPITAL BED.** I came into Harley Street Clinic a day or so ago and was told I was suffering a sodium shortage which affects the brain function and have been ordered to eat a packet of salty crisps daily. Interestingly I am finding difficulty in being coherent, (which explains a lot!) let's hope the crisps sort it! *Helen*

**FELLOWSHIP STRAWBERRY TEA** - Tuesday Fellowship is having a Strawberry Tea on 27<sup>th</sup> July at 2:30pm in the Church Centre. This is our first 'physical' meeting for over a year, and we are looking forward to it. Do let us know if you can come. We ask that masks be worn until you are seated. *Catherine and Pat*



**POPPY QUEST.** Amanda, Harry, and I are doing our Poppy Quest walk TODAY in aid of the British Legion. Please think of us and pray for good weather.

If you wish to donate to this good cause, I am sure they will be very grateful; you can give to me and I will forward. *Denise*

**ALL DONATIONS** for Whitechapel (that trailer is getting quite full now – thanks to all), Foodbank, TWAM, milk bottle tops, spectacles etc can be left either by the gallery stairs in Church on Sundays, or in the porch of 198 Stoneleigh Park Road at any time. *Robin*

## Contact Details

**Website:** - [stoneleighmethodist.church](http://stoneleighmethodist.church)

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

**All items for future NewsSheets** – to [news@stoneleighmethodist.church](mailto: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](mailto: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
Monday Group	Monday 8:00pm	882 9496 8024		
Tuesday Fellowship	Tuesday 3:00pm	880 8308 5350		
Sunday Service (YouTube)	Sunday 10:30am			<a href="#">Click</a>
Sunday Service (Zoom)	Sunday 10:30am	874 6773 6490		

# Morning Worship - Sunday 18 July, 10:30am

*led by Richard Graham*

Watch live on YouTube: [youtu.be/xyREjdo6t6M](https://youtu.be/xyREjdo6t6M) or join on Zoom: [bit.ly/2J5jvY8](https://bit.ly/2J5jvY8)

To join the Morning Service through Zoom go to [bit.ly/2J5jvY8](https://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

(Roots)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Come away... and rest a while.'  
Come into the Lord's presence now,  
away from the burdens and stresses of life.  
Come with open arms,  
and receive the rest that Jesus offers –  
to restore our souls, and equip us for whatever comes next.

## Hymn: Singing the Faith 480

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;  
he makes me down to lie  
in pastures green; he leadeth me  
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again,  
and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness,  
e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale,  
yet will I fear no ill;  
for thou art with me, and thy rod  
and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished  
in presence of my foes;  
my head thou dost with oil anoint,  
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life  
shall surely follow me,  
and in God's house for evermore  
my dwelling-place shall be.

## Prayer

(Roots)

Jesus, our Shepherd,  
who makes us lie down in green pastures,  
who leads us beside still waters,  
who restores our souls:  
you anoint our heads with oil  
and our cup overflows.  
We worship and adore you,  
King of kings and Lord of lords.

Amen.

## Reading: Ephesians 2: 11-22

(NIrV)

### God's New Family of Jews and Gentiles

You who are not Jews by birth, here is what I want you to remember. You are called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "circumcised." But they have only been circumcised in their bodies by human hands. Before you believed in Christ, you were separated from him. You were not considered to be citizens of Israel. You were not included in what the covenants promised. You were without hope and without God in the world. At one time you were far away from God. But now you belong to Christ Jesus. He spilled his blood for you. This has brought you near to God.

Christ himself is our peace. He has made Jews and Gentiles into one group of people. He has destroyed the hatred that was like a wall between us. Through his body on the cross, Christ set aside the law with all its commands and rules. He planned to create one new people out of Jews and Gentiles. He wanted to make peace between them. He planned to bring both Jews and Gentiles back to God as one body. He planned to do this through the cross. On that cross, Christ put to death their hatred toward one another. He came and preached peace to you who were far away. He also preached peace to those who were near. Through Christ we both come to the Father by the power of one Holy Spirit.

So you are no longer outsiders and strangers. You are citizens together with God's people. You are also members of God's family. You are a building that is built on the apostles and prophets. They are the foundation. Christ Jesus himself is the most important stone in the building. The whole building is held together by him. It rises to become a holy temple because it belongs to the Lord. And because you belong to him, you too are being built together. You are being made into a house where God lives through his Spirit.

## Hymn: Singing the Faith 64

Christ is the world's light,  
Christ and none other;  
born in our darkness,  
he became our brother.  
If we have seen him,  
we have seen the Father:  
glory to God on high.

Christ is the world's Peace,  
Christ and none other;  
no one can serve him  
and despise another;  
who else unites us,  
one in God the Father?  
Glory to God on high.

Christ is the world's Life,  
Christ and none other;  
sold once for silver,  
murdered here, our brother —  
he, who redeems us,  
reigns with God the Father:  
glory to God on high.

Give God the glory,  
God and none other;  
give God the glory,  
Spirit, Son, and Father;  
give God the glory,  
God with us, my brother:  
glory to God on high.

Fred Pratt Green (1903–2000)  
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## Prayers of Confession and Forgiveness

(500)

Lord, we confess that we have come  
with so many things on our minds,  
we find it hard to concentrate on praising you.  
We confess that we have come with so many things in our hearts  
that should not be there,  
we find it impossible to feel comfortable in your presence.  
We confess that we have filled our thoughts and our days  
with so many, many things,  
there is often little space left for you.  
We confess our lack of prayer  
and our failure to read your word each day.  
We confess that we give too little time and space  
either to you or to the members of our family.  
We confess that we are in too much of a hurry  
to consider the effects of our busyness on others or on ourselves.  
We confess that we make a reasonable job of existence,  
but we fall short of really living.  
We confess that we have allowed even your day  
to be cluttered with activity.  
We confess that we are afraid to sit and be still.  
Lord, touch us, hold us, heal us  
and by your Spirit make us whole. **Amen.**

**Even though we have gone astray,  
you are our Shepherd –  
the one who brings us back to the fold.  
We are assured of your forgiveness,  
and we are set free in the knowledge  
that you always make room for us.**

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Readings: Jeremiah 23: 1-6**

(NIrV)

### **The Godly Branch**

“How terrible it will be for the shepherds who lead my people astray!” announces the LORD. “They are destroying and scattering the sheep that belong to my flock.” So the LORD, the God of Israel, speaks to the shepherds who take care of my people. He tells them, “You have scattered my sheep. You have driven them away. You have not taken good care of them. So I will punish you for the evil things you have done,” announces the LORD. “I myself will gather together those who are left alive in my flock. I will gather them out of all the countries where I have driven them. And I will bring them back to their own land. There my sheep will have many lambs. There will be many more of them. I will place shepherds over them who will take good care of them. My sheep will not be afraid or terrified anymore. And none of them will be missing,” announces the LORD.

“A new day is coming,” announces the LORD.

“At that time I will raise up for David’s royal line  
a godly Branch.

He will be a King who will rule wisely.

He will do what is fair and right in the land.

In his days Judah will be saved.

Israel will live in safety.

And the Branch will be called

The LORD Who Makes Us Right With Himself.”

## Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56

(NIrV)

The apostles gathered around Jesus. They told him all they had done and taught. But many people were coming and going. So they did not even have a chance to eat. Then Jesus said to his apostles, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place. You need to get some rest."

So they went away by themselves in a boat to a quiet place. But many people who saw them leaving recognized them. They ran from all the towns and got there ahead of them. When Jesus came ashore, he saw a large crowd. He felt deep concern for them. They were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

They went across the lake and landed at Gennesaret. There they tied up the boat. As soon as Jesus and his disciples got out, people recognized him. They ran through that whole area to bring to him those who were sick. They carried them on mats to where they heard he was. He went into the villages, the towns and the countryside. Everywhere he went, the people brought the sick to the market areas. Those who were sick begged him to let them touch just the edge of his clothes. And all who touched his clothes were healed.

## Message

## Prayers of Intercession

(Roots)

Lord, your compassion for the crowds that swamped you was ever present. Compassionate Lord, we bring before you now our brothers and sisters around the world. In China where churches are being destroyed. In South Africa where many are being threatened with guns if they set foot out of their homes. We pray for all Christians. For all victims of prejudice, here and worldwide.

**Lord of all righteousness and peace,  
we pray for a dissolving of hatred  
and a renewal of compassion and unity.**

Lord, you took your disciples away from the crowds to rest and find refreshment. But it was not always easy, because the crowds followed and made demands on your time. We pray for your church today: for all ministers, worship leaders, youth workers. All those you have given the responsibility of leadership to. We ask that you enable them to find or regain a healthy balance amid the rhythm of life's rushing and resting.

**Lord of all righteousness and peace,  
we pray for a dissolving of hatred  
and a renewal of compassion and unity.**

We pray for the bereaved. And all those who are sick, in mind, body or soul. For all those burnt out by rushing here and there caring for others without giving thought for their own selfcare. We pray for all those anxiously awaiting long overdue operations. And all those who are having to find new rhythms of life at this time due to suffering long Covid.

**Lord of all righteousness and peace,  
we pray for a dissolving of hatred  
and a renewal of compassion and unity.**

We lift before you all those in our communities who are finding life transitions difficult and daunting. Refugees settling in new places. Young adults leaving care and forging their own life. Children leaving the familiar surroundings of junior school to head to bigger school after the holidays. Those leaving and looking forward to college or venturing into the rhythm and challenges of the workplace.

**Lord of all righteousness and peace,  
we pray for a dissolving of hatred  
and a renewal of compassion and unity.**

As restrictions lift, we pray for those preparing to go back to the workplace rather than working from home. Many have been stressed trying to balance work amid family life in lockdown; others have found working from home beneficial and are anxious about returning to the office. We lift all to you as they attempt to restore or find a new balance.

**Lord of all righteousness and peace,  
we pray for a dissolving of hatred  
and a renewal of compassion and unity. Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

**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: Singing the Faith 682

God of grace and God of glory,  
on your people pour your power;  
crown your ancient Church's story;  
bring her bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour.

Heal your children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to your control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us  
scorn your Christ, assail his ways!  
Fears and doubts too long have bound us;  
free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days.

Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878–1969)  
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## Blessing

(500)

Lord, we commit ourselves to trust you  
and to listen for your voice in the midst of the world's clamour for our attention.  
We commit ourselves to obey your word  
and to seek to live always for your glory.  
Fill us with your Holy Spirit and empower us with your grace. **Amen.**

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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