



Welcome to Stoneleigh Methodist Church

Sunday, 25th July 2021, 10:30am

Circuit Service led by the Rev Emma Cusack

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

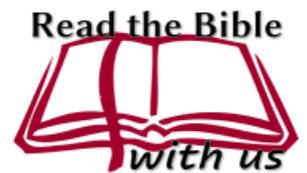
Prayers

Please pray for Emma preaching at Ruxley this morning; 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

COVID NEWS. As you may have heard announced in Church last Sunday, with the Covid 'rules' now relaxed we are now allowed to sing in Church again; we'd prefer you to keep masks on for the time being though. And I think I heard that refreshments may be returning very soon. *Robin*

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE IS DIFFICULT. It is fine until Moses brings the Commandments down from the mountain, and then it gets hard. There are lists of names, rules that are not pertinent in our culture and seemingly useless measurements dealing with the temple and the tent which served as a temple until it was built. And there are lots of repetitions!



So, starting next Sunday (1st August), we will be sharing a list of Bible readings which will take you through the Bible (in chronological order) without all of that – just the stories. Of course, if you feel you would like to read between the given readings, there is no reason why you cannot! Our hope is that as we read through the Bible together, it may give us a greater understanding of what is written in God's word. Our grateful thanks to Helen Graham at Ottery St Mary Methodist Church who has compiled this and allowed us to share it with you. *Richard*

NEXT WEEK (1st) our Service will be Holy Communion led by the Rev Emma Cusack. If you will be joining the Service from home and would like to receive the elements, please contact Jeananne or Pat.

Around the Trolley

FELLOWSHIP STRAWBERRY TEA - Tuesday Fellowship is having a Strawberry Tea Next Tuesday (27th) at 2:30pm in the Church Centre. Do let us know if you can come. We ask that masks be worn until you are seated. *Catherine and Pat*

HAZEL. I went to visit Hazel at Ryelands MHA home in Wallington on Wednesday morning. As the weather was so hot, I got the bus early from Worcester Park and it was an interesting ride until the announcement came that we would not be going all the way to Wallington, but stopping at

Hackbridge! Thankfully another bus came alongside and off we went. It's only a five minute walk from Wallington Station so it's really easy to find.

Hazel did not know what day I was coming, and she was so surprised when gave her a little shake, calling her name. She was delighted to see me and showed me around the lovely gardens, and then we walked to the high street for a Cafe Nero stop! We both chatted away remembering that we had come here years ago to Wallington Methodist Church. Quite a few of us from church went: anyone have any clues as to what the event was?

When we went back Hazel had a good look around at Ryelands from the outside and had a better sense of the site layout. She has a lovely room, and it was great to see David smiling away in a photograph. She sends best wishes to everyone and keeps up to date with the news sheet.

I will visit again soon and if anyone fancies coming with me for a lovely bus ride, and a coffee with Hazel, she would be delighted. *Jeananne*



DAPHNE. How lovely it was to see Daphne with her daughter Ashley walking through the doors of church on Sunday. There were smiles all around. It was good to welcome Daphne's carer, Michelle, visiting us for the first time. Looking forward to seeing you all again. *Jeananne*

HELEN sends best wishes from St George's, and recommends her crisp diet to others – her sodium level is not yet high enough for her to be released, and her family have visited.

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
Monday Group	Monday 8:00pm			
Tuesday Fellowship	Tuesday 3:00pm			
Sunday Service (YouTube)	Sunday 10:30am			Click
Sunday Service (Zoom)	Sunday 10:30am			

Circuit Service - Sunday 25 July, 10:00am

From Ruxley Church, led by the Rev Emma Cusack.

Watch live or at a time convenient to you on YouTube: youtu.be/-NJUDb09rHw.
or join on Zoom: bit.ly/2J5jvY8

To join the service through Zoom on your landline phone, dial **020 3481 5240**,
listen to the announcement and enter the meeting ID **874 6773 6490**
followed by # 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 will be connected and 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**

Welcome

Call to Worship: Psalm 47: 6-9

(GNB)

Sing praise to God; sing praise to our king!

God is king over all the world; praise him with songs!

God sits on his sacred throne; he rules over the nations.

The rulers of the nations assemble with the people of the God of Abraham.

More powerful than all armies is he; he rules supreme.

Hymn: Singing the Faith 254

Seek ye first the kingdom of God,

and his righteousness,

and all these things

shall be added unto you;

Allelu-, alleluia:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

allelu-, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;

seek and ye shall find;

knock, and the door

shall be opened unto to you;

Allelu-, alleluia:

We shall not live by bread alone,

but by every word

that proceeds from

the mouth of the Lord;

Allelu-, alleluia:

Karen Lafferty

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Opening Prayer

(Roots)

Lord, your kingdom is near.
The signs are all around us:
in the awesomeness of creation,
the fearsome heat of the sun
and the strange light of the moon,
the wonder of sparkling galaxies.

Your signs are all around us:
in the fallen leaves of autumn
and the evergreens of winter.

Your signs are all around us:
in the diversity of life,
sea creatures and river dwellers,
birds of the air and beasts of the field,
insects, and organisms too small for the eye to see.

Your signs are all around us:
in the joy of human relationships,
for those who delight in our summertime joy
or sit with us in the darkness of our wintertime;
those who support and encourage in loss and disappointment.

Lord, your kingdom is near.
We thank you for the signs. **Amen.**

First Reading: Matthew 26: 36-46

(NIV)

Read by Mike from Martin Way

Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.' He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.'

Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.'

Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. 'Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour?' he asked Peter. 'Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.'

He went away a second time and prayed, 'My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.'

When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.

Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!'

Prayer of Confession

(Roots)

Emmanuel, God with us,
we look for the signs of your coming,
yet we fail to see you in the unexpected places
and in unexpected people.

Forgive us when we dismiss those with whom we don't agree:

people in whose presence we feel uneasy,
those who challenge us to think differently,
people whose values and lifestyle are strange to us,
for you are to be found in diversity.

Forgive us when we fail to see you in the unexpected places:

sitting in the back street and no-go areas,
in places of deprivation and hopelessness,
war zones and areas of uneasy peace,
refugee camps and holding areas.

Forgive us when we fail to see you in the everyday places:

at workplaces,
in newspaper offices and parliamentary benches,
in post office queues and job centres,
in shops and offices.

Emmanuel, God with us,

help us to spot the signs of your kingdom. Amen.

Second Reading: Luke 17: 20-21

(NIV)

Read by Jeananne from Stoneleigh

Once, on being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, 'The coming of the kingdom of God is not something that can be observed, nor will people say, "Here it is," or "There it is," because the kingdom of God is in your midst.'

Sermon

Hymn: Singing the Faith 272

From heaven you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled,
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

There in the garden of tears
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.

Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.

So let us learn how to serve
and in our lives enthrone him,
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

Graham Kendrick
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Prayers of Intercession

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.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.

Amen.

Notices & Thanksgiving for Offerings

Hymn: Singing the Faith 339

When you prayed beneath the trees,
it was for me, O Lord;

when you cried upon your knees,
how could it be, O Lord?

When in blood and sweat and tears
you dismissed your final fears,
when you faced the soldiers' spears,
you stood for me, O Lord.

When their triumph looked complete,
it was for me, O Lord;

when it seemed like your defeat,
they could not see, O Lord!

When you faced the mob alone
you were silent as a stone,
and a tree became your throne;
you came for me, O Lord.

When you stumbled up the road,
you walked for me, O Lord,

when you took your deadly load,
that heavy tree, O Lord;

when they lifted you on high,
and they nailed you up to die,
and when darkness filled the sky,
it was for me, O Lord.

When you spoke with kingly power,
it was for me, O Lord,

in that dread and destined hour,
you made me free, O Lord;

earth and heaven heard you shout,
death and hell were put to rout,
for the grave could not hold out;
you are for me, O Lord.

Christopher Idle

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Blessing

As we leave this place today, dear God,
may we take out your kingdom
to bring hope into the world. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and the Holy Spirit
Be with us all, evermore, **Amen**

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