



# Welcome to Stoneleigh Methodist Church

## Sunday, 24 October 2021, 10:30am

### Morning Worship led by Tony Loft

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

## Prayers

**Please pray** for Tony leading our Service here, for our Stewards, and for others within the Church and beyond who continue to work quietly for the benefit of all. 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 or visit from friends.

*"Like water, be gentle and strong. Be gentle enough to follow the natural paths of the earth, and strong enough to rise up and reshape the world." Brenda Peterson*

## Notices

**OUR CLOCKS GO BACK 1 hour at 2:00am next Sunday.** So, we all get an extra hour in bed – unless, of course, you're on the night shift! *Robin*

**KEVIN CHESSUM'S FUNERAL** will be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October, 10:40am at North East Surrey Crematorium, Morden. Please pray for all the family at this sad time. *Pat P*

**SOUP WITH BREAD LUNCH for members/worshippers, whilst having an open conversation about our church, ministry, and future.** This will happen on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October after a shorter service. If members/worshippers would want to share their thoughts prior to the meeting, do email it to Emma or speak to any of the Leadership Team who would pass it on to Emma.

**NEXT WEEK** (31<sup>st</sup> October) our Holy Communion Service will be led by Emma, followed by the Open Conversation above in the Link Room.

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*Samson you will have heard of, but the stories of Micah's idols and the Levite's concubine are more likely to be new to you – and show just how different life was for women in the days of the Judges.*

## OCTOBER

Sunday 24	Judges 14:1 to 15:8	(Samson - 2)
Monday 25	Judges 15:9 to 16:3	(Samson - 3)
Tuesday 26	Judges 16:4 to 16:31	(Samson - 4)
Wednesday 27	Judges 17	(Micah's idols - 1)
Thursday 28	Judges 18	(Micah's idols - 2)
Friday 29	Judges 19	(the concubine - 1)
Saturday 30	Judges 20	(the concubine - 2)



# Morning Worship, 24 October, 10:30am

*Bible Sunday. Led by Tony Loft.*

Watch live or at a time convenient to you on YouTube: [youtu.be/DVNPqPdVJgQ](https://youtu.be/DVNPqPdVJgQ)  
or join on Zoom: [bit.ly/2J5jvY8](https://bit.ly/2J5jvY8)

To join the service through Zoom on your landline phone,  
dial **020 3481 5240**, listen to the announcement and when prompted,  
enter the meeting ID **874 6773 6490** followed by #;  
just # on its own when asked for your Participant ID;  
and when prompted, the passcode **702336** followed by #.

You will then be connected to the service – simply hang up at the end  
or whenever you wish to leave.

## Welcome & Prayer for the Church Family

### Opening prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,  
as we gather to worship You,  
help us to see You here among us,  
so that we might equally see You everywhere.  
Give us a clearer picture of Your greatness and power,  
Your love and mercy,  
Your purpose for us and for all.  
Broaden our vision,  
and help us catch a glimpse of You in all Your glory,  
filling us with joy, faith, hope and love  
now and always.  
**Amen.**

### Hymn of Praise: Singing the Faith 83

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
to his feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
who like thee his praise should sing?  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour  
to his people in distress;  
praise him, still the same for ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him for his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hands he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;  
ye behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise with us the God of grace!

Henry Francis Lyte (1793–1847)

## Prayers of Praise and Confession

Loving God,  
You have spoken through the Law and Prophets,  
through words of wisdom, history and the psalms,  
through the testimony of Evangelists and Apostles to Jesus Christ,  
and above all through the Word made flesh.

We praise You that we can turn to the Bible whenever we wish to  
and read it freely in our own tongue.

We can read new translations that help bring the age-old message to life,  
and we have access to all kinds of resources  
designed to deepen our understanding of what we read.

Forgive us that all too often we leave Your Word sitting on a shelf,  
unopened,  
unexplored.

Help us to recognise the priceless treasure You have given us in the Scriptures,  
and teach us, in the commotion of each day,  
to make time to read them, reverently and thoughtfully,  
so that Your voice may speak again,  
offering light to our path and the way to life in all its fullness.

**Amen.**

## Hymn: Singing the Faith 440

Amazing grace — how sweet the sound —  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

God's grace has taught my heart to fear,  
his grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
God's grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

And, when this heart and flesh shall fail  
and mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess within the veil  
a life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we first begun.

John Newton (1725-1807) (alt.)

**Readings: Jeremiah 31: 7-9**

(NIV)

This is what the Lord says:

'Sing with joy for Jacob;  
shout for the foremost of the nations.

Make your praises heard, and say,  
"LORD, save your people,  
the remnant of Israel."

See, I will bring them from the land of the north  
and gather them from the ends of the earth.

Among them will be the blind and the lame,  
expectant mothers and women in labour;  
a great throng will return.

They will come with weeping;  
they will pray as I bring them back.

I will lead them beside streams of water  
on a level path where they will not stumble,  
because I am Israel's father,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn son.

**Mark 10: 46-52**

(NIV)

**Blind Bartimaeus receives his sight**

Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means 'son of Timaeus'), was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!'

Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!'

Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him.'

So they called to the blind man, 'Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you.' Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.

'What do you want me to do for you?' Jesus asked him.

The blind man said, 'Rabbi, I want to see.'

'Go,' said Jesus, 'your faith has healed you.' Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

### Reflection: "I want to see"

### Hymn: Singing the Faith 519

Father, I place into your hands  
the things I cannot do.  
Father, I place into your hands  
the times that I've been through.  
Father, I place into your hands  
the way that I should go,  
for I know I always can trust you.

Father, I place into your hands  
my friends and family.  
Father, I place into your hands  
the things that trouble me.  
Father, I place into your hands  
the person I would be,  
for I know I always can trust you.

Father, we love to see your face,  
we love to hear your voice.  
Father, we love to sing your praise  
and in your name rejoice.  
Father, we love to walk with you  
and in your presence rest,  
for we know we always can trust you.

Father, I want to be with you  
and do the things you do.  
Father, I want to speak the words  
that you are speaking too.  
Father, I want to love the ones  
that you will draw to you,  
for I know that I am one with you.

Jenny Hewer  
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### Prayers for all God's people on Bible Sunday

Loving God, we pray for the world –  
the world of politics, of diplomacy and peace negotiations;  
for those whose words can bring peace, resolve animosity  
and rebuild bridges of hope;  
for the right words to be used – words of hope and peace  
and reconciliation.

We pray that the words used by leaders of nations  
may be honest, open and compassionate.

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for our own nation.  
We think sadly of the divisions among us –  
black and white, rich and poor, old and young,  
employed and unemployed, haves and have nots.  
We pray: Give us the right words to use  
that we break down the barriers we erect  
or allow to remain between us.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for young people at school or college.  
We know that they are places of many words,  
words that are new and words that are familiar,  
words that challenge and confuse,  
words that lead young minds forward  
and words that might lead them astray.  
Help young people everywhere to value every opportunity to  
learn new things, discover deeper truth  
and stand against all that is wrong.  
May the words we use teach others the real value of life.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God we pray for our homes.  
Forgive us that so often they are the places  
we use angry, bitter or impatient words.  
They are the places we show the least care  
about the things we say and how we say them.  
Forgive us today if we have said something unkind, unloving or unhelpful.  
We pray: help us to use words of comfort, love and understanding.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God on this Bible Sunday,  
we thank You for those who down the centuries  
have made it possible for us to have a Bible of our own,  
and in our own language.  
We thank You for the light Your Word brings to our lives  
and for the way that You speak word we need to hear.

Help us to read the Bible,  
so that we may see more about ourselves,  
about You, about Your world  
and the way You would have live in it.  
Help us by Your Holy Spirit not simply to read Your Word,  
but that in reading it we may know Jesus,  
the way, the truth and the life,  
and that, in knowing Him, we may enter into life that is real.  
Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We ask our prayers in the name of Him who is the Word of life. **Amen.**

### 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**

### Hymn: Singing the Faith 404

God's spirit is in my heart;  
he has called me and set me apart.  
This is what I have to do,  
what I have to do:

*He sent me to give  
the good news to the poor,  
tell prisoners that  
they are prisoners no more,  
tell blind people that they can see,  
and set the down-trodden free,  
and go tell everyone  
the news that  
the kingdom of God has come;  
and go tell everyone  
the news that God's kingdom has come.*

“Just as the Father sent me,  
so I'm sending you out to be  
my witness throughout the world —  
the whole of the world:”

“Don't carry a load in your pack;  
you don't need two shirts on your back;  
God's workers can earn their own keep —  
can earn their own keep:”

Don't worry what you have to say;  
don't worry, because on that day  
God's spirit will speak in your heart —  
will speak in your heart:

## **Sending Out Prayer**

Go now into the world,  
for Christ the Word of life is there,  
waiting to meet you and greet you.

Go now into the world,  
with eyes open to see Him  
and read God's written word,  
and ears open to hear Him,  
and a mind open to receive Him,  
and a heart open to serve Him.

**Amen.**

## **The grace**

**May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us now and ever more.**

**Amen**