

The Methodist Church

Bishopston, Easter Compton, Horfield, Shirehampton Methodist Churches and St Peter's Pilning.

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We are part of the Bristol and South Gloucestershire Circuit (www.bsgc.org.uk), a family of churches serving communities across the local area.

God's table is open to all

Sunday 18 September 2022



We mourn the death of Queen Elizabeth II, giving thanks for her life of service to the nation and Commonwealth for over 70 years.

Her life was underpinned by her own personal faith in God, something she relied on as she fulfilled her calling in many ways, becoming a respected head of state at home and abroad.

Let us pray for members of her family as they grieve the loss of a mother, grandmother, great-grandmother; equally, holding our communities before God as we share their sense of loss.

Creator God,

We give thanks for the life of Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

We honour her life of service built on a firm foundation of faith and an exemplary commitment to duty.

Comfort those who mourn and bring peace to those in distress.

We offer our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

(Prayer from <https://www.methodist.org.uk/.../her-majesty-queen.../>)

God bless

Patrick

The funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Horfield Methodist Church will be open on Monday 19 September from 10.00 for anyone to come and watch the funeral. Tea/ coffee will be provided but please bring your own packed lunch.

WORSHIP DETAILS FOR SUNDAY 18 September and the week

Horfield at 10.00. Conducted by D. North.

Christian Believers Fellowship at 12.30. Led by William Carey.

Bishopston at 10.30. Conducted by C. Campion Smith.

Shirehampton at 11.00. Conducted by Rev. P. Stonehewer with Holy Communion.

St Peter's, Pilning and Easter Compton at 10.00. Conducted by the Anglican Team.

You are invited to a **Service of commemoration** for Queen Elizabeth 11 which will be held at St Peter's Pilning at 3p.m. on Sunday 18 September.

Easter Compton. Wednesday 21 September at 3.00. Reflective Space led by the Ark Team.

OTHER WORSHIP DETAILS for 18 September and the week

Sunday Worship. Radio 4 at 8.10. A Service of thanksgiving from County Down.

Songs of Praise. BBC 2 at 1.15. Christianity in County Down.

Daily Service at 09.45. BBC Radio 4, Long Wave.

St. Peter's, Pilning Open Café Church on 19 September, 10.00 - 12.00, for coffee, tea, cake and chat. Join us in **daily prayer**: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-andworship/joinuservice-daily-prayer>

You will also find a **service of Morning Prayer** to cover each day of the week, available from first thing each Monday. More details at <https://westburyparkchurch.org.uk/worship-service>

WORSHIP DETAILS FOR 25 SEPTEMBER and the week

Horfield at 10.00. HARVEST FESTIVAL. Speaker Kate Parkin from Grow Wilder. Donations of money and food to The Bristol Methodist Centre and Grow Wilder.

Christian Believers Fellowship at 12.30. Led by William Carey.

Bishopston at 10.30. Conducted by A Smith.

Shirehampton at 11.00. Coffee and Conversation.

St Peter's Pilning and Easter Compton at 10.00 Conducted by Rev P. Stonehewer with Holy Communion.

Easter Compton. Wednesday 28 September at 3.00. Reflective Space led by the Ark Team.

GENERAL NOTICES. Please send items to Eurfron by Tuesday, eurfron@blueyonder.co.uk or 0117 969 1908

It is good to pray for our community and one another. This week we pray for our Circuit as we hold the first Circuit meeting of the year. We pray for the Superintendent, the ministers and their families, the lay workers, the office staff.

"My Community Bristol" is hosting a celebration event on Saturday 24 September from 10.30 to 3.00 at Horfield Quakers Meeting House, 300 Gloucester Road. It is an inclusive event to bring together people with or without a learning disability.

Horfield. The Harvest Service will be on 25 September. Our special local charities will be Growing Wilder and The Bristol Methodist Centre. Please support them generously with money and food. We would like to thank Kate Parkin for agreeing to speak to us about the benefits of Grow Wilder.

Horfield. Please support the Photo Exhibition and coffee morning on Saturday 24 September from 10.00 to 12 noon.

Horfield. Smartie Tubes. If you took one of the Smartie tubes after the Junior Church Anniversary Service in July to fill with change, in aid of the Bristol Methodist Centre, please would you return it by the Harvest Service on 25 September. Thank You

Horfield. Brass Band Concert. Saturday 15 October at 7.30 p.m. sees the much welcome return of the City of Bristol Brass Band. Tickets will be available soon.

Horfield. Church Christmas Fair. Saturday 19 November, another date for your diary. This is one of our major fundraising events for the church so we very much hope you will support us in whichever way you can. Details of help needed will be available in October.

Horfield and Bishopston- Have you filled in our questionnaire, which will help us plan the way forward. If you need another copy please ask a steward.

Reflection on the Lectionary for Sunday 18 September

Amos 8: 4-7, Psalm 113, 1 Timothy 2: 1-7, Luke 16: 1-13.

This reflection is provided by Ipswich Methodist Church.

God and money.

Amos was sent by God to the northern kingdom of Israel during a period of prosperity to expose its rotten core. Amos warned the people of impending doom for not listening to God and for not following his commandments, particularly in regard to the welfare of the poor and needy.

The Lord said, *"You people crush those in need and wipe out the poor". You say to yourselves, "How much longer before the end of the New Moon Festival? When will the Sabbath be over? Our wheat is ready and we want to sell it now. We can't wait to cheat and charge high prices for the grain we sell. We will use dishonest scales and mix dust in the grain. Those who are needy and poor don't have any money. We will make them our slaves for the price of a pair of sandals."* *"I, the Lord, won't forget any of this."* (Amos 8: 4-7a).

The Psalmist urges us to praise God and reminds us of God's bias towards the poor, *"God lifts the poor and needy from dust and ashes and he lets them take part in ruling his people."* (Psalm 113: 7-8).

Luke tells us of a story that Jesus told about a dishonest manager. The story ends with Jesus saying, *"You cannot be a slave of two masters. You will like one more than the other or be more loyal to one than to the other. You cannot serve God and money."* (Luke 16: 13).

We live in a world where few are wealthy and many are poor. As Christians we are challenged to live by God's Kingdom values of justice and mercy, to live in harmony with each other and our environment. This means that, just like Amos, we are called to expose and challenge injustice when and where we find it, in our community, our nation and the wider world.

How do we spend our time, our money, our talents? If we find ourselves thinking mostly about our own financial security, then what does that say about which master we are serving? True, if we don't want to fall into debt then we have to manage our money wisely. But that does not mean that we should be selfish in our attitude towards the poor, especially those who are the victims of exploitation, of other people's greed.

The charity 'Christians Against Poverty', who work alongside many who are living on or below the poverty line, encourage people to include charitable giving within their household budget. No matter how poor we may consider ourselves to be, there are many more in need of our help.