



The Methodist Church

Bishopston, Easter Compton, Horfield, Shirehampton Methodist Churches and St Peter's Pilning.
Minister: Rev Patrick Stonehewer T: 0117 924 8407, E: patrick.stonehewer@methodist.org.uk 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 28 August 2022



Methodism is born in song

These words came at the beginning of a hymnal, which must have been published just before World War Two. For many of our members not being able to sing our favourite hymns was an extra blow at the beginning of the pandemic.

My parents moved to Bristol in 1932 and shortly afterwards became members at Berkeley Road United Methodist Church. This was the church where I grew up and eventually joined the choir. In the early 80's, I came to Horfield, after the death of my husband. It was almost comforting to discover that the Berkeley Road organ was now at Horfield.

In both churches the organists were excellent musicians. Being at Horfield while Harvey French was an organist was a privilege. He always prepared the musical elements of services or concerts with equal enthusiasm. My husband's favourite hymn was, "Guide me O Thou Great Jehovah". Being a Welshman I am sure he enjoyed the rousing tune but also encouraging us to be guided by God.

One of the first hymns I remember when I came to Horfield was, "I am not skilled to understand what God has willed what God has planned". Obviously, my life had been altered very suddenly and somehow this hymn seemed to be for me at that time. Another hymn I remember from that period was, "God in His love for us lent us His planet!" This hymn was written in 1903. How very apt it has become in our eco conscious world. It was so good to sing it a few weeks ago at Lou's testimony.

Not long after coming to Horfield, I went with the choir to the Bristol City Football ground to Billy Graham's Mission. I think one of the favourite hymns from that time was, "Majesty". We often sang it at Horfield after that and it still had a powerful meaning for us.

The last hymn I want to mention is, "Prayer is the soul's sincere desire uttered or unexpressed." From time to time we all have difficulty in praying. This hymn puts into words our stumbling blocks and encourages us. We just need to listen to God and be guided by him.

I like many Methodists are extremely glad, "Methodism was born in song "

O Thou, by whom we come to God,

The Life, the Truth, the Way,

The path of prayer Thyself hast trod—

Lord, teach us how to pray. By James Montgomery, 1818 Our

thanks to Joan Lewis for this introduction.

WORSHIP DETAILS FOR SUNDAY 28 August and the week Horfield
at 10.00. Conducted by J. Creech.
Christian Believers Fellowship at 12.30. Led by William Carey.

Bishopston at 10.30. Local Arrangement.

Shirehampton at 11.00. Coffee and Conversation.

St Peter's, Pilning and Easter Compton at 10.00. Conducted by Rev. D. Edwards.

Easter Compton. Wednesday 31 August at 3.00. Reflective Space led by the Ark Team.

OTHER WORSHIP DETAILS for 28 August and the week

Sunday Worship. Radio 4 at 8.10. The Notting Hill Carnival from All Saints, Notting Hill.

Songs of Praise. BBC 1 at 1.15. The Royal Lancashire Show with the Rev. Kate Bottley.

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

Every Wednesday 2.30 to 4.30pm Open Garden/Drop-in for tea and cakes at Fulligrove House, Woodwell Road, BS11 9UG.

St. Peter's, Pilning Open Café Church on 29 August 10.00 - 12.00 for coffee, tea, cake and chat. Join us in **daily prayer:** <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-andworship/joinuservice-daily-prayer>

YouTube services whilst Patrick is on sabbatical will continue to be available thanks to our friends at the Church of Westbury Park on https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnfVvJ4Thf84rwaBF9K_Nkw (use the same link each week).

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>

While Patrick is away.

1. If you require a minister urgently, please contact Rev Emma Langley on 07974 658619 or the Circuit Office on 0117 951 7044
2. Easter Compton: email circuitengagement@bsgc.org.uk
3. Horfield and Bishopston: email mail@horfieldmethodist.org.uk
4. Shirehampton: via <https://shiremethodist.org/contact/>
5. St Peter's Pilning: email churchwardenpilning@gmail.com
6. For Bristol and South Gloucestershire Circuit matters, email circuitproperty@bsgc.org.uk
7. For Bristol District matters, email Rev Leigh Maydew: leigh.maydew@methodist.org.uk

WORSHIP DETAILS FOR SUNDAY 4 September and the week

Horfield at 10.00. Joint Service with Bishopston in person and on Zoom led by Rev. P. Stonehewer and T. Oliver, with Holy Communion.

Christian Believers Fellowship at 12.30. Led by William Carey.

Circuit Welcome Service at Horfield at 4 p.m. in person or on Zoom.

Meeting ID: 932 7391 3640 Passcode: 238544

Bishopston at 10.00. Joint Service at Horfield.

Shirehampton at 11.00. Conducted by J. Gardner.

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

Easter Compton. Wednesday 7 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

Horfield and Bishopston. An important part of our discipleship is to pray for our community and one another. This week you are asked to pray for the following and their families: Bertha Lakey, Ray Leamon, Winnie Leaning, Julie Leeming, Joan Lewis.

Congratulations. Our best wishes go with Maddie (Stonehewer) and Sam who were married at Shirehampton Methodist Church on Saturday 20 August. We pray that they have a long and happy life together.

We also remember in our prayers the family of Sue Livall, whose funeral service was held at Horfield on 22 August. The family have a long association with the church.

We send prayers and sympathy to Sue Pollard (Brown Owl) whose husband Brian passed away last week. His funeral details are; Thursday 1st September, Canford Crematorium at 10.30.

Family Flowers only. Donations to Hallen Cricket Club and Great Western Air Ambulance. Sue writes: *"Due to Brian having millions of friends and colleagues I will personally invite people for refreshments after and when this has been confirmed. Thank you to everyone for their support. I am totally overwhelmed with your kindness."*

The funeral of **The Revd Hilary Blanchard** will take place on Friday, 2 September at Holy Trinity Church, Horfield at 10.00.

Horfield. Please place any donations for the Bristol Methodist Centre in the box at the back of the church. A list of requirements will be found on the Crush Hall notice board. Thank you. (Audrey and David Bainbridge)

Horfield. The Methodist Prayer Book is available at a cost of £4.15. Please contact Audrey at church or phone Linnette on 0117 951419 if you would like a copy.

Summer Pool Parties, Saturday 27 August at Horfield Leisure Centre, Dorian Rd. 2.30 and 3.30.

FREE family fun swim for all ages. Open to residents of Horfield ward or those who attend a school in Horfield ward. More details and book online here - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/love-horfield-pool-parties-tickets347403522287>

Horfield. September Messy is turning into Eco Messy. (Saturday 10 September) We will be looking at God's love for the planet through the story of JOB and the challenges He gives him.

Make yourself a mask of your favourite animal face, a world sun catcher, a shoe rack, a yummy biscuit of the world, help construct a giant world, seed bombs so that we can encourage bees and butterflies in our gardens. We will be trying to use as much junk/ recycled materials as we can. There will be the usual lunch to finish.

Horfield Afternoon tea. There will be no afternoon tea during September.

Horfield AV Desk at the back of church. Unfortunately, there have been a few issues with the desk recently. Some sensitive settings have been changed, which have led to technical issues before worship.

Please be aware that the controls on this desk are set and under no circumstances should these be changed. If you haven't been authorised or trained in its use, please don't touch. Many thanks.

Dates for your diary: September 4, Circuit Welcome Service for the new Superintendent.

September 14, Circuit Meeting. September 15, Leadership Meeting (Bishopston and Horfield). September 24, Eco Photographic Exhibition. (Horfield).



Reflection on the Lectionary Sunday 28th August (Ordinary 22)

Psalm 81 : 1, 10 - 16; Jeremiah 2 : 4 - 13; Hebrews 13 : 1 - 8, 15 - 16; Luke 14 : 1, 7 - 14

This reflection is provided by Local Preacher, David Carter (Watley's End)

Each of these readings contains material for a good sermon on its own. I am therefore going to concentrate on one and have chosen the Hebrews reading as particularly appropriate for the Sunday before the beginning of a new Methodist year. What was relevant to Christians at the end of the apostolic era remains relevant to us today. The writer who remains unknown (almost certainly not Paul-that is purely a later ascription) sets out four key pieces of advice.

First, Christians should not avoid or neglect hospitality. Verse 2 reminds us hospitality can lead to us entertaining angels unaware and is a sort of counterpoint to Jesus' own 'inasmuch as you have done to one of the least of my brethren, you have done it to me.' Hospitality is more, I think, than willingness to invite someone to coffee or a meal. It's about making ourselves available to people in terms of the time and attentiveness we are prepared to give them, not just to answer immediate concerns or problems, but to assure them of our affirmation of them and concern for their well-being

Secondly, keeping free both from lust and love of money is, of course, a theme frequent in Scripture. Lust is more I think than excessive sexual licence and misconduct. It can be inordinate attachment or greed for other things these that make us, in turn, neglectful of what it is right to spend time, effort and money on.

Thirdly and perhaps most important of all is remembering God's promise, '*I will never leave or forsake you.*' There are many occasions when Christians are tempted, faced with some disaster affecting their personal lives, to forget this, as, indeed, I am myself, faced with my wife's dementia and my loss of the companionship that has steered me through fifty years. But I know that God has neither deserted her nor me and that, at the

General Resurrection, she will receive the Lord's commendation for her many years of faithful ministry, not just to His Church, but also to many others beforehand.

Finally, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, before and for evermore. In every year he remains the friend of sinners and the despised and dispossessed. He is the proper measure of mature humanity (see Eph 4: 13). He is the eternal Son of the Father, the Lamb slain from the foundations of the world, The Way, the Truth, and the Life, forever.

Prayer

Father, we praise and thank you for the consistency of your love, from everlasting to everlasting, your mercy is over all your works and as that consistency is without end, so also is the sacrificial ministry of your Son and the witness of your Holy Spirit, who never ceases to aid us in our prayers and to lead us ever deeper into all truth. We praise and thank you for all that is past and never cease to look forward to the time when all your promises will finally be fulfilled in the New Creation. Amen

Our thanks to David for this reflection