



The Methodist Church

Bishopston, Easter Compton, Horfield, Shirehampton Methodist Churches and St Peter's Pilning.
Minister: Patrick Stonehewer T: 0117 924 8407, 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.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind.

Sunday 13 November 2022



This weekend marks Remembrance, a moment in our collective life to remember those who have lost their lives in past conflict. As we do, we hope and pray that our future will be one of peace, not only for ourselves but for the wider world. Amongst the collection of resources which have been produced by the Methodist Church this year is the following prayer, written by The Rev Paul Mellor, a Methodist Minister who serves as a chaplain with the RAF. I invite you to pray:

God of Love, at this time of Remembrance, help us to remember, now more than ever, that all people are members of your family and called to reflect your likeness and light. We acknowledge that we find some of those qualities harder to reflect than others.

As today we are mindful of times when our nations have faced division, conflict and war, we confess that Christ was not selective about those whom he chose to love, forgive and bless: "he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world." (1 John 2:2)

So, help us reflect who you are by echoing your love in all we do. For we are called to the costly business of being as committed to the welfare of those who call themselves our enemies as we are to the welfare of those we call our friends.

In obedience to the one who calls us to follow him as Lord, and inspired by his cross - a symbol of the greatest act of 'love for enemies' there has ever been - enable us to willingly embrace all that it stands for.

Help us to stand shoulder to shoulder with those we once called enemies and call them friends, living in a way that

- enables us to build bridges across seemingly impossible divides*
- encourages us to be ministers of peace and reconciliation, -*
- allows light to shine in the darkest of places.*

As we look at the dark and broken world around us, may we place our hope as in the prayer of Desmond Tutu: "Good is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate; light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death. Victory is ours, through him who loves us."

Empower us to face the challenges, in the midst of the many tribulations in our world that can cause hatred and division, to make our lives ones that promote goodness and love, life and light. Amen.

WORSHIP DETAILS FOR SUNDAY 13 November and the week

Horfield at 10.00 conducted by H. Wilson.

Horfield. Christian Believers Fellowship at 12.30 led by William Carey.

Bishopston at 10.30 conducted by J. Wing.

Shirehampton at 11.00. Local Arrangement with All Age Worship.

St Peter's, Pilning and Easter Compton, 10.50 at the War Memorial, followed by morning worship at the church all led by Rev. Patrick Stonehewer.

Easter Compton. Wednesday 16 November at 3.00. Reflective Space led by the Ark Team.

OTHER WORSHIP DETAILS for 13 November and the week

Sunday Worship. Radio 4 at 8.10. Climbing and Reconciliation from Northern Ireland's highest peak- Sieve Donard.

Songs of Praise. BBC 1 at 1.15 p.m. Remembrance from Portsmouth- meeting with the armed forces.

Daily Service at 9.45. BBC Radio 4, Long Wave.

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

St. Peter's, Pilning. Open Café Church on 14 November, 10.00 - 12.00, for coffee, tea, cake and chat.

WORSHIP DETAILS FOR SUNDAY 20 November and the week

Horfield at 10.00 conducted by K. Thomas. All Age Worship and Gift Sunday- gifts for Bristol Families with Social Services support.

Horfield. Christian Believers Fellowship at 12.30 led by William Carey.

Bishopston at 10.30 conducted by J. Creech

Shirehampton at 11.00 conducted by Rev. Patrick Stonehewer. Church Anniversary.

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

Easter Compton. Wednesday 23 November at 3.00. Reflective Space led by the Ark Team.

A prayer for the people of Seoul

Caring and loving God,

As we have heard of the dreadful tragedy in Seoul, we ask you to wrap your caring arms around everyone impacted.

Please, wrap your arms around those who have lost their lives, the friends and families of victims, everyone in Seoul who have likely not heard of this sad news yet, and the places of worship who are preparing to support everyone, including our global partners in the Korean Methodist Church. We ask all this of you, knowing you will know what to do. Amen.

A Prayer for COP 27

Creator of all, you call us to partner with you in the care of creation.

We pray for the leaders of the nations, meeting for COP27.

Help them to see the inter-connectedness of the world and to take seriously our responsibility for each other.

Help them to hear the voices of the vulnerable and those most affected by climate change.

Teach us how to be responsible stewards of all that you have given us, that all may share its bounty. Amen.

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

Christmas Trees. The 62nd Scout group again this year will be selling Christmas trees to the local community. They will be on sale on 3 and 10 December, at the Scout Hut, Rozel Road, BS7. Please support them.

On Saturday 3rd December between 10am and 12 noon, we will be screening '**Why the Nativity?**' - our eagerly anticipated, all-age feature film for the very first time in over 100 Cineworld Cinemas across the UK. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of the Turning Point family around the world, we are committed to making this event entirely FREE to anyone who'd like to attend. You can order your FREE tickets at whythenativity.co.uk or by calling 0800 058 2856.

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: Kenneth Reid, Miriam Reid, Scouts, Naomi Shepherd. The family of Roger Jones.

Horfield Church Fair. We need good saleable items-bottles, cakes (with listed ingredients), unopened toiletries, books, Christmas items and as new goods. Please bring them to church and give them to Lorraine. We shall also be pleased to hear from anyone who can help on the stalls or serving food.

Horfield. The funeral of Jean White will take place at Horfield at 11.00 on Monday 28 November. Family and friends will then depart to Canford but will return to meet with everyone over refreshments.

Horfield. We are sad to announce the death of Roger Jones. Roger died in Weston-super-Mare where he had been in care for a number of months. He was a loyal member of Horfield for many years. We shall remember him with smiles especially for his singing and his role as the dame in many of our pantomimes.

The Night Shelter. All are welcome to join us for our weekly Wednesday morning Zoom prayer meeting, 7.30 - 7.50am using link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83384246975?pwd=aVdadDJDdIRNSEpxVWYvdnBoekd4QT09> Meeting ID: 833 8424 6975 Passcode: 933976 Bristol Churches Shelter has been up and running for six days and we have eight out of nine rooms filled. Our guests are so grateful for their warm, safe rooms and to the volunteers and churches who make this happen. *'I just can't believe that the Church would do this for me.'* Guest quote *'This is an opportunity to get back on my feet.'* Guest quote

The Revd Sue Parfitt (CCA) is organising a fundraising event for two charities. They are: Zero Hour, the campaign for the Climate and Ecology Bill and Hazelnut Community Farm, Bristol. The concert is at Cotham Parish Church, Cotham Road, Bristol, BS6 6DR, on Tuesday 6 December at 7.30pm More info. and buy tickets here: <http://concert4zerohour-hazelnut.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Circuit Quiet Day. Saturday 19 November, 10.00 - 3.00. St. Peter's Church, Cross Hands Road, Pilning BS35 4JB. Time to prepare for Advent, a day of prayer and reflection on the theme 'There Is Room' led by Adam Biddlestone. Bookings via the Eventbrite link or to Adam Biddlestone. circuitengagement@bsgc.org.uk

For All Our Tomorrows. MHA Event. Wednesday 16th November, 1.30 - 3.30. John Wesley's New Room. Speakers from MHA talk about the charity's work to improve the lives of older people.

[Letter of invitation and booking information](#) - Click here.

Please note these dates. Horfield and Bishopston Church Council on Tuesday 15 November at 7.30 at Horfield; Gift Sunday on 20 November. Church Fair from 10.30 to 12.30, at Horfield on Saturday 26 November.

Reflection on the Lectionary, Sunday 13th November. (Ordinary 33)

Isaiah 12 : 1 - 6; Isaiah 65 : 17 - 25 ; 2 Thessalonians 3 : 6 - 13; Luke 21 : 5 - 19

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

The Gospel reading of Luke 21: 5 - 19 contrasts with the two OT readings, the canticle from Isaiah 12 and the vision of a renewed creation of universal peace presented in Isaiah 65 : 17- 25. In the first, Jesus prophesises the destruction of the Temple amidst both widespread warfare and natural disasters. He also stresses that, even before this, his followers will be widely persecuted.

The warfare and destruction of the Temple certainly came true a generation later when a large scale Jewish revolt in 66 AD led to Roman vengeance and the destruction of all Jerusalem, including the Temple. Persecution of the first Christians began even earlier.

Jesus had no doubt of the imminent danger in which his people lived. He knew the Roman ruthlessness in dealing with rebels and was aghast at the failure of would-be Jewish rebels to realise this. He said, 'they that take the sword will perish by the sword.' The predictions of natural disasters did not occur, but it was a widespread belief at the time that such disasters would occur until God finally intervened to bring the present evil age to an end.

In some ways the prediction of natural disasters as a result of human disharmony and failure to protect nature still has relevance. In the forest fires and floods of 2022 we see some of the effects of climate change that, unless dealt with soon, promptly and by general agreement, can only get worse. We also know that nuclear war could create disasters, such as the nuclear winter, often prophesied in the 1970s and 80s as a likely product of widespread nuclear bombing. These are things to remember in the season of Remembrance Sunday. War is now capable of bringing about such disaster.

By contrast, the canticle gives thanks to the forgiving God, who never gives up completely on us, dismayed, even angry as he can be with our indifference to justice and peace. He continues to love those who trust in him. Isaiah 65: 17 - 25 comforts us with the promise of God's ultimate act of general salvation, his creation of new heavens and a new earth, from which all injustice and suffering will be banned and in which even the conflicts of nature will be resolved, 'they shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain.'

If we turn for a moment to chapter 21 of Revelation, we will see that this prophecy is affirmed and indeed extended by St John the Divine, the disciple whom Jesus loved. He affirms it and the descent of the new Jerusalem as the intended final act of cosmic salvation. However, we cannot know exactly when that will be - even Jesus said, 'of the hour no man knows, not even the angels in heaven, not even the Son, but only the Father'.

What we have to do amidst all our current problems and disasters is to trust and to pray 'thy kingdom come' in all its fullness. We continue our prayer and our work for a better world until 'all the promises of God are fulfilled in us and for us,' as the Catholic bishops said at the Vatican Council in 1962-5.

Prayer

Father, grant us to pray ever more fervently as Jesus taught the first Christians to do. 'Thy kingdom come; thy will be done'. May your Kingdom come in all its fullness, and may our world become the world you have always wanted it to be, a place of peace, harmony and justice from which all suffering and all injustice are forever absent and in which all your creatures flourish in accordance with your will. Amen.

Horfield Parish Church

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 3rd December

11am - 3pm

lots of stalls to get those last-minute
presents and decorations

A Raffle will also be taking place

If you would like to buy a ticket and
can't make the fayre, please contact

the Parish Office

01179 515729

Refreshments will be on sale
and

Santa will be in his Grotto
£3 per child including a gift

