

**ST JAMES' METHODIST & UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**  
**WOOLTON L25 7RJ**

**Web address:** <http://stjameswoolton.org>

**MINISTER: Rev. Peter Hughes**  
***peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk***  
**0151 364 0134**

Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.



**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020**

***Welcome to everyone this morning:***  
**and if you are worshipping with us for the**  
**first time, St James' offers you a very warm**  
**welcome and we hope you'll come again.**

Refreshments are always provided after Worship – please join us.

We would like to keep in touch with you to let you know what's going on at St James', so please fill in your details on the '**NEW TO CHURCH**' slip.

A lift is available for access into church, and there is a ramp at the rear of the building. We have large print hymnbooks; other items are available in large print. **If you need any help, please ask a steward.**

**This Morning's Preacher is** Jean Taylor

**This Morning's Worship is** a service of the Word

**Welcoming you are** Alan Smith and Irene Elliott

**The Vestry Steward is** Amy Bates

**The Book Stewards are** Pam Alexander and Stuart Williams

**Our Readers are** Pam Bellis and Carol Skyner

**The Readings are** Matthew 5, 1-12; 1 Corinthians 1, 18-31

**The Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Your church is open for coffee on Tuesday mornings from 9.15 to 12.00

***The Church is registered for Gift Aid*** If you are a taxpayer, and not using the envelope system, please complete a Gift Aid envelope with your offering.

***Offertory card*** - If you contribute by standing order, please take a card from the table at the back of the church to place on the plate to represent your gift.

***Standing:*** if you have a problem with standing during worship, please feel free to remain seated – you will not be alone.

***Communion bread*** is all gluten-free.

### ***WELCOME***

This morning we welcome as our preacher Mrs Jean Taylor on her first visit to St James'. Mrs Taylor is a lay preacher in the URC worshipping at Chadwick Mount Church in Everton, and a member of the Synod Pastoral Committee.

### ***FUTURE DATES***

Sunday 15th March

Circuit Conversation – see below

### ***FELLOWSHIP GROUPS IN FEBRUARY***

Wednesday Group: February 12<sup>th</sup>, 7.30 pm

Monday Group: February 24<sup>th</sup> (**later than usual**) 2 pm at 30 Stuart Avenue

### ***CIRCUIT ENVIRONMENT GROUP***

Philip Lodge is hoping to launch a new Circuit Environment Group. If you would be interested in being a part of it or would like more information, please contact Philip on [philip.enid@googlemail.com](mailto:philip.enid@googlemail.com).

### ***COMMUNITY CHOIR***

Would you like to be part of the Strawberry Field Community Choir? From Monday January 20<sup>th</sup>, you can join us every other week from 6.30 to 8.30 for tea and coffee and singing together. Book your place by contacting Louise Brown on [louise.brown@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:louise.brown@salvationarmy.org.uk) or on 0151 252 6130. Anyone is welcome to join in and make music together. (NB: the timing has been corrected.)

### ***CIRCUIT PRAYERS –***

Rev. Paul Wilson now hopes to return to work this month. Please continue to pray for Paul, Karen, and the family at this difficult time. Please remember too the Rev. Sally Binyamin, whose husband is still very ill, and all the family.

## ***CIRCUIT CONVERSATION***

The Methodist Conference this summer will be asked to make very significant decisions relating to issues including Same Sex Marriages and Cohabitation. Each Synod will be asked to vote during the spring in advance of the Conference. All of us are challenged to think and pray about these issues. We are encouraged to read the report "God in love unites us" which is available online at: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/12606/3240-10-amended-marriage-and-relationships-report.pdf>. **Limited numbers are now available in Church.**

An opportunity to listen and share views will be taking place in our Circuit on **Sunday 15th March** at 2pm at Trinity Church, Page Moss. Please read the report and come along to the meeting so that your views will be heard by those who will be voting at Synod and Conference.

## ***SAMARITAN'S PURSE- OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2020***

To continue the success of our lunch/shoe box packing event in October we are carrying this on through 2020. We invite you to spread your giving throughout the year, as we ask for various items on **every second Sunday of each month**. Please remember the gifts have to fit in the shoe boxes. No items are allowed with batteries or liquids, and no sweets or chocolate.

**Next Sunday:** small cuddly toys.

If you miss a collection you can still make a donation the next week. For any more information please speak to Jayne McLaren.

## ***REFILL***

The church is now registered as a place where water bottles may freely be refilled; the times when we can be accessed can be found via the app: <https://refill.org.uk/get-the-refill-app>. As the scheme gets better known it may be that we will see some people use us.

## ***HOW ORDINARY IS ORDINARY TIME?***

On January 12<sup>th</sup> I commented that Ordinary Time had begun, and Peter Hughes was quick to point out that even so we were still in the period of Epiphany – until today, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, which is Candlemas. This was a very big festival in the past and it celebrated the Presentation of Jesus in the temple to Simeon and Anna; a candlelit procession was a big part of the ceremony. Our Christmas banner in church can now come down, and we are all agreed on the ordinariness of February, at least until Lent begins on the 26<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday.

***NEXT SUNDAY: February 9<sup>th</sup>: all-age worship and Parade***

<b>Minister</b>	Graham Martin	<b>Offertory</b>	Ray Jennings
<b>Welcome</b>	Ken Davies	<b>Tea/coffee</b>	Pam Draper & Gwladys Gardner
<b>Steward (V)</b>	Pam Bellis	<b>PowerPoint</b>	Lynne Barker
<b>(W)</b>	Dave Dickson	<b>Music</b>	Music Group
<b>(B)</b>	Margaret Dee & Tony Laverty	<b>Flowers</b>	
<b>Readings</b>	Brigades	<b>Delivery</b>	Pam Draper
<b>Prayers</b>	Ray Jennings		

**Tuesday Coffee Morning Feb. 4**

**Saturday Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> Men's Coffee Morning**

***Notices for next week*** – Please send any messages to Derek Long at  
dandjlong765@gmail.com or on 722 1014

If you are not on the mailing list and would like to receive the Church notices by email, please give your address to Derek.