

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

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**MINISTER:** Rev. Peter Hughes

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



**SUNDAY May 10<sup>th</sup> 2020**

Dear friends –

Churches are now allowed to open for worship in Germany, but on condition that there is no singing. It's hard to imagine protestant worship without hymns and songs – how on Earth (aha!) would we be able to express our feelings? We know that in future our lives will have to change in many ways beyond our imagining; could this be one of them?

Grateful thanks are due to those who have made sure that our church buildings still carry a message to our neighbourhood, and also for the photographs.

Another thing about a rainbow, of course, is that you never reach it – it's always moving ahead of you. This is why it's a sign of hope; it leads you on.

**The Collects for the Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Loving and eternal God, through the resurrection of your Son, help us to face the future with courage and assurance, knowing that nothing in life or death can ever part us from your love for us in Jesus Christ our Saviour; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## ***CHRISTIAN AID***

Christian Aid week will soon be upon us, and this is a reminder that so many charities are suffering from loss of income while the needs grow bigger and bigger.

Next week you will be offered ways of keeping the money flowing; please try to see that your gift this year is no less than you would have given in normal circumstances.

## ***SAD NEWS***

With deep sadness I have to report that Madge and Dave Tilley's youngest daughter, Lynne, passed away on Monday afternoon in Southport Hospital. She passed peaceful with a nurse holding her hand as Madge, Dave and her older sister Hazel were unable in the current climate to be there.

Please keep them all in your hearts and prayers at this sad time. Peter will be leading Lynne's funeral on 20th May at the crematorium.

## ***ST. JAMES' CHURCH PRAYER CIRCLE ON YOUR MOBILE PHONE***

We have promoted this in our notices on occasion for anyone to join in but just want to make everyone aware what it actually is.

The people who are in this prayer circle share and pray for anyone or any situation that is in need of our collective prayers.

It is not exclusive; anyone who has access to a mobile phone and has an app called 'WhatsApp' on it is very welcome to join us in our growing list of 'prayers'. It is a lovely way to prayerfully keep in touch and to combine our prayers.

For more help or information please contact Jayne McLaren.

## ***CAN YOU BE KIND?***

KIND distributed over three hundred Easter Food Packs for families across Merseyside, paid for by a very generous local trust.

As a result of the conversations with various referrers, KIND has begun a twelve-week Crisis Food Programme, committed to providing a minimum of 150 large family-sized food hampers, which will be delivered to vulnerable/disadvantaged families across our Merseyside community.

Providing 150 hampers over twelve weeks will cost £54,000.00. KIND have begun approaching numerous trusts, individuals and funds to see if they can support this local initiative.

If you, your friends and contacts are willing support this local initiative, please make a donation directly into KIND's account.

## ***CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE***

Our church Facebook page which Amy keeps updated daily is accessible to anyone who has access to the internet (you don't have to have Facebook).

If you have access to the internet, go to the church website <https://www.stjameswoolton.org/> and in the bottom left hand corner; there is a Facebook symbol, click on that and you can see all that is shared.

Amy has started "sing together A worship song a day" when lockdown began.

Every day she uploads a song (a mix of traditional and new) that people have sent her for everyone to sing along to- if you would like to nominate a worship song/hymn please get in touch via mobile, email or social media.

We may not be able to be together but we can still sing together (albeit in our own homes).

## ***RAINBOWS OF PROMISE***

Our windows are now looking so happy! Thank you to two of our Girl's Brigade members who sent in pictures and to one family who left us some lovely messages. THANK YOU to Woolton County Primary Hub who submitted 24 Rainbow messages from children of key workers who now have a 'Window of Promise' pictures. Grateful thanks to Jayne for supplying the pictures below.

Please think about what YOU could draw as a Promise Rainbow and add to our windows looking out on Woolton and our community. These Rainbow pictures are not only a Thank You to our wonderful NHS workers, our carers, delivery drivers, postmen, waste collection operatives, teachers and many other community workers but they remind us of God's promise to Noah. Read Genesis Chapter 9.

