

**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 MARCH 22nd 2020**

**Dear friends, we all find ourselves this week in a situation unlike any that we have experienced. All our church services and activities are cancelled, and many of are forced into a daily routine which is unfamiliar and uncomfortable.**

***The Collect for this Sunday seems extraordinarily appropriate:***

**The Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Lord God, whose blessed Son our Saviour gave his back to those who struck him and did not hide his face from shame: give us grace to endure the sufferings of this present time with sure confidence in the glory that shall be revealed; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We often tell ourselves that "Church" is not the buildings but the people, we have been given an opportunity to explore just what that could mean for us in Woolton. While it is judged unwise to gather or to visit each other, we can still come together in a fellowship of prayer and worship that does not depend on a building. The Worship & Service document on the website offers us a form of worship that all can use. Sadly, the idea of opening the church occasionally for private prayer has been abandoned as too risky and complicated.

*Many of our people do not receive emails, and we must find ways of reaching them and caring for them. Pastoral Visitors and Steward-elders have details of phone numbers and addresses that might be needed.*

This leaflet will continue to circulate as needed, and if you have any family news, good or bad, that we can share, I hope you will let me know so that our usual contacts can be maintained.

***Please read the Worship and Service document on the website and use the opportunity it offers for your private worship.***