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

Web address: http://stjameswoolton.org

MINISTER: Revd. 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.

Weekly Notices 8th – 15th March 2026

This Week's Collect:

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

This week's Worship:

Sunday 8th March 10.30am - Rev Patrick Evans

This week's readings:

John 4: 5-42

Forthcoming services at St James':

Sunday 15th March 10.30am - Rev Alan Fretwell, Mothering Sunday
Sunday 22nd March 10.30am - Rev Peter Hughes, Holy Communion, Passion Sunday
Sunday 29th March 10.30am – Local arrangement, Palm Sunday

Forthcoming events:

Thursday 12th March 9.30am – 11.30am: Morning Coffee
Saturday 14th March 10.00am – 12.00pm: Morning Coffee
Wednesday 18th March 7.30pm: Wednesday Fellowship group
Thursday 19th March 7.45pm: Pastoral Team (in hall)

WORSHIPPING BY PHONE:

IF YOU CANNOT COME TO WORSHIP AT ST JAMES IN PERSON WHY NOT LISTEN IN

The dial in instructions are as follows:

Between 2.20pm for 2.30pm on Sunday:
1. From your normal "landline" telephone: Dial: 0333-016-0300
2. You will then be asked for your Room number:
Enter 86 10 75 55 followed by the # key
Then when asked, enter the PIN: 2544 followed by the # key
You will then be directly entered into the pre-service "worship chat".
Please say your name so people know you have joined.

This Sunday the host is Pam Bellis, Speaker: Liz Hudson, Reading: Wendy Doig – Exodus 16, Prayers: Pam Alexander

Praying for the Growth of our Church

Lord Jesus,
We are sorry that at times we feel like giving up.
Open our eyes to the signs of hope which we often miss.
Thank you for new lives born into our families and born again into your kingdom.
Thank you for the growth we experience in our worship and fellowship.
Open our minds to those with whom we could share our faith this week.
In the name of Jesus, Amen

Lent Liturgy

Reading: John chapter 13 verses 3 - 5 & 12 – 15

Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.
When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place.
"Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you left your home in heaven to become a human being.
You lived as a servant and washed your disciples' feet. Help us to be ready to accept all that you want to do in our lives. Teach us how to serve each other.
Please help our Church to be a serving, caring community. In the name of Jesus.
Amen

Helen Pierce
former member of St James Church
Message received from Helen's family

Hi, we are messaging on behalf of the family to confirm details of Helen's Celebration of Life service which will take place at

Springwood Crematorium, Springwood Ave, Allerton, Liverpool L25 7UN at 12.30 on Friday 13th March 2026.

The service will be followed by refreshments at The Hay Loft,
Allerton Manor Golf Club, Manor Golf Club,
Allerton Rd, Allerton, Liverpool L18 3JT.
Please could you confirm attendance and provide any specific dietary requirements if necessary.
We politely ask you to wear anything which is comfortable to you and not formal mourning attire. The family would like to ask that if you would like to make any donations in Helen's name that these can be done so in aid of Clatterbridge Cancer Centre by visiting this link https://www.justgiving.com/page/helenpierce?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=020
We kindly ask that no flowers are sent to the crematorium please. We would also like to thank you all for the incredible support and kindness you have shown to mum and all of us throughout this week, her illness and the many years before it. We are all so grateful and know mum was and would be too. The messages we have received are so appreciated and we will come back to you all individually. Despite the circumstances we look forward to seeing you in a couple of weeks. Stu and Andy (and on behalf of Ron).

Easter Experience School Visit

We are once again delighted to be welcoming Y2 pupils from Woolton Primary School to St James Church on **Tuesday 17th March** to share with them our Easter Experience. As in past years, we will be walking the children through the story from Palm Sunday to Easter Day with a series of tableaux to set the scenes and would ask your help with a few props. We will be setting up the church on Sunday 15th March after the morning service

If you have any scatter cushions or leafy houseplants in pots, the bigger the better, that we could borrow, we would be very grateful. If you are able to help you can bring them to church on any of the following, or let us know if they need collecting
Thursday coffee morning 11th March before 12 noon
Saturday coffee morning 14th March before 1pm
Sunday morning service 15th March

We will take good care of them and make sure that they are returned safely to you.
Also, if you have any time to spare on Tuesday 17th March and would like to help with the visit, please let me know. We have 2 sessions in the morning and one in the afternoon, any help would be greatly appreciated.

January 'Christmas' Sing-a-long!

Many thanks to all who supported the recent sing-a-long in any way. It was a joy to see so many Christmas outfits cheering up the dreary, windy night in January - a lot of fun was had and the Christmas spirit was certainly in the air! Funds raised were split between St James' and 'Include Me CIC' who meet downstairs at Strawberry Field on Wednesday mornings. As all of the money is now in, we were pleased to pass on a cheque for £673.67 to them. They send their grateful thanks to St James'. This is an informal community group and everyone is very welcome to drop in for a cuppa and a chat.

LENT FOOD APPEAL

We have been approached by a couple of the organisations we support at Harvest time to ask if we would consider doing another Lent collection this year as they and the families they support find themselves in an ever-deepening food crisis. It seems like a good idea to help if we can, so from this week, and throughout the Sundays of Lent, if you are able to donate a tin or packet of something to feed others there will be a box at the back of church for collecting the items. **Please look out especially for the following most needed items:**
Cereals UHT milk Bottled water Cordial Tea bags Coffee Sugar, Tinned meats - e.g. Curry, chilli Tinned Tuna, Ham, Corned beef. Tinned vegetables Gravy granules Salt and pepper Pot noodles Packets of noodles Rice pulses, Cooking sauces Mayonnaise Red and brown sauce Biscuits Crisps Honey Jam Tinned fruit. Anything our church family can do to help other families around us will be greatly appreciated.

Steward Elders

Nomination papers to elect **3 new Steward Elders** have been sent to members with email addresses and paper copies are available in church for those who don't. Please check your junk folders as they sometimes end up there.
The role of the Steward Elders is clearly explained in the nomination sheets.
You are strongly urged to prayerfully nominate three church members who you would like to be considered for the role of Steward Elder. The full process is clearly explained in the nomination sheets. It is important that you elect your leadership team, so please don't think your nomination is not needed.
The closing date is **Sunday 8th March**, so let me have your nominations by email, text, telephone or post by that date. Once the nominations have been received the Steward Elders will approach the nominees to ask them to serve. This will then be brought to a vote at the church ACM on 19th April.
Please note that anyone nominated and appointed will need to go through the churches Safer Recruitment Process, which includes providing two references, undergoing a DBS check and Safeguarding Training.

Roy Barker & Friends present "Sing and Save Woolton Picture House"

featuring Strawberry Field ukuleles
on Saturday **18th April at 7.00 pm** (doors open at 6.30pm).
This is a fundraiser for Woolton Picture House, all proceeds will go to them. Come and join us!
Get your tickets now: adults: £10, children: £3.
Contact Roy and Lynne Barker 0151 421 1218

Irish Music Night

On Saturday **9th May** Anita and friends will be entertaining us with a night of Irish music. It will be a lively fun filled night and all the proceeds will be going to Christian Aid. Tickets will be available in a few weeks. Jane Laverty

Church Flowers

If you would like to donate money for flowers on a particular Sunday - perhaps in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a happy event - please speak to Jonquil Dickson who can add you to the calendar for the months ahead. Also, if you would simply like to donate for flowers so that we can make sure all Sundays are covered, please speak to Jonquil. At present, we have many dates available. We have a box at the back of church for any donations or small change. All donations are gratefully received.

Prayers

Please keep in our prayers this week all those who are in poor health, either in hospital or at home, and their family and friends and those caring for others.
We also pray for everyone in our Church family who are unable to attend church.
Please pray for those known to us who are in need of our prayers this week.

Next weeks' notice sheet

You can download all notices from our website.
Anything you wish to be included in the weekly notices, please email by Thursday evening to:
St.James.notices@gmail.com