

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

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

**MINISTER: Revd. Peter Hughes** [peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk](mailto:peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk)  
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Peter's day off is Friday, messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.

**Weekly Notices 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

**This Week's Collect:**

God for whom we wait and watch, you sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people for the coming of the Messiah. Inspire the ministers and stewards of your truth to turn our disobedient hearts to you; that, when Christ shall come again in glory to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before him, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.  
Amen.

**This week's Worship:**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am:** Rev Peter Hughes, Gift Service

**This week's readings:**

**John 1: verses 6 – 8 & verses 19 – 28**  
**2 Corinthians 9 verses 6 to 11**

**Forthcoming services at St James':**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 10.30am:** Rev Peter Hughes, Christingle and Carol Service  
**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 11.30pm:** Rev Peter Hughes, Holy Communion  
**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am:** Matthew Dwyer  
**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am:** Rev Peter Hughes, Holy Communion

**Forthcoming events:**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 10.00 – 12.00** – Coffee morning and Carol singing in the village  
**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm** – Liverpool Phoenix Choir  
**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 7.15pm** – Wednesday Fellowship meeting (see below)  
**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am – 11.30am** – Morning Coffee  
**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm** – Making Christingles

**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 A '**Choose and Share Service of Christmas Memories**' hosted by Pam Bellis, when everyone is invited to choose and share their favourite Carol, Reading, Poem, Story or Memory in celebration of what makes the season special for each of us. Everyone is invited to, and very welcome at, this time of worship and fellowship.

## 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*

## Advent Liturgy

One candle stands for hope; the second candle for the prophets. The third candle is to tell of John the Baptist. He called people to change their way of living so as to prepare for the coming of Jesus.

Bible Reading: Isaiah Chapter 40, verses 1 to 5



## Carol singing in the Village



Come and join the fun, bring your Christmas hats and voices, as we sing the joy of Christmas:

### **Saturday 13 December**

10.30am Community Carol Singing during the Farmers Market (and back to St James' for a cuppa and cake)

### **Tuesday 16 December**

4.00 - 4.45pm Carol Singing in the Foyer of Woolton Tesco

5.00 pm - 5.45 pm Carol Singing in the Foyer of Woolton Sainsburys

## Gift Service

Our Gift Service on the 14th December is a little later than usual this year which means it is getting very close to Christmas for our organisations to be able to sort and distribute gifts. We would like to ask that you will consider buying the following specific gifts which can be brought on the day. There will be a box in church this Sunday and at the coffee morning on the 13th December, if you would like to bring gifts before the service on the 14th. Gifts of money may be brought to the service or passed to a steward prior to the 14th. These gifts are turned into gift vouchers which are used specifically to help with food hampers for the many families struggling at this time of year more than usual to put food on the table as well as buying gifts for the children.

Gifts to bring: Toiletry gift sets for men and women. Warm hats, gloves and scarves for both men and women. Chocolate selection boxes. Packs of men's and ladies underwear. (only small and medium sizes please), Children's toys but please no soft toys.

We will be supporting Action for Children. Centre 56. The Whitechapel Centre and the two Refuge accommodation centres for women and children fleeing from abuse, which we have supported for many years.

THANK YOU.

## Wednesday Fellowship Group

The Wednesday Fellowship Group on 17 December is **not** meeting in church, but at Margaret Dee's house.

## Christmas Experience 2025

A huge thank you to everyone who helped host the visit of 90 primary school children last Tuesday to hear the Christmas story through the themes of Generosity and Kindness.

Whether you were furniture movers before and afterwards, envelope packers, scene builders, story tellers, helping with refreshments or welcoming and befriending the amazing children and their teachers, the Experience couldn't have happened without you. Once again it turned out to be a day to remember for all the right reasons.

One child said he felt phenomenal, another told us it was the best school trip he'd ever been on (!) and many of the adults visiting St James for the first time could not get over how beautiful our church is.

Thank you to everyone who helped to open the doors for the day and make it all possible.

The joy and blessings of Christmas to you all.

From the Mission Action Group

## Benevolent Fund

**The benevolent fund collection at the communion service on 28<sup>th</sup> December will be in support of Christian Aid.**

Everyone is equal in the sight of God. For 80 years, this truth has inspired Christian Aid to stand in solidarity with our most marginalised global neighbours, of all faiths and none.

Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive. It seeks to eradicate extreme poverty by tackling its root causes. Together with people living in poverty, it amplifies its voice to speak truth to power and to create lasting change.

In particular, Christian Aid fights global poverty and injustice by partnering with local organizations to empower communities, provide emergency aid, campaign for rights, and build resilience against climate change, focusing on dignity, equality, and sustainable solutions for a more just world.

It supports people in claiming rights to healthcare, education and fair livelihoods, helps communities recover from disasters, and advocates for systemic change, believing local expertise is key to ending poverty.

## 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](mailto:St.James.notices@gmail.com)