

**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 7th – 14th April 2024

This Week's Collect:

Faithful God, the strength of all who believe and the hope of those who doubt; may we, who have not seen, have faith and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

This week's Worship:

Sunday 7th April 10.30am: Liz Hudson (*coffee: Irene & Pam*)

This week's Readings

1 John 1:1-4
John 20:19-31

Forthcoming services at St James':

Sunday 14th April 10.30am: Rev Peter Hughes, all age worship (AGM) (*coffee: Chris & Margaret*)

Sunday 21st April 10.30am: Rev Kate Gartside

Sunday 28th April 10.30am: Rev Noel Sharp, Holy Communion

Forthcoming events:

Monday 8th April 2.30pm – Monday Housegroup at Doreen Parker's house.

Monday 8th April 7.30pm – Steward/Elders meeting

Thursday 11th April 9.30 – 11.30am - Morning Coffee

Saturday 13th April 10.00am – 1.00pm – Coffee morning and light lunches

Thursday 18th April 9.30 – 11.30am – Morning Coffee

Wednesday 24th April 7.15pm – Wednesday Fellowship group

Thursday 25th April 9.30 – 11.30am – Morning Coffee

Monday 29th April 7.00pm – Mission Action Group

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, the speaker is Steve Elliott,
prayers: Irene Elliott, reading: Chris Bennett: John 20 v19-31**

Everyone is invited to, and very welcome at, this time of worship and fellowship.

Minister's Message April 2024

Dear Friends

Happy Easter!

In case you think I am late with this greeting, Easter actually lasts for 50 days, not just for one day or one week.

Eastertide is the longest season in the Christian year. Christmas and Lent last 40 days each, Advent used to last 40 days but in modern times it is reduced to about 4 weeks.

Easter is longest season because it is the most important. It is the resurrection of Jesus, rather than his birth, which is at the heart of our faith and gives us the assurance of eternal life.

It is a wonderful time of joyous celebration, whatever our personal circumstances may be.

The risen Jesus says "peace be with you" to each of us, enabling us to believe that all will be well.

The last 10 days of the Easter season (sometimes also called Ascension tide) run from Ascension Day (Thursday 9th May) to Pentecost (Sunday 19th May).

In recent years these 10 days have become a time for reflecting on the theme "Thy Kingdom Come". This is an ecumenical initiative where we are asked to pray for God's kingdom to come in the hearts of our families and friends who have not yet become Christians. The suggestion is that we think of 5 such people in our lives and pray for them especially during those 9 days. Perhaps you could start to think about who those people are in your life and begin to pray for them now. We trust that God is already at work in their hearts and lives.

Once again, Happy Easter; may God's kingdom grow in our lives and our world,

Peter

The Benevolent Fund

The benevolent fund collection at the Holy Communion service on Easter Day, 31 March, was for the Methodist World Mission Fund and the sum collected was £225.89 plus gift aid.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed.

Monday House group

April Meeting

This will take place on Monday 8th April at 2.30pm at the home of **Doreen Parker**.

All welcome, including newcomers!

You will be made very welcome.

SATURDAY 13th APRIL 2024

In-Coffee Morning / Fundraiser for Church Funds

Coffee and toasted tea cakes from 10.00am

PLUS:

Homemade Cakes to eat in or take away

AND

Light Lunches: soup and filled rolls served between **11.30a.m. and 1.00p.m.**

Gift Aid donations will be very gratefully received.

Please come and support us and enjoy a chat amongst friends.

We would be very grateful for donations of home-made cakes/scones/biscuits for this event.

May we ask that you provide a list of ingredients. Many thanks.

Easter Experience school visit

The year 2 pupils from Woolton Primary School will be visiting us again on Monday 22nd April when we will be sharing the Easter story with them. Mike, our Circuit Youth Worker, will be leading the event with Rev Peter and helped by volunteers from St James. We will be telling the story through six stations set up around the church and we will be setting these up after the service on Sunday 21st April. For two of the stations, the garden and the tomb, we will be using house plants for the greenery and would like to ask if any members of the congregation have any large leafy potted houseplants that they would be willing to loan us for the event. If you can help and have a plant or plants we can borrow, please bring it / them to church, clearly labelled with your name, any time up to Sunday 21st April, we promise to take good care of them. Thank you for your support and please keep the leaders and helpers in your prayers as we prepare to share the Easter story with the children.

Prayers

We keep in our prayers all those who are poorly, their family and friends and those caring for others.

We also pray for everyone in our Church family and those known to us who are in need of our prayers this week.

Fundraising

I have now finished my Walk All Over Cancer Challenge 2024 to walk 10,000 steps every day of March and would like to thank everyone who supported me. I walked a total of 328,486 steps during the month which equates to 156 miles/251 km. I raised **£649**, for Cancer Research UK. This would not have been possible without the support of my church family. Thank you all once again for your kind generosity. Pam Alexander

Rachael Skyner will be running The London Marathon on Sunday April 21st in Aid of Claire House Children's Hospice, if you would like to sponsor her there is a form at the back of the church... Thank you.

Christian Aid week 12th - 18th May 2024.

Fancy a challenge, goal to work towards, a bit of fun. Then join us for St. James sponsored walk on Sunday 12th May. We will be leaving from Church after the service, 12ish and walking to the Liver buildings (around 6.5 miles).

All you need is a packed lunch, smile and your friends and family to sponsor you. Anyone is welcome, you can do part of the walk and if younger people want to join on their scooter or bikes that's fine. A family day out raising money for a great cause. So put the date in your diary and get some practice in. More details to follow. If you are interested let text **Jane (Lavery)** on 07963961951

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.

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