

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Mt 10:39)

Warm greetings to you and welcome to this week's letter and printed service. The set readings explore the repercussions of spreading the gospel message. Jeremiah is suffering mockery and humiliation because of the message he brings, Jesus prepares the disciples for the inevitable backlash they will encounter as he sends them out. Communication was fraught with difficulty then, and continues to challenge us today. As the rules regarding what we can or cannot do change almost daily it is not surprising that confusion abounds. In May the Government announced that places of worship would be allowed to open from early July, and now private prayer has been allowed from 15th June. The Methodist Church centrally urges caution and all the churches in our circuit have decided not to reopen before September at the earliest, and many probably not for some time beyond that. We will keep you posted on any developments. When churches do eventually reopen there will be many people unable to attend, or who choose not to do so. Their needs, pastoral and spiritual, will be as important as those who do attend church. Meanwhile it is heartening to see how each church has found ways to keep in touch, usually some combination of phone, email and zoom. We may have to work harder at our fellowship but we are also finding what it is to be a Church Without Walls.

Reminder: Dial – a – Prayer, Methodist Church

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514

Listen to news: 0808 281 2478

Sunday Worship and Daily Prayers

There are plenty of opportunities to join in worship if you have the internet. We are encouraging everyone to link up with the live stream worship being offered by the Birmingham District via FaceBook on Sunday mornings at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Birminghammethodistdistrict/live>

In addition, we will be offering services online on the Circuit's own FaceBook page or via YouTube:

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=142865293925553&id=110929903785759

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9E0b5XWCv-SB0co6kiL5AyIbMJ77Q_MN

A full text of this service is also available at this FaceBook link and is being sent by post to all those people who do not use the Internet so they can join in too. These two worship opportunities will be available and sent to you every Sunday. We will be offering worship in a similar way each Sunday as the health crisis continues.

Daily prayers at 10am are led by members of the circuit via zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/328494818> Please contact Michael Sharman on 07818 118979 if you'd like help getting in.

TV & radio opportunities for worship:

Radio 4, Sunday Worship, Sunday 8:10am,

Radio 4 Long Wave, Daily Service, 9.45am Mon-Fri,

Radio 3, Choral Evensong, Sunday 3pm.

BBC 1, Sunday Worship, Sunday 10.45am,

BBC 1, Songs of Praise, Sunday 1:15pm

Pastoral Support

A reminder that if you are in pastoral need of any kind please contact your own Minister direct by email or phone. We may also be able to arrange practical help with shopping and so on. Our details are below.

If in any doubt, please contact Rev. Peter Powers and he will link you up with help locally to you.

Rev. Barbara Greenwood 01926 740846 barbara.greenwood@methodist.org.uk,

Rev. Audrey Simpson 01789 267971 revaes@gmail.com,

Rev. Jeongsook Kim 07741 461060 revjeongsook@gmail.com,

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Rev. Jemima Strain 07969 345389 jemima.strain@methodist.org.uk,

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Rev. Richard Wilde 07971 218356 revrichardwilde@gmail.com,

Rev. Peter Powers 07941 328155 revpeter.mwc@gmail.com

Keep safe. Keep caring. Keep praying. With every blessing to you and yours.

The Ministers and Stewards of the South Warwickshire Methodist Circuit of Churches

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