



4th October 2020

The **Methodist Church**

South Warwickshire Circuit

Registered charity no. 1154830

Superintendent Minister: Rev Dr Iain Ballard

Our Circuit recorded service this week, as well as those taking place in several of our churches, is a celebration of Harvest. As with so many things this year, it will be very different to what we would normally experience. You may be inclined to wonder whether there is anything to celebrate or give thanks for.

While it is natural to lament what we have lost, it surely only takes a moment to realise how blessed we still are. We have power, clean water, free healthcare and abundant food. Most of us have gardens to enjoy, and if you don't there are parks not too far away. We have families and friends who, if not nearby, we can speak to on the phone. We have our church families and neighbours, so many of whom have offered practical help to those who need it. We have God, who is never far away, to turn to when we are lonely or struggling.

The Bible runs the whole gamut of human emotion, from elation to despair and back again. Even though at times it talks of God seeming to be distant, the writers always seem to come back to a place of hope. This year's harvest celebration may be diminished, but we can hope for next year. We can take a leaf from Habakkuk's book, who said:

Though the fig tree does not blossom,
and no fruit is on the vines;
though the produce of the olive fails
and the fields yield no food;
though the flock is cut off from the fold
and there is no herd in the stalls,
¹⁸yet I will rejoice in the Lord;
I will exult in the God of my salvation.

¹⁹God, the Lord, is my strength;

Habakkuk 3:17-19

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>

Change of YouTube account:

Please note, the Circuit now has its own YouTube account, which means that the URL has changed.

Please access the YouTube video by clicking the following link or typing it into your browser:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLzyDSCOYMtQvpCroUvvxjE93MqkTWQomY>

If you regularly watch the Circuit Service, do consider subscribing to the Channel.

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SW.Methodist/>

Website: www.methodist-swc.org.uk

A full text of this service is available at this FaceBook link and on the website, and is being sent by post to all those people who do not use the Internet so they can join in too. These 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.

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
*(The times of the TV services can alter, please check
the times)*

Daily prayers at 10am are led by members of the circuit via zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/328494818> Please contact Michael Sharman on 07412 401988 if you'd like help getting in.

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 Dr Iain Ballard and he will link you up with help locally to you.

Rev Dr Iain Ballard	07368 875790	iain.ballard@methodist.org.uk
Rev. Barbara Greenwood	01926 740846	barbara.greenwood@methodist.org.uk ,
Rev. Jeongsook Kim	07741 461060	revjeongsook@gmail.com ,
Rev. Audrey Simpson	01789 267971	revaes@gmail.com ,
Rev. Jemima Strain	07969 345389	jemima.strain@methodist.org.uk ,
Rev. Sam McBratney	07706 586860	s.mcbratney@methodist.org.uk ,
Rev. Richard Wilde	07971 218356	revrichardwilde@gmail.com ,
Chris Flood	07772 292033	chrisflood_erniescheu@hotmail.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