



# Heaton Moor United Church

The United Reformed Church and The Methodist Church  
working together in partnership



## Church Services

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August 10:45 at Heaton Moor United Church

Sunday Service led by Arnold Jones

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August at Heaton Moor United Church

Communion Service led by Rev Paul Brewerton

Booking not required , you can just turn up .

## Zoom Services and Meetings

Weekly circuit Zoom Services are now finished for the summer

No Wednesday Zoom Coffee Mornings – why not come along to the building instead?

11.00am to 12.00pm Coffee and a Chat

# MESSAGE FROM THE CO-EDITOR

*Hello Everyone*

Hello everyone,

Well Betty and I managed it 24hrs without speaking ! Thank you to all those that have sponsored us, at the time of going to press over £650.00 had been raised. It's not too late to do it, there will be envelopes in church on Sunday and the link to the just giving page is still on the website. It was hard especially when I realised the standard stuff that I do had to be done in other ways, Keith felt like he was in the dog house as I wasn't talking to him and I couldn't get Alexa to turn on and add stuff to my shopping list!

September is fast approaching and the church room diary is starting to get full again as groups start to return to the building. In preparation for the church returning to also being more open. I have spent this week looking at rotas and the jobs that are covered by different people on Sunday mornings. I will be in touch via email, over the next week if you were on either welcome, coffee, duty or PA rota prior to lockdown with more details and new rotas. I have a record of people who have stepped down, if anyone wants to volunteer who already doesn't please email me.

JoAnne is back for next weeks newsletter, I am sure she will have lots of news to tell you.

Have a good week everyone and God bless

*Sharon*

[office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk)

[www.heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk](http://www.heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk)



YouTube<sup>GB</sup>

Heaton Moor United Church



Heaton Moor United Church



heaton\_moor\_united\_church



**Office Opening** The office opening times for next week will be:

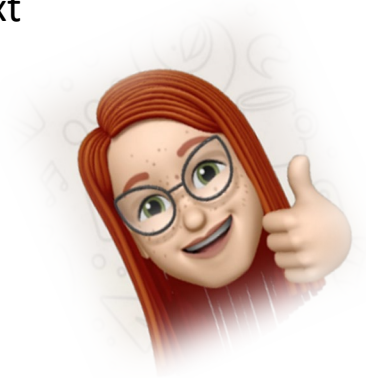
**Monday Closed**

**Tuesday 10 - 2**

**Wednesday 10 - 2**

**Thursday Closed**

**Friday 10-2**



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## Preaching Plan August 2021

01/08/2021	Carol Cork
08/08/2021	Deborah Symmons & Sharon Heginbotham
15/08/2021	Arnold Jones
22/08/2021	Paul Brewerton (Communion)
29/08/2021	Sue Shillito

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# Giving.....



If you use envelopes for your giving, the new ones for 21/22 are now awaiting collection. They will be on top of the bookcase next to the lift in the foyer (entrance area).

If you wish to give by standing order, email [office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk)

For a form.

Don't forget if you pay tax you can register for gift aid and the church gets an extra 25% email me for a form.

Thanks

Sharon



## *Prayers from the office*

**This week has been results week .**

## **A prayer for exam results**

Thank you, God, that you are with me in my joy, and in my sorrow. Thank you, God, that you are with me when things are scary and uncertain. Thank you, God, that you are with me on every step of my journey, whether the path I take is clear, or whether the path takes me into the unknown.

Holy God thank you that I have been able to go to school. I pray for those who are unable to access education. Thank you for teachers who have worked so hard this year, and every year, to help students. I pray for teachers and students who are returning to education this autumn.

Heavenly creator, you made me in Your image. You made me with love. You made me to be me, nobody else. Help me to remember that You love me, no matter what. Help me to remember that in your eyes, I am worth more than grades on a piece of paper.

Help me to remember your words:

Isaiah 41:10 – “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

I pray this in Jesus’ name, Amen.

If anyone would like to share a Prayer  
with the church family, please call Linda  
on 07564839380 or  
E-mail [lindawfleming625@gmail.com](mailto:lindawfleming625@gmail.com).



No names required because  
God Knows.



*Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
this week to  
Rosanne Rayner .*



**United Stockport Circuit (Manchester and Stockport District)**

## **Inaugural United Stockport Circuit Service**

**Come Together and Celebrate!**

**Sunday 5th September at 4pm**

With **Rev'd Anthony Clowes**

(District New Places for New People Officer)

Join with friends from across the United Stockport Circuit to celebrate the start of the new church year and the first opportunity to be together after lockdown.

**Heaton Moor United Church**

Stanley Rd, Stockport SK4 4HL

The service will also be live streamed for those unable to come in person.

Contact Sharon if you need any further information

[office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk)

**Sunday 15 August 2021**

This short act of worship has been prepared for you to use whilst we are unable to use Methodist Church premises. We invite you to spend a few moments with God, knowing that other people are sharing this act of worship with you.

**Opening Prayer**

Lord Jesus, you are the Bread of Life. As we worship today let us receive you and be renewed by you. Amen.

**Hymn:** Jesus, the joy of loving heart (Singing the Faith 365)

Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here

[https://youtu.be/X\\_U-R7aNG0Y](https://youtu.be/X_U-R7aNG0Y)

Jesu, the joy of loving hearts,  
the fount of life and light of all;  
from the best bliss that earth imparts  
we turn unfilled to heed your call.

Your truth unchanged has ever stood;  
you save all those who on you call;  
to those that seek you, you are good,  
to those that find you, all in all.

We taste of you, the living bread,  
and long to feast upon you still;  
we drink of you, the fountain-head,  
our thirsty souls from you we fill.

Our restless spirits long to be  
with you, where'er our lot is cast,  
glad when your gracious smile we see,  
blest when our faith can hold you fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay;  
make all our moments calm and bright;  
chase the dark night of sin away;  
shed on the world your holy light.

*Ray Palmer (1808-1887) (alt.)*

Let us pray together

Lord, the eyes of all look to you in hope; and  
you give them what they need.  
You open your hand and satisfy the hunger  
and thirst of every living thing.

We, too, turn to you again, longing to be  
filled— to eat of the Bread of Life,  
to drink from your life-giving streams, to taste  
your goodness and live.

May the time we spend together in your  
presence nourish our hearts and minds;  
may it strengthen our relationship with you,  
and renew our commitment to live in this  
world as your faithful disciples.

For you alone are God, the Source and  
Sustainer of life. Forgive us when we rely on  
our own strength and wonder why we  
struggle. Renew us and feed us.

Our God is a gracious forgiving God. Jesus tells  
us we can start again. Our sins are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God.

**Today's Reading from the Old Testament**

Ephesians 5: 15-20

**Today's Gospel Reading:** John 6: 51-58

**Time to Reflect**

How good is it to eat a slice of a freshly baked  
loaf of bread? How good is it to have a treat  
and buy a lovely filled sandwich from a  
delicatessen. We have a favourite one in  
Harrogate I need no excuse to pass. I am  
satisfied after partaking of the bread.



The day before our passage today, on the far shore of the lake, Jesus had fed over five thousand people by multiplying five loaves and two fish. They now gather round him again, looking for more. They expected more free and satisfying food. They did not expect a deep sermon! He tells them that such food cannot last, just like the manna from heaven that Moses gave their ancestors in the desert.

The true bread which he now offers is his own flesh. Some, of them were horrified. Many of his followers, indeed, were to leave him on hearing this.

Peter and the Twelve, however, remained faithful. They were with him at the Last Supper when he again took some bread, blessed it and gave it to them, saying 'Take it, and eat it, this is my body.' This is my body. Similarly with the wine. They knew that "eating of him" meant receiving his goodness as a healthy and satisfying spiritual gift.

Bread nourishes us, so Jesus uses that term to describe himself. But 'living' bread is an attempt to reveal more deeply how profoundly he nourishes us. He offers us a relationship in which we can 'abide' in security. We need that life-giving relationship more than ever today in an unhealthy world. By taking of him, we can live for ever.

Take a time to sit quietly

### **A time of prayer**

For our world and its pain and uncertainty,  
Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For our nation, our Queen and our  
government, Lord in your mercy, hear our  
prayer.

For the city, town or village in which we live,  
and those who serve us in body, mind and  
spirit, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

On those who are frightened, unwell, alone,  
or overwhelmed. On our church, on other  
churches we share with and the Church

throughout the world, Lord in your mercy,  
hear our prayer.

For each of us, right now, longing for bread in  
our hunger, Lord in your mercy, hear our  
prayer. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer** *Our Father .....*

**Hymn: Listen to** Bread is blessed and broken  
(Singing the Faith 576)

<https://youtu.be/zWvFZZXHBhw>

**or sing a verse of a hymn that comes to mind**

Bread is blessed and broken,  
wine is blessed and poured:  
take this and remember  
Christ the Lord.

Share the food of heaven  
earth can not afford.  
Here is grace in essence --  
Christ the Lord.

Know yourself forgiven,  
find yourself restored,  
meet a friend for ever --  
Christ the Lord.

God has kept his promise  
sealed by sign and word:  
here, for those who want him --  
Christ the Lord.

*John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (b. 1958)*

### **A prayer of blessing**

May God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, go with us  
now. May God's Spirit be on us, on those we  
love, and on those for who we should pray,  
this day and always.

Original Materials by Rev. Ian Pruden

All

Hymns reproduced under CCLi 1144191.

Local Churches please insert CCCLi No here



We are grateful to all the Ministers and Local Preachers from around the Connexion who have contributed to Worship at Home. This resource is administrated by Ministries: Vocations and Worship in the Connexional Team. We aim to continue to provide these resources until the end of August 2021.

### **Ephesians 5: 15 – 20**

<sup>15</sup> Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. <sup>18</sup> Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup> always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **John 6: 51 – 58**

<sup>51</sup> I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”

<sup>52</sup> Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”

<sup>53</sup> Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup> Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. <sup>55</sup> For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. <sup>56</sup> Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup> Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup> This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.”

**Reflection taken from URC daily devotions :**

<https://devotions.urc.org.uk/>

### **1 Peter 1: 13 – 25**

Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; for it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. For

'All flesh is like grass  
and all its glory like the flower of grass.  
The grass withers,  
and the flower falls,  
but the word of the Lord endures for ever.'

That word is the good news that was announced to you.

### **Reflection**

At the bottom of the manse garden, we have a patch of dirt which I try and seed each year and I dream of lush green grass. It is May I am still wearing my winter coat. Sunshine and showers mean that this year's crop of seed is starting to take hold. Will I have the patience to let the grass grow before trying to put the mower over it or will it get scuffed away by whoever's on the swing? ('The grass withers, and the flower falls').

I could describe the patch of dirt at the bottom of the garden as being a bit like the church buildings that have been closed during Lockdown but are now starting to resume some sort of normality. The Church has been alive during Lockdown in how it has conducted its life on-line or off- line, with the world in turmoil. Many initiatives have resulted in new and creative ways of 'being Church'. (It has also highlighted the divide between the 'have's and the 'have nots'). Some have been prepared to embrace change but some have stayed exactly as they were – 'a patch of dirt' with nothing happening.

Our text from Peter is telling us to roll up our sleeves, to go again and begin rebuilding: 'Gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God'.

Whatever did or didn't happen in our local church communities during the pandemic, we are assured: 'The Word of the Lord stands forever'. We should be about transformation and as Christ cared for individuals in his encounters with the bereaved, sick, hungry and demon-possessed, so must we, because when we care for others, we imitate Christ's love for others.

Let's rise to the challenge of the present, with the certain hope that in Christ the best is yet to be: 'And this word is the good news that was preached to you'.

Are we thinking in terms of the best being yet to come?

## **Prayer**

God of the tiny, perishable seeds,  
God of the muddy patch,  
God of the lush green grass,  
Your Word remains forever.  
Let's praise you today  
With rolled up sleeves  
And hearts and wills ready to serve.  
We know the best is yet to come!  
Amen