



Heaton Moor United Church

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



Church Services at Heaton Moor United Church

Services at 10:45 unless otherwise stated

26 th September	Arnold Jones	
3 rd October	Deborah Symmons & Sharon Heginbotham	Harvest Service Collections for Wellspring, Cornerstone & Christian Aid
10 th October	Leo Roberts	
17 th October	Rev. Dr Graham Adams	Communion Service
24 th October	Rev. Dr Raj Patta	A section of this service will be devoted to Enid Collinson
31 st October	Sue Beatty	

Additional Services

3 rd October Hazel Grove Methodist 16:00	Rev Sonia Hicks	Black History Month Circuit Service
10 th October Zoom	Missional Partnership Service	Meeting ID: 821 8150 8988 Passcode: 716978

Upcoming Events at Heaton Moor Church

Saturday 25 th September 10:00 – 12:00	McMillan Coffee Morning
Tuesday 28 th September 14:00	Dementia Friendly Service
Wednesday 6 th October 10:00	Moor Than a Good Read



Dear Heaton Moor United Church,

May the peace and love of Jesus Christ be with you all.

Last Sunday we had a good celebration service of Oliver's baptism, thanks to Sian and Allan and all their family and friends who have joined the worship service. It was a service filled with joy and thanksgiving, and thank you all for supporting the family. We also managed to share the Holy Communion in a different yet decent way. One of our friends commented that she was very impressed with the service that I was able to manage baptism, communion and sermon all in one hour!!!

Thanks also to our friends who joined at the screening of the film "The Present" followed by prayer and falafel, to observe the World Week for Peace in Palestine Israel (18-25 Sept). We have plans to screen different films on themes of global justice from different contexts. Thanks to Arnold Jones who will be leading our worship service this Sunday.

This week we have resumed our team pilgrimage walk, visiting the houses of our church friends. It was so good meeting them and listening to their stories of faith. We will continue this walk in the weeks to come and hopefully we should be able to complete it soon. If any of you would like a visit or need communion at home, please do let us know and we can arrange for it.

We also had a good circuit meeting this week, discussing on various missional priorities. We are also working on Stockport Town centre Chaplaincy, engaging with the community. To that end we are looking for a space in the town centre and we will hear more about it when the plans get finalised. I was also able to do few pastoral visits this week. I am happy to inform that there are few new members joining our church, and let me welcome them to our church and we will offer them a formal welcome soon to them at a service.

As the Dementia group plans to start meeting from this Friday, we send them all our love, hugs and prayers. We are planning to have a special service for Dementia friends on Tuesday, the 28th Sept at 2pm at our church and more details are enclosed.

On the 3rd of October 2021, at 4pm we will have our Circuit service at Hazel Grove Methodist Church, focussing on the Black History Month. Rev. Sonia Hicks, the President of the Methodist Conference will be speaker at this service. I am enclosing the flyer for your kind perusal and you are all warmly invited to join in this service.

Herewith we enclose the worship resources for you to use them at home.

May you all experience the embrace of God's love and continue to celebrate the gift of life.

Have a blessed week.

Thanking you,

Regards,

Raj

23rd September 2021.

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-EDITOR

Despite having two days off this week, to celebrate little mans 7th birthday and prepare for his party on Saturday, I still seem to have packed a lot in!

Last week we had a lot of absences at Monday Toddlers but this week we were back to full capacity, and it never gets old hearing the children laughing and playing in the building.



On Tuesday I hit the streets to distribute our World Alzheimer's Day forget-me-not cards and it was lovely to be chatting with members of the community.

Wednesday I was back on the streets, this time with the rest of the team as we took up our pilgrimage once again. Thank you to those who welcomed us into their homes, we even got a local history lesson from Albert and Anne.

I am writing this Thursday evening after an online gathering of children and family workers from across the region - these meetings are a great opportunity to meet with other workers and share best practice and hear what other people have been doing. As I listened to some of the issues my colleague are experiencing I am once again grateful for a forward thinking leadership team and such a supportive congregation so THANK YOU!

I am looking forward to Friday, I am trying a new activity with our Friday Toddlers and Dementia Friends return.

Hopefully I will see some of you at the coffee morning on Saturday but as always if I can be of any help or you just fancy a chat please do not hesitate to contact me

JoAnne

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 Heaton Moor United Church



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heaton_moor_united_church



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

Monday 10 - 2

Tuesday 10 - 2

Wednesday 10 - 2

Thursday Closed

Friday 10-1



Wasn't it lovely to have refreshments after the service on Sunday?

Unfortunately we still do not have enough volunteers to provide refreshments after future services. If you would be willing to be part of the rota please speak with Sharon

Linda would like to thank everyone for their kind words and prayers during her time off whilst recovering from surgery.

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



No names required because God Knows.

Pennies for Leprosy **JAR IS NOW IN CHURCH - look out for the jar outside the worship space**



During COVID-19 the way people use cash has changed as society became “cash-less” to help prevent the spread of the virus. Yet somehow many of us still have a loose change receptacle at home!

During October we will be collecting pennies* to send to the Leprosy Mission (www.leprosymission.org.uk).

*although we are using the term pennies we will accept any value of coin!

25 people gathered at church on Sunday evening to watch The Present, a short film about a father and daughter in the Palestinian enclaves of the Israeli-occupied West Bank trying to find a wedding anniversary gift.

The film lasts 24 minutes yet packs so much in such a short space of time. It's an angry film yet it's calm and composed . . . a wonderful piece of story telling.

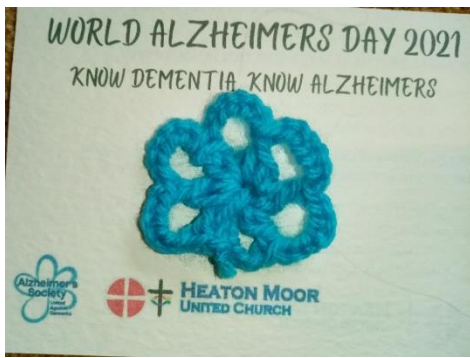
The film is still available on Netflix and I can highly recommend. If you do not have access to Netflix but would be interested in watching please contact JoAnne or Raj



THE CHURCH TEA TOWELS?

We seem to have misplaced all the tea-towels? If you know where they might be please speak with Sharon or JoAnne!

Alternatively, if you have any tea-towels that you would like to donate please drop them off with Sharon.



Did you see any of our World Alzheimer's Day forget-me-not cards around Heaton Moor on Tuesday?

In recognition of the day we distributed 50 cards highlighting the day, directing people to Know Dementia Know Alzheimer's by visiting

[https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/about-dementia/types-](https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/about-dementia/types-dementia/symptoms-dementia)

[dementia/symptoms-dementia](https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/about-dementia/types-dementia/symptoms-dementia)

We also asked people to sign our letter to our MP Navendu Mishara asking him to help make specialist dementia support a priority. If you would like to sign the letter, please visit

<https://forms.gle/jeiPp5ZXQg8N17k5A>

If you do not have online access or have difficulty with the form a paper copy is available in the office. Please check the opening hours to call in and sign.

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY SERVICE

We will be holding a short dementia friendly service on Tuesday 28th September at 14:00

The service will last half an hour and will be followed by refreshments.

No need to book, just turn up

We look forward to welcoming our Dementia Friends back this week and ask you to join us in prayer.

We pray for those who find difficulty in remembering;
for whom once-familiar faces are becoming strangers,
and treasured memories disappear from memory's store.

Lord, grant understanding to those who care for these
your vulnerable children, and dignity to those
who suffer in this way.

May they know and feel your love surround them
and every moment, though soon forgotten
be a moment filled with joy

FOUND ONLINE



Philip Taylor

21 September at 14:09 · 🌐

Vernon Building Society (Poynton) Band Concert. The band will put on a very good Festive programme of enjoyable music to sit and listen to, join in by singing along or with the audience participation It is due to their popularity that they are making a return again this year It is usually a 'SELL OUT' - Tickets are £9.00 inc refreshments. Tickets will be on sale from the 10th October 2021! Please ring me on 0161 430 8518 Proceeds are in aid the band & our Church. There will be the usual raffle too. We look forward to seeing you at Woodley Methodist Church on the 3.12.2021 @ 7.30pm.

Global Images of Christ: Challenging Perceptions at Chester Cathedral

A landmark exhibition of over 40 enlightening works of art, sculpture and images from artists such as Mark Cazalet, Peter Eugene Ball and Lorna May Wadsworth to challenge our perceptions as to how Jesus Christ and other people of faith are depicted by people of different ethnicity, race and colour.

Open: Monday – Saturday 10am – 6pm, Sunday 12 Noon – 5pm.

Exhibition open: Saturday 25 September – Saturday 30 October 2021.

Restrictions may apply on certain days. If you are travelling specifically for the exhibition, please telephone to ensure the Cathedral is open at the time of your visit.

Free entry. Donations welcome.

On Saturday 25th we will be taking part in the Macmillan, biggest coffee morning.

We are looking for volunteers to help :

- Make the brews
- Help on the Cake and Tombola stalls
- Put the tables out and pack away

If you can help with any of these things speak with Sharon on the day

We look forward to seeing you TOMORROW!

Items Required :

Items for the tombola :
boxes of chocolates,
smellies , sweets etc

Cakes for the cake stall



Email :

office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

Harvest Service: 3rd October 10.45

This year we will be collecting food for Wellspring and Cornerstone .

Items Needed :

Tinned items :

Potatoes

Vegetables

Tomatoes

Pie fillings (Sweet and Savoury)

Rice pudding

Custard

Meats for sandwiches (corned beef, ham, and spam)

Meats (stewed meats, hotdogs, meat balls and curry)

Savoury pies

Veg and meat soups

Pickle

Brown, Tomato sauce, Mayonnaise

Sugar

Biscuits

Coffee

Cordials

UHT Milk

Small bottles water or pop

Individually wrapped (Multi pack) crisps, chocolate and biscuits



Shower gel

Liquid soap

Roll on deodorants (NOT SPRAY)

Shaving foam , razors

Items NOT required :

Tinned Fruit

Baked Beans

Kidney Beans

Tomato Soup

Chick peas

Sweet Corn

Tinned Salmon

Marmalade and Jam

Packets of Pasta and Rice

Tea Bags

There will also be envelopes for Christian Aid available the week before the service and the week of the service.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

A Service of Celebration
Sunday October 3rd 4pm
Hazel Grove Methodist Church
Wesley Street, Hazel Grove, SK7 4JQ

Preacher:
Revd Sonia Hicks
President of the Methodist Conference

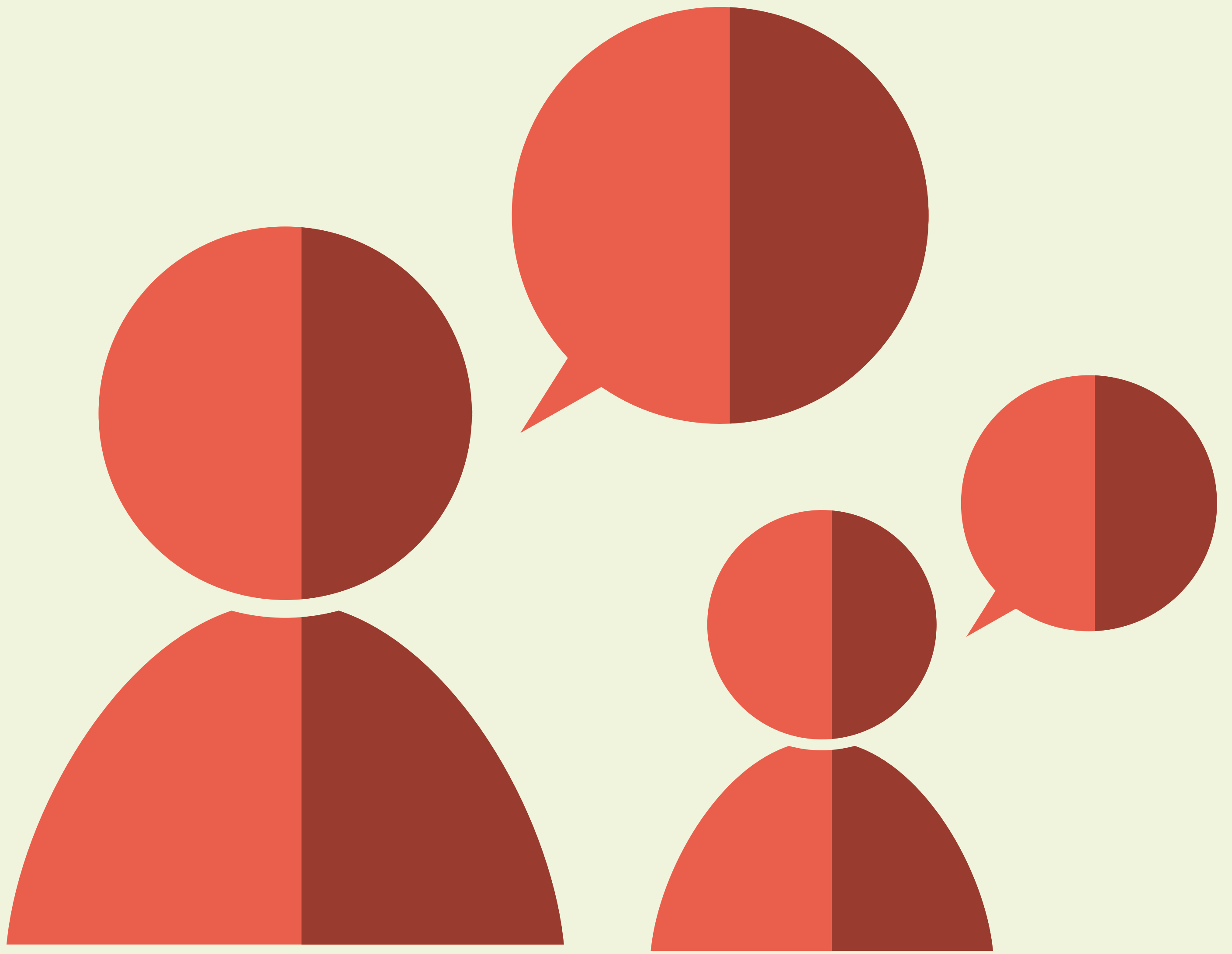
You are welcome to attend in person or
to join live online

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6UfxgG6P8PM>



United Stockport Circuit
Methodist & United Reformed Churches
working in partnership





HEATON MOOR UNITED CHURCH

CHURCH MEETING

21ST NOVEMBER AFTER THE SERVICE

99% OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ARE IN SCHOOLS

On Tuesday 28th September there is going to be a national day of prayer for schools. As you know, at Christians in Schools our heart is for the 95% of children and young people who don't go to church or have the opportunity to hear about Jesus. So, our mission and work is all about reaching the 99% who are in mainstream schools, to tell them about Jesus and share God's love.

We do this through workshops, RE lessons, assemblies, wellbeing projects and lunch clubs, all of which have Jesus at the heart as we teach and spend time exploring the Christian faith, the Bible and the 'big' questions of life. But more than all of that, we do it through prayer. Prayer is central in what we do, and we would love for you to join us on Tuesday 28th September as we focus on praying for schools.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR SCHOOLS 28/09/2021

The 99% of children & young people in school

99% of children and young people are in mainstream school. Please pray for them as they settle back into new classes and new schools. Pray for those feeling anxious or struggling, especially after the last 18 months. Pray for a happy, fun and settled time for them, where school is a place of safety and security, and where they will develop, grow and flourish.

For Christian children & young people in school

Pray for children and young people in schools who are Christians. May they stand firm in their faith and know that Jesus is with them in school, a place that can so often feel hostile to the Christian faith. May they be bold and confident as they witness to their friends and teachers, and please help them to know one another for encouragement and friendship.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR SCHOOLS 28/09/2021

For teachers, support staff and leadership in schools

Let's pray for all teachers and support staff in schools. May they have energy and enthusiasm as this new academic year begins. Please help them to meet the needs of the children and young people in their care, and may they find time to look after their own health and wellbeing as well. We pray for wisdom, guidance and support for all those in leadership in schools.

For all those outside of mainstream education

We pray for all the children and young people who are outside of mainstream education. We pray that they will be surrounded by people who will help, support and champion them. We pray that they would feel safe and settled in their individual school settings, and that they too will flourish.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR SCHOOLS 28/09/2021

For the local church

Please pray for churches, that they would seek to support their local schools. May they build good relationships with school staff and children and become part of the school community. Please help them to serve schools well and promote Jesus and the Christian faith in them. Help them to be creative in what they can offer and provide opportunities for them in school.

For Christians in Schools

Please pray for all of us at Christians in Schools as we continue to serve children and young people in primary and secondary schools across Stockport. May we keep Jesus at the heart of all that we do and seek God's love and guidance as he builds his kingdom through our work. May we have love, passion, wisdom and creativity as we go into schools to work alongside them and share the Gospel.

Worship at Home - Sunday 26 September 2021

This short act of worship has been prepared for you to use at home. We invite you to spend a few moments with God, knowing that other people across the Methodist Connexion are sharing this act of worship with you.

Opening Words (Psalm 19:7-8)

The Law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes.

Hymn: StF 628, Faithful One

(Brian Doerksen - lyrics)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7PjSOSIhIOM>

Faithful One, so unchanging,
Ageless One, you're my rock of peace.
Lord of all I depend on you,
I call out to you again and again.
I call out to you again and again.
You are my rock in times of trouble.
You lift me up when I fall down.
All through the storm your love is the anchor,
my hope is in you alone.

Brian Doerksen (b. 1965)

Let us pray together

Faithful One, we gather again in an act of Worship at home. You have been with us all these months, through the storm of Covid and you truly have been our anchor. We put our hope and trust in you. Whatever we face in the future, we do not face it alone. Your Holy Spirit is with us to pick us up again, set us on our feet, and we go forward in and with the love of our precious Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Old Testament Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10; 9: 20-22

Gospel Reading: Mark 9: 38-50

Reflection

At this second feast, Esther reveals to her husband, King Ahasuerus, the wicked plot of Hamaan. Uprightness prevails and the gallows that Hamaan built to hang Esther's Uncle

Mordecai are now used to hang the King's regent. Yet this justice is not the end because a decree for the destruction of the Jews has already gone out from the palace of this Persian king. A new decree is delivered throughout the land which now gives the Jews the right to defend themselves. Although Esther 9:5-10 does suggest an indiscriminate slaughter as some commentators suggest. Nevertheless, Esther 9:22, tells us that the Jews gained relief from their enemies and their sorrow was turned into gladness and their mourning into a holiday. What ensued was "days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor" (9:22).

Isn't this what we have missed during Covid – meeting with family and friends where we can eat together, and join in days of gladness? If you are like me, we have done our best to safely visit one another – often by Zoom, Skype, or some other technical means. Even at our coffee times online, we have had to bring and make our own coffee. Our hugs have been virtual with blowing of kisses over a screen or through a window to our children and grandchildren.

To me it seems that spiritually our coronavirus has been hanged by a vaccine and now it is up to us to fight back and to gain relief from this enemy so that our time of mourning might be turned into time of joy. Many rejoice at the lifting of restrictions, but it has been a poignant reminder that we have been under enemy attack.

Esther's story has served Judaism for many years and is a story of hope amid despair. Notice how the Jews send gifts to one another but they do not forget to give presents to the poor.

It is a lesson for us to remember those who have not fared as well as some of us. Rob Lacey in 'the Word on the Street' reminds the reader that "in the whole book of Esther God doesn't even get a mention – not by name. But the sheer number of 'coincidences' make it obvious that he's around, working things behind the scenes, protecting his people..." (Rob Lacey, *The Word on the Street*, Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2003, p.127).

In contrast to God's name not being used in Esther, we find John criticising a man who used Jesus' name to expel demons. Jesus says, "Don't stop him. No one can use my name to do something good and powerful, and in the next breath cut me down. If he's not an enemy, he's an ally. Why, anyone by just giving you a cup of water in my name is on our side. Count on it that God will notice" (Peterson's, *The Message*).

So, whether we use God's name, or Jesus' name, or whether we do acts of kindness without using either name, we can count on God noticing what is going on. Wherever believers in Jesus Christ are looking after the needs of others, especially the poor, then because we bear the name of Christ, we will receive our reward from Him (Mark 9:41).

Take time to sit quietly.

A time of prayer

We represent God, the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. We pray today for those struggling in the aftermath of the pandemic with mental health, bereavement, economic downturn, and ... (name your situation). We have lost family members and friends, and as a nation we have lost any economic stability we thought was possible. May we be salt to those around us. **In the name of Christ.**

We pray for the results of global warming throughout the world: forest fires, mud slides, flooding, higher than usual temperatures, and much more. May we be salt to those around us. **In the name of Christ.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn: Listen to 'There is Power in the Name of Jesus'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pkR33Os vJSs>

A prayer of blessing

Peace to you - to all who walk in Christ's ways.
Amen.

Original Materials by Heather Wilson

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.

Esther 7:1-6

New Revised Standard Version

7 ¹So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. ²On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." ³Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. ⁴For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men, and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." ⁵Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" ⁶Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Esther 7:9-10**New Revised Standard Version**

⁹Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." ¹⁰So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Esther 9:20-22**New Revised Standard Version**

²⁰Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, ²¹enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, ²²as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Mark 9:38-50**New Revised Standard Version**

³⁸John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹"For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you

season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."