

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

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
31st October	Sue Beatty	

Additional Services

10 th October	Missional Partnership	Meeting ID: 821 8150 8988	
Zoom	Service	Passcode: 716978	

Upcoming Events at Heaton Moor Church

Sunday 10 th October 17:00 – 18:00	Time for remembrance, support & hope for baby loss awareness week	
Tuesday 12 th October	Ladies Fellowship at 14:00	
Saturday 16 th October at 10:00	Celebrating New Life	
	Short service to celebrate babies born during the pandemic	
Monday 18 th October at 19:45	Men's Fellowship	
(takes place every other Monday)		
Wednesday 20 th October at 10:00	Moor Than a Good Book	

Dear Heaton Moor United Church,

May the peace and healing of Christ be with you all. Trust you are doing well.

Thanks to Leo Roberts for leading the service this Sunday. Many thanks to you all for your support to the Harvest Sunday, and also for supporting the Black History Month circuit service last Sunday at Hazel Grove Methodist Church. The recording of this service is available on our Circuit website.

It was good to visit few of our church friends at their homes this week, share Communion with them and also to pray with them. Thank you for receiving us. If you need a pastoral visit, please do let Linda or one of our staff team know, and we can organise it.

This week we had meetings discussing plans for town centre chaplaincy to celebrate Christian presence in the centre of town centre. It was good to be at the Transforming Leadership Learning Communities of the Methodist Connexional team meeting and to make a presentation during the week. We also had Asian theologians in the UK gathering this week to connect and listening to various theological projects. On the 7th of October, joined the conference on the occasion of the 90th birthday of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, which was quite a learning experience listening to various theological visionaries.

Our 'Litter Church' is this Saturday at 10 am, and those of you who are interested to join, please do join us as JoAnne and myself go into the neighbourhood picking the litter on the streets. This is one of our commitments towards Sustainable Heatons. There are several other programmes that are happening at our Church and please do join them.

On the 10th of October the United Nations has called to observe as World Mental Health Day, and particularly Covid has had a great impact on the mental health well-being of several people. The objective of this day is to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and to mobilize efforts in support of mental health. As a church we are called to support one another caring for each other's mental well-being. The Methodist supported charity Peer Talk provides weekly volunteer facilitated peer support groups for people living with depression, anxiety and related distress. You can read more about this on this link: https://www.peertalk.org.uk/ We also have MIND; a local Stockport mental health charity and you can find their details on this link: https://www.stockportmind.org.uk/

May you all have a blessed week.

Thanking you,

With Warm Regards, Raj 7th October 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-EDITOR

I'm not really sure how it's got to Friday again time is whizzing on. If you happen to see me today don't be shocked that I'm not in my usual attire of jeans. I am taking part in Frocktober - an Australian initiative to raise awareness on ovarian cancer - known as a silent killer that too often gets overlooked. I am wearing a "frock" in support of an Australian friend who is currently battling this horrid disease.

Last Friday I took part in a meeting about the development of the 1st floor of the Heaton Chapel train station. It was interesting to hear people's views on how it should be developed and what the space should be used for. Everyone was in agreement that it should be used for maximum benefit to the local community so watch this space!

It was lovely to come into Church on Monday morning and see the large pile of donations that had been given as part of our Harvest Service - thank you to everybody who contributed.

On Wednesday I met with others from across the Circuit to discuss ideas around the circuit having a presence in Stockport town centre -again this was interesting and exciting and hopefully we will have information to share soon. In the meantime if anybody has any ideas then please do share them with JoAnne or Raj.

I joined Linda and Raj on a home visit with communion. It's always a pleasure to have opportunity to meet with our Church members but adding in the element of communion and it's extra special. If you would like a home visit do contact Linda.

As always if I can be of any help or you just fancy a chat please do not hesitate to contact me

Joanne

community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk
07340 269 354

www.heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

Heaton Moor United Church



Heaton Moor United Church

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 10-16



THANK YOU to our Church family for prayers, and amazing support following my fall two weeks ago. I am feeling better each day and feel so BLESSED!

Love to you all

 $\mathcal{B}ery\ell$ (Whitehead) XX



LITTER CHURCH

Our next litter Church will be on Saturday 9th October

Meeting outside Heaton Moor United Church at 10:00am.



Are you interested in finding out more about the work of the Wellspring,

Stockport's very own resource centre for homeless and disadvantaged people?

The Circuit church of the margins focus group is organising a meeting on

Wednesday October 13th at 7.30pm in the Concourse at Marple Methodist Church when Alison from the Wellspring will talk about the work of the Wellspring and how we can support them.



CAN YOU HELP? We are looking for people who would be prepared to be videoed sharing their one hope for the future of the planet. The videos will be part of a worship celebration with Climate Justice for All. If you would like to be filmed please contact JoAnne.

You can be filmed at your home, at Church or anywhere else around Heaton Moor!

Our letter to our MP Navendu Mishara asking him to help make specialist dementia support a priority is still available online. 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.

LADIES FELLOWSHIP are meeting on 12th October at 14:00

This first meeting is an opportunity to catch up and see how future meetings should run. Do come along!

A Frayer From Linda



Heavenly Father,

In a world that has so many difficulties and dangers Lord, it is so easy to allow our heart to become weighed down with pressures and overwhelmed with problems, and yet You have promised that the joy of the Lord is our strength and we thank You that Your strength is made perfect in our weakness.

We pray that we may keep our eyes fixed firmly on our Lord Jesus and live in total dependent on you our Lord, in the knowledge that you has overcome the world, and has promised to give us you joy and peace in our hearts.

Thank You for Your abiding love. We pray that we may learn to fully abide in you and you in us so that your joy may be in us all. In Jesus' name,

Amen.



REMEMBER

We are collecting any loose change in our

pennies jar for The Leprosy Mission. The jar can be found outside the worship space.

If anyone would like to share a Prayer with the church family, please call Linda on 07564839380 or

E-mail <u>lindawfleming625@gmail.com</u>.



No names required because God Knows.

Life on the Breadline – How have Christians responded to poverty during austerity? 2pm – 3pm, Thursday 14th October (online)

Since 2018 the 'Life on the Breadline' research project has explored a wide range of Christian responses to austerity-age poverty across the UK. Drawing on original research findings from case studies, interviews and a national survey, this interactive presentation will shine a light on the strengths and weaknesses of contemporary Christian responses to poverty and structural injustice, and the theological traditions they embody. The session will show how the Life on the Breadline 'Anti-Poverty Charter' can equip individuals and local churches to respond in effective, caring and prophetic ways as we seek to challenge poverty in 2021.

Join the event on Zoom at https://coventry-ac-uk.zoom.us/j/3560072450



This Sunday, 10 October, is World Mental Health Day. The Methodist supported charity PeerTalk provides weekly volunteer facilitated peer support groups for people living with depression, anxiety and related distress. You can read more about their work and about mental health

www.peertalk.org.uk



Are you passionate about food security, sustainability and helping to create stronger, more resilent communities?

We are seeking 2 people to join our Board of Directors (unpaid role)

Email tracey@crackinggoodfood.org for more info and a recruitment pack - application deadline 22/10

We're looking for Cou.

Safeguarding Sunday 10th October

Safeguarding Sunday is an opportunity to thank all those people working behind the scenes to make our churches safer for all.

To listen to the Safeguarding Sunday 2021 song please visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AvR-qFz6L51&t=4s

Safeguarding Sunday Pledge

Our commitment to safeguarding

We commit to each share responsibility for creating an environment that is safe for all

We commit to pray for our safeguarding lead(s) and those working with children and adults

We commit to respect the boundaries that are in place to protect others

We commit to support those in our church who have been hurt or abused

We commit to provide on-going safeguarding training for all our workers

We commit to allow sufficient time and resources to make our recruitment of workers safer

We commit to maintaining an open culture where people are encouraged to share concerns

We commit to not take offence when challenged about our presence or behaviour

Safeguarding Sunday



Safeguarding Sunday Prayer

Loving Father God,

We come to you in the knowledge that you hold all your children in unconditional love. We lift to you those who are vulnerable and in need of protection.

Give them your safety, comfort and peace.

We cry to you for those who are hurting and whose trust has been broken.

Give them your healing, restoration and justice.

We bring to you those who seek to forgive others who have hurt them.

Give them your strength, courage and hope.

For those who by their actions or attitudes have caused hurt and harm to others, lead them to seek your forgiveness and to enter into true repentance.

Thank you for all who give their time, knowledge, and skills to make our communities safer.

Give them your wisdom, guidance and grace.

For ourselves, we ask you to give us your heart for the vulnerable, the oppressed, the voiceless and the forgotten. Help us to see them as you see them; to value them as you value them, and to nurture and protect them as you desire.

Help each one of us play our part in creating safer places for all your people.

In your name we pray,

Amen



WWW.PRISONSWEEK.ORG
@PRISONSWEEK #PRISONSWEEK



10TH-16TH OCT 2021



























The **Methodist** Church













DAY









"Respair" is an Old English word which fell out of use many centuries ago but means "the return of hope after a period of despair". The prayer tradition of lament helps us to make that journey from a dark place of pain, suffering, fear or sorrow to somewhere that the light can get in. Maybe only through a tiny crack to begin with but bringing a gradual dawning of hope and sense of God's promise, that we are loved and will never be abandoned or alone. No matter how messy and difficult life becomes, God is never distant and longs for us to let him in.

Please pray with us each day during Prisons Week, these prayers offered by chaplains, serving prisoners, police officers, victims of crime, prison leavers, family members and communities – crying out to God, asking for help, responding in faith, giving thanks for his unending love, grace and mercy.

Let us walk together through the week in prayer and grow in our understanding of the value God places on each one of his children, so that like the ravens we may soar, free at last, trusting in the knowledge of his provision and love for us.

DAY

DAY

THE PRISONS WEEK PRAYER

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day. Amen.

GRIEF

My God, my God why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning? Psalm 22:1

They don't see me Lord, but you do. They do not hear me, but you do. My mental health is waning, my despair increasing, I feel like no-one cares, but you do. I hold onto your every word of the Bible, as they renew my mind. I praise you Lord! Have mercy on my soul! Grant me favour with the officers, with the courts and with probation. Bless my family members and keep them safe, until we meet again. God, you are wonderful! Thank you for those who visit me when I am lonely.

GETTING HELP

The King will reply 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me'. Matthew 25:40

Father God, thank you for the work of all Prison Chaplains. During this past year many have gone well beyond what had been expected of them. Sustain and strengthen them, bless their families and may they be encouraged in their service to you. In the name of Jesus our saviour.

ACCEPTANCE

All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Ephesians 2:3

Every day I pray for the strength to continue to live through this pain, the pain of separation from my beloved, the strength to hold my children safe as they struggle to comprehend what has happened to us. I pray for the signs to guide our family through this experience with love and compassion, so that we all grow and flourish with the wisdom that is part of the Divine plan that holds us all safe. I pray that I will understand how to use this experience for good and transform the pain to joy in the future, I pray to let go of distress and find acceptance in the peace that miracles will replace all grievances, for therein lies the peace of God.

PROMISE

Consider the ravens: they do

not sow or reap, they have no

storeroom or barn; yet God

feeds them. And how much more

valuable you are than birds! Luke 12:24

We find peace in a broken place.

God's grace can give you new

strength. My wounds you heal. Lord

Jesus, how great you are! They

control the locks, you Lord control

the clocks. Time will pass and we

will be free.

Trust the past to the mercy of God,

the present to his love, the future to

his providence.

St Augustine of Hippo 354 – 430 AD

LETTING GOD

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. Ezekiel 36:25

Heavenly Father, I lift all those in prison today, no life is beyond your reach. Come to those who don't know you and cause them to start seeking you. Thank you for those who do know you, in whom your heart resides; as they go through this day and cross paths with others, cause them to stop and listen, and show your great love to those they encounter. May we all make time for the lost and hurting today.

For over forty years Prisons Week has prepared prayer literature for the Christian community to use as they pray for the needs of all those affected by prisons: prisoners and victims, their families, their communities, those working and volunteering in prisons and the criminal justice system. Please pray each day during Prisons Week but also ask yourself whether there is one thing that you as an individual, or as a church, can do to help any of the people that you are praying for.

LETTING GO

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Hebrews 12:1

I was down and thinking of behaviours before I decided to let go, let God heal and restore. I'd done drugs, sex and violence in the past to cope. But they all left me empty, and no feeling of hope. When I read through the scripture, something happens in me - I want to do good things and be with God's family. You can't change the past, but the future you can. If you're looking for hope, then God has a plan.

HOPE

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

Dear God, I hear your kind words of comfort and reassurance that you want me to prosper and not be harmed. Help me not to worry about my life, but to put my trust in you, to be happy and full

of hope, love and gratitude.

All Bible verses taken from the New International Version - UK PRISONS WEEK

10TH_16TH OCT 2021

WWW.PRISONSWEEK.ORG @PRISONSWEEK #PRISONSWEEK

For more information, to donate or to order more prayer leaflets please visit our website at www.prisonsweek.org email us via info@prisonsweek.org or write to: Prisons Week, c/o Free Churches Group, 27 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HH



Worship at Home - Sunday 10 October 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

Wonderful creator, we come into your company to listen to your word, to hear your voice and know your grace in this place and in our lives.

Amen

Hymn: Be Thou my Vision (Singing the Faith 545)

https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/worship/singing-the-faith-plus/hymns/be-thou-my-vision-o-lord-of-my-heart-stf-545/

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;

be thou my best thought in the day and the night.

both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word, be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord; be thou my great Father, thy child let me be; be thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;

be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might:

be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:

O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor earth's empty praise: be thou mine inheritance now and always; be thou and thou only the first in my heart: O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,

O grant me its joys after victory is won; Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

Irish, 8th century translated by Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931) versified by Eleanor Henrietta Hull (1860-1935) (alt.)

Collect for the day

God of all power and might the author and giver of all good things, graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish in us all goodness and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

Methodist Worship Book

Let us pray together our prayer of adoration

Loving God, we lift our praise to you who shaped this world and filled it with such beauty for us to explore in wonder

It is to you, Lord, that we lift our praises, from the beginning you had a plan for us and we are held in your hand.

We lift our praises to you, compassionate Father. It is you who grants us freedom from the burden of sin and, as a shepherd, brings us safely back to you.

Amen.

Let us pray together our prayer of confession

Forgive us, Lord, when our faith is too small and we struggle to believe that you can help us, when we cry out in despair not expecting an answer.

Forgive us when others try to persuade us that you do not exist or when the words of others lead us to doubt.

Forgive us, Lord, when the journey of faith is hard and we are tempted to wander, when

we do not use wisely the gifts that you have given us.

Forgive us, Lord and rekindle the flame that once shone within our hearts.

Amen.

Hebrews 4: 12-16

Gospel Reading: Mark 10:17-31

Reflection

When reading a bible passage one of the things I sometimes do is to try and put myself in the reading, imaging what is happening around and what the feelings are of those mentioned in the passage.

In today's gospel reading, we hear of a man, described as the rich man, running up to Jesus to seek answers. I imagine that something in his life must have caused him to run to Jesus, kneel down and ask his question. The rich man has a desperation behind his question; a desire to know the answer, a desire to find out the answers from the teacher.

Many of us have had times in our lives when we have asked the same kinds of questions. The type of question I find myself asking in the middle of a sleepless night or in the middle of the day when I find myself longing to know all the answers, it's an in the moment kind of question about life, that moment in time, what do I need to do to receive God's grace and live a life filled with his plans for me.

The rich man knew the answer to the question that he asked Jesus but he still felt the need to ask "...what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

When things go wrong or not in the direction we thought they would, we'd often like to turn back time, to long for something different but unless we're a time traveller, Dr Who or Doc and Marty McFly, that won't be happening to us.

The rich man is wanting a different quality of life, a second chance and Jesus' words may

sound like a challenge, a list of things he has to do or a list of things he has to accomplish before he will inherit eternal life.

What if, instead of thinking of the list as challenges, we think of them as words of hope and words of recovery. I'm not thinking of rescue and needs as a prize; but as an alternative; the gift of being able to start again with God in our lives.

Jesus offers us hope and salvation in the grace of God. To receive God's grace, we may need to let go of the things that are holding us back. This may be our riches or the things we are doing in our lives that don't lead us in the direction that God intended. We need to invest in what God is offering us and take up his offer.

Like the rich man we may grieve for what we have to give up, for what we need to change, for the things we are asked by God to do differently. The rich man may have appeared to turn away from what he was being asked to do but we don't know this for sure, we don't know what he did after he left. He may have gone home and immediately changed his life, he may not have done it immediately, it may have been weeks, months or years later. We don't need to know what the rich man did; we need to think about our response, how we respond to God's call on our lives.

What is God asking you to do? Where do you need God's guidance and direction in your life? Are you living a life filled with God's grace or are there things you need to let go of, things you need to do more of? Do you see the hope that comes with having the Holy Spirit as your guide and Jesus in your life? There is so much on offer if we just listen to God's call.

Take time to sit quietly.

A time of prayer

God, you are there in our hours of activity and hours of rest. You heal us and forgive us. God, you are there when we pray and reach out to you. It is through you we find blessing.

Receive our thanks and praise.

In this time of prayer, almighty God, we bring our anxieties, worries and troubles to you in prayer.

We pray for the people and situations close to home. May our eyes be open to the needs of our family and friends and the community around us. May we use the gifts you give us to meet their needs.

Lord in your mercy Hear our prayer

We pray for your world. We bring before you our concerns about situations in places in our news such as Afghanistan, and in other places which may not currently be in the news headlines but are no less important. We pray for the families who have been forced to leave their homes to seek security and peace. We pray for those in positions of influence. May they make the right decisions as they work for justice and peace. Lord in your mercy Hear our prayer

We remember in our prayers those who are in poor physical or mental health and give thanks to those who look after them. We remember those suffering in other ways, especially those who mourn the deaths of family members and friends. And we pray for ourselves. We pray that we may hear your voice in the midst of our busy lives. Lord in your mercy

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: Will you come and follow me (Singing the Faith 673)

https://youtu.be/S-Bq1YtpQL8

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

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

A prayer of blessing

May you hear God's voice, know his plans for you and feel the support his loving arms give. May you walk with God today, tomorrow and the days ahead.

Amen.

Original Materials by Cathie Steele

All Hymns reproduced under CCLi 1144191.

Local Churches please insert CCCLi No here

Hebrews 4:12-16

New Revised Standard Version

¹²Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. 14Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Mark 10: 17-31

New Revised Standard Version

¹⁷As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. 19You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother." ²⁰He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." ²¹Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." ²²When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" ²⁴And the

disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

²⁸Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." ²⁹Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."