

Web address: <http://stjameswoolton.org>

**MINISTER:** Rev. Peter Hughes [peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk](mailto:peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk)  
0151 364 0134

Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.

**NEWSLETTER – 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021**



O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

You alone, O God, can satisfy our deepest hunger, and protect us from the lure of wealth and power. Teach us to seek your kingdom above all else, that we may know the security and joy of those who put their trust in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER**

Hello Everyone, I hope you are well. The middle of February is planned as a landmark in the roll out of the Covid vaccine and I hope that we can all look forward today with more hope on our hearts. Our Church is alive and active even though we are not in our buildings. This Monday (15<sup>th</sup>) is our Church Council Meeting on Zoom. Even if you are not a Church Council Member you are welcome to join us – please ask Jayne McLaren for the joining details. Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> is Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent. On Thursday evening at 8.15 our Lent Group begins and we will be looking at the last days of the ministry of Jesus as told in Mark's Gospel. I pray that you have a good week, God Bless, Peter

***Birthdays.***

For those who are celebrating a birthday this week; wishing you a wonderful time ahead. Sending you smiles for every moment of your special day... Have a wonderful time and a very happy birthday!

Happy birthday to

Everyone at St. James' wishes you a happy birthday and enjoy your day.

**PRAYERS NEEDED**

Dear God.

Please give me strength when I am weak.

Love when I feel forsaken.

Courage when I am afraid.

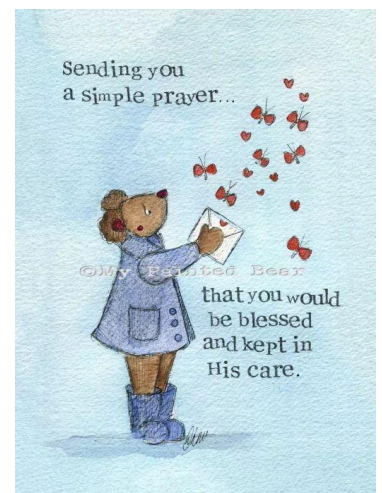
Wisdom when I feel foolish.

Comfort when I am alone.

Hope when I feel rejected.

And peace when I am in turmoil.

Amen.



I said a prayer for you today, that God would touch you with His healing hand and give you the comfort and peace you need to get through.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

**This Sunday we are going to hold our morning service on “Zoom”.**  
**St James’ Sunday Worship on Zoom: Opens at 10.45am, service starts at 11am.**

**This will then be followed by a virtual after service tea, coffee and a catch up.**

**Preacher: Peter Hughes**

**Either** click on this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5913455610?pwd=R3RFV1RWU2NpKzJ1cTM1VFJ2STk4UT09>

**Meeting ID:** 591 345 5610

**Passcode:** 6WbLRw

We hope to see you there.

In the afternoon we have:

**Telephone Worship – Liz Hudson**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2.20 for 2.30pm**

**Dial In Instructions: Between 2.20pm for 2.30pm on Sunday:**

From your normal “landline” telephone: **Dial: 0333-006-7775**

On being asked, enter the following number, or “Pin”: **08 39 09 01**

You will be invited to say your name and will then be admitted to the Worship Session.

### **Order of Worship:**

- Welcome and notices:
- Opening prayer (Host)
- Bible reading (Wendy Doig) 1 Kings 2 vs1-12
- Lord’s Prayer (Host)
- Talk or “mini-sermon” (Liz Hudson)
- Prayers (Chris Bolton)
- Grace and dismissal. (Host)

**Graham Martin Communications Officer, St. James Church.**

[Call me on 0151-222-5832 or 07712-525239 if you have any questions]

## **METHODIST RECORDER**

### How to set up telephone worship

Graham Martin from St James URC/ Methodist church in Woolton, Liverpool, offers advice about setting up church services via the telephone:

SINCE early July St James URC/Methodist church has been holding weekly services on the telephone. These are live, and normally with four people taking the service: reader, prayer, preacher and host. Weekly congregations are around 20 and slowly rising. Perhaps 35 people will attend at least one service a month.

The service was initially introduced to include members of St James’ congregation/church community who were not on the internet and so unable to access YouTube services or Zoom. Of 28 “digitally limited” members of our church community more than 20 attend regularly.

**Technical brief**

Various companies provide the telephone service (www.ConferenceCall.co.uk or Speaq are two). Some charge a monthly fee, some don’t. Registration on the website is usually required. There will be the cost of using the service of calling the number, but it will probably be the same cost as dialling a normal UK landline and free if you have free minutes or for Sundays free weekend calls.

Up to 100 participants (strictly telephones) can participate.

There are “control keys” for the host or main speaker

to manage the call, for example to switch the microphones of all other participants off (or back on), to list all the speakers who have dialled in, to allow participants to mute (or unmute) just their own phone.

**Setting up a service**

Initially we called everyone who was not on email to see if they would be interested and to find out if they preferred Sunday morning or afternoon for the service. In

practice rather more people now join in than said they were interested – the call just “publicised” what was going to happen.

We then hand deliver (sometimes post) an invitation to worship for each Sunday (delivered along with our normal church newsletter).

Our telephone worship services last 15-20 minutes and we ask the preachers to preach for five-six minutes. This timing seems to work well.

The host welcomes people as they join, hushes up the conversation at the start of the service, gives the name of everyone who has joined (including the chance for anyone who has been missed to say “Hello”), then says the opening prayers and acts as “continuity announcer” for the rest of the service, finishing off with leading on the grace and benediction/dismissal. There is a chance for more chat after the service.

Hopefully this is all you need to set up your own service!



A fascinating article in the Methodist Recorder about setting up telephone worship.

We are extremely fortunate for all the hard work by Graham Martin.

A huge thank you to Graham for all his hard work connecting St James’ and the wider community with God’s message.



### ***Picture from the Church Railings***

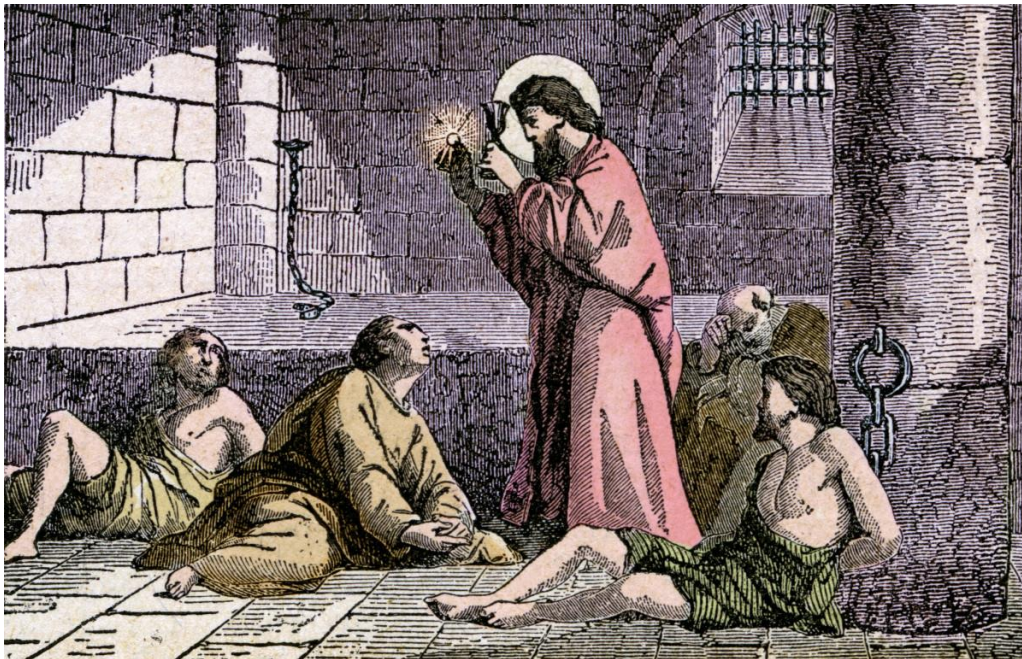
This Sunday is Valentine's Day, when we celebrate human love which is a gift of God who loves each one of us. The challenge from the Church railings is to show love by making every day happier for another person. I am not sure what the picture of the runner is saying about this – perhaps she is making someone proud by running, perhaps someone has supported her so that she can be free to do the activity she enjoys. Let us all try to make at least person's day better each day this week. May God give us the grace share the love of Jesus.





## St. Valentine.

The day gets its name from a famous saint, but there are several stories of who he was.



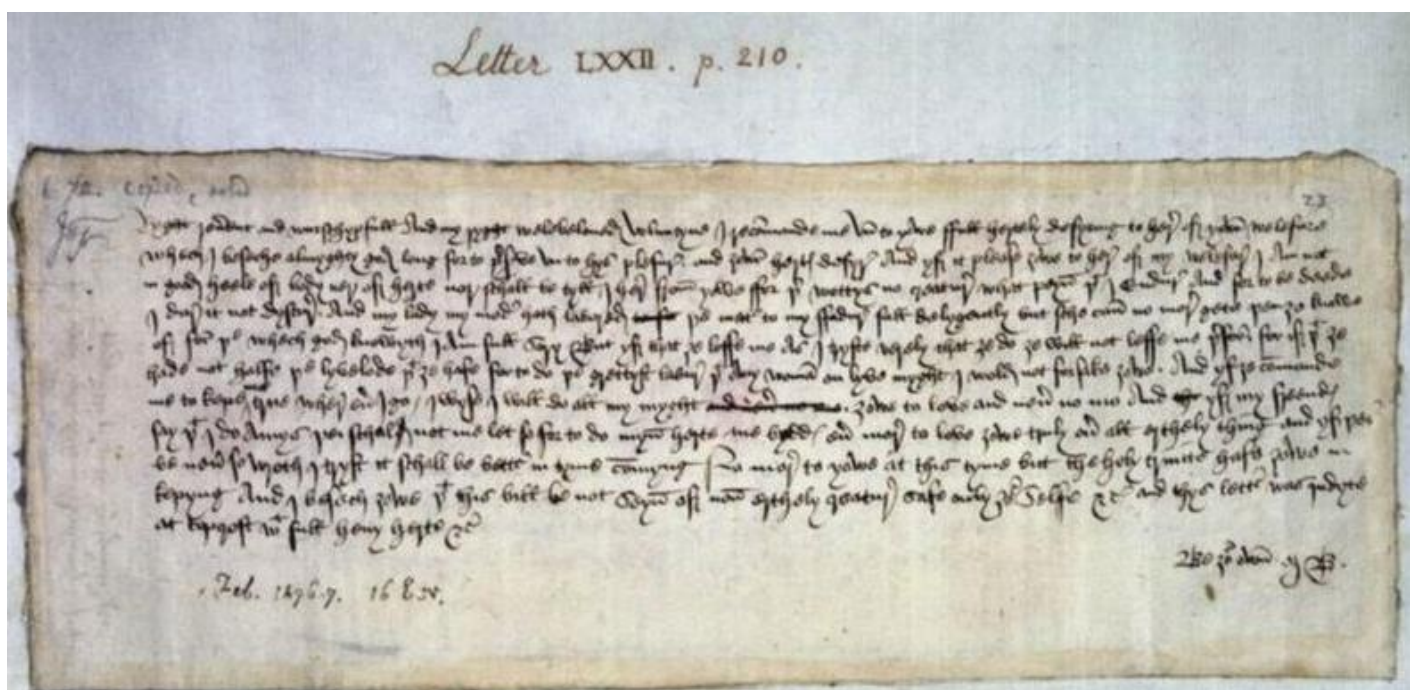
The popular belief about St Valentine is that he was a priest and physician from Rome in the third century AD. who suffered martyrdom during the persecution of Christians by Emperor Claudius II.

Claudius had banned marriage because he thought married men were bad soldiers.

Valentine felt this was unfair, so he broke the rules and arranged marriages in secret.

When Claudius found out, Valentine was thrown in jail and sentenced to death.

When he was taken to be killed on 14th February, Valentine signed a letter “from your Valentine” to his jailer’s daughter, whom he had befriended and healed from blindness.



This is the oldest known Valentine's Day message in English. It was written in 1477.

## Gospel Reading: Mark chapter 9 verses 2 to 9

<sup>2</sup> After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. <sup>3</sup> His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. <sup>4</sup> And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup> (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) <sup>7</sup> Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" <sup>8</sup> Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus. <sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

### LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

D	E	C	L	A	R	E		R	O	B	E
E		A		N		L		A		U	
C	U	P		G	O	O	D	N	E	S	S
I		T		E		H		S		H	
S	K	U	L	L		I	D	O	L		G
I		R		S		M		M	A	L	E
O	M	E	R		C		H		U		N
N		D	I	S	H		E	A	G	L	E
	F		C		R		B		H		R
M	I	G	H	T	I	E	R		T	W	O
	V		E		S		E		E		U
Z	E	U	S		T	H	W	A	R	T	S

Across: 1 Declare, 5 Robe, 7 Cup, 8 Goodness, 9 Skull, 10 Idol, 13 Male, 14 Omer, 18 Dish, 19 Eagle, 21 Mightier, 22 Two, 23 Zeus, 24 Thwarts.

Down: 1 Decision, 2 Captured, 3 Angels, 4 Elohim, 5 Ransom, 6 Bush, 11 Laughter, 12 Generous, 15 Riches, 16 Christ, 17 Hebrew, 20 Five.

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.org.uk

### THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

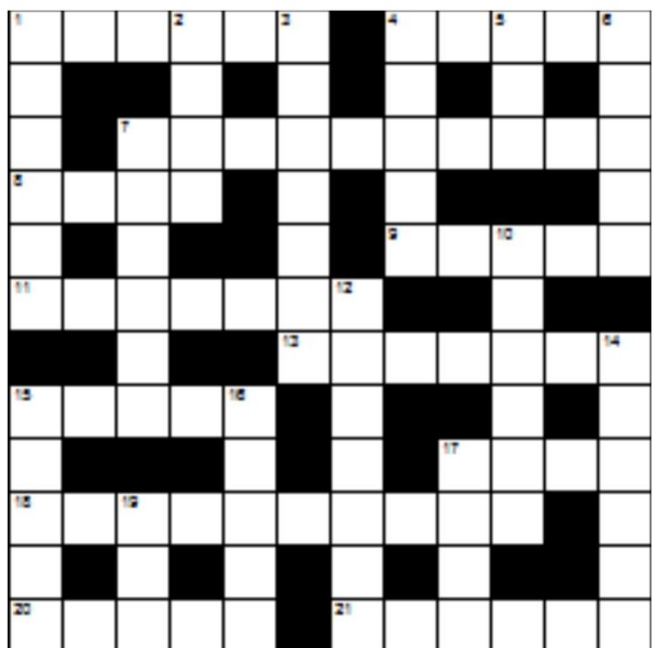
#### Across

- 1 Chariot pullers (6)
- 4 Flung (5)
- 7 Backbiters (10)
- 8 Used in the healing of a blind man (4)
- 9 Place of sacrifice (5)
- 11 Gift (7)
- 13 Area where disciples were from (7)
- 15 Cymbal player (5)
- 17 Covetousness (4)
- 18 Aaron, for example (4,6)
- 20 Reddish (5)
- 21 Misgivings (6)

#### Down

- 1 Aromatic herb (6)
- 2 Food seasoner (4)

- 3 The sound of a choir (7)
- 4 Between eta and iota (5)
- 5 Regret (3)
- 6 More like Solomon (5)
- 7 Jael's victim (6)
- 10 A unit of measure (6)
- 12 Lingered (7)
- 14 Blinded false prophet (6)
- 15 Son of Jacob (5)
- 16 Elated (5)
- 17 Lost his father's blessing to Jacob (4)
- 19 The Almighty (3)



by Philologus

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## **Property and Special Projects committee update.**

We thought that a short report to you all on the daily 'happenings' in our buildings would keep you updated on life which still continues here at St. James.

Although we are once again plunged into a lockdown and our church building is closed maintenance and emergency works still continue. A number of you will remember with a shiver that our church boiler ceased to work for our last two morning services. It seems that these essential machines always do fail at the most inconvenient times! It just being prior to the Christmas break parts were not immediately available and engineers were either finished for the holiday break or in isolation mode because of Covid 19. However, we now have a repaired boiler – a number of new parts were required – at a cost of £850 but at least the building is now warm and ready to welcome you back.

Two small windows in an office in the hall were found to be in a state of bad repair following an ingress of water and have had to be replaced. During installation of these two windows and essential gutter cleaning and replacement of a high hopper to the side of the hall further rotting frames were found to the staircase window and large window to the small hall. Fortunately, our wonderful maintenance go to man was able to repair these and has worked through all this appalling weather to make them watertight and hopefully in good repair for some years yet.

There has been a number of damp areas appear in the main hall which have needed immediate attention for safety reasons. We have a water leak from the tower on the roof. This week end it was found that the two flat roofs to the new sports hall storage extension are leaking badly, in one place causing the fire alarm to activate due to water ingress into the unit and will need urgent attention. So, you see that there is never a dull (or wet) moment!

There is a constant need to maintain securely and safely both our wonderful buildings but this maintenance comes at a cost and as we have virtually no rental income from the hall due to groups being unable to meet this is a worrying time.

Which leads me to our **Special Projects Group** which plans to meet, via Zoom, on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 7.45 p.m. if anyone would like to attend that meeting, it is an open one, please contact me beforehand. [wdoig45@gmail.com](mailto:wdoig45@gmail.com) or 07867795179) OR if anyone has ANY ideas whatsoever as to how we can do some very much needed but fun fund raising during these very restricted times please do contact me.

Wendy Doig.

**If anyone has a floor rug they no longer want, in fairly reasonable condition, would you please contact Wendy Doig on 07795179 or [wdoig45@gmail.com](mailto:wdoig45@gmail.com)**

**We have a lady who is moving from one of the Refuge units we support into her own accommodation and the property does not have flooring so a few rugs would brighten up and warm the place for her. Thank you.**

### ***NEWSLETTER NOTICES NEXT WEEK***



If you would like to share anything with your Church family in this newsletter including any birthdays, celebrations or anyone to include in our prayers, please let me know.

**Please send any messages to Jayne McLaren at**

**[jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk)**