

ST JAMES' METHODIST & UNITED REFORMED CHURCH WOOLTON L25 7RJ

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

MINISTER: Revd. Peter Hughes 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 28th March – 2021



Eternal God, in your tender love towards the human race you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take our flesh and to suffer death upon a cross. Grant that we may follow the example of his great humility, and share in the glory of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday)

God of all-redeeming grace, in your great love you gave your only Son to die for the sins of the whole world. Help us by your Holy Spirit to worship you with reverence, and to enter with joy into the celebration of those mighty acts whereby you bring us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Hello Everyone, I hope you are safe and well. This weekend marks the start of Holy Week, a very important week for all of us as Christians. The excitement of Palm Sunday is followed by the many challenges which Jesus gave as he completed his teaching ministry in Jerusalem. The intimacy of the Last Supper contrasts with the violent events which followed. The love of Jesus for each one of us as he suffered and died on the cross for our sins is at the heart of our Salvation.

Usually we would enter into these dramatic events through our Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services in Church and at the cross in Woolton village. This year we have the opportunity to share in a Palm Sunday Service led by children and young people and a Good Friday Service on Zoom – or using the material that has been sent to you. I hope that, although we mark the events in a different way, the passion of Jesus - his love for you and all that it cost him - will be experienced by each of us in a deep way.

On Monday evening our Steward Elders will be meeting to discuss the possibility of opening our Church for Worship. We will let you know as soon as any date is planned. In the meantime, stay safe and have an inspiring Holy Week.

God Bless, Peter.



UPCOMING PREACHERS

Palm Sunday March 28 th	Circuit (Zoom) & Liz Hudson (Telephone)
Good Friday April 2 nd	Revd. Peter Hughes (Zoom)
Easter Sunday April 4 th	Liz Hudson (Zoom) & Revd Peter Hughes (Telephone)
Sunday April 11 th	Revd. Peter Hughes (Zoom) & Andrew Gillespie (Telephone)

The Lent Cross **Sunday 28th March – Palm Sunday – Lent 6** **The Palm Branches**

On the Sunday before his death Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.

He was coming as their King but doing so in a humble way – on a donkey rather than a mighty horse.

People greeted him by waving palm branches and shouting words of praise.

After he died and rose again Jesus returned to heaven where he reigns as King.

Christians offer worship to Jesus the King just as the crowd did on Palm Sunday.

**“Make way, make way, for Christ the King in splendour arrives.
Fling wide the gates and welcome him into your lives”**

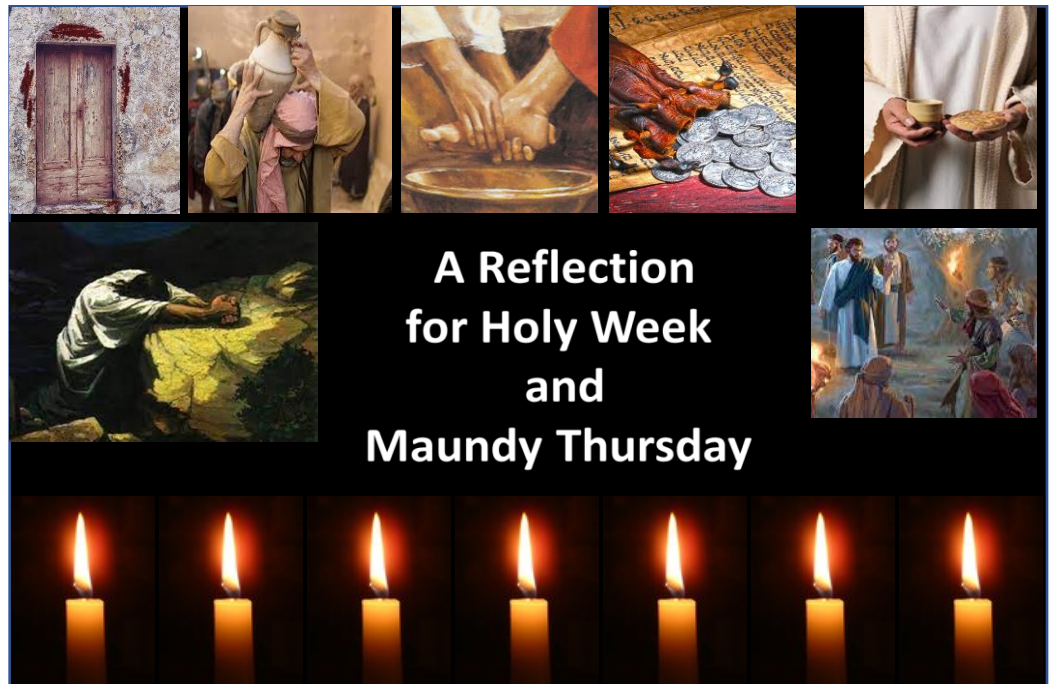


Dotty's Diary



It's nearly time to celebrate all the joys of Easter once again. In these last few days before then, please take a few moments to share in this short video reflection presented by ten members of St James Church Family.

You can watch it on the Church website (stjameswoolton.org) or via the Facebook page from Sunday March 28th. May you arrive safely at the end of Lent 2021, and feel strengthened and supported by the loving, saving sacrifice Jesus has made for us all.



Picture from our Church Railings.

This week there are two pictures - one for Sunday and one for Good Friday:

The first picture shows the cross with the word "Trust" in its shadow. This reminds us that the cross is only of value to us if we trust Jesus. It is as we trust in all that Jesus did for us on the cross that his forgiveness and blessings reach us. The words alongside the picture challenge us to allow the love of Jesus to drive out all that is wrong in our lives.



The second picture includes a quote from the great Charles Wesley Hymn "And can it be". The person in the picture is pondering the question from the hymn "Died he for me who caused his pain?" This is the wonder of the cross - that Jesus would die for us. I hope that this Good Friday you will be able to answer "Yes" to the question. May each of us realise afresh that Jesus did indeed die for us. His was not a pointless death but one which achieves our salvation.



SUNDAY SERVICES

This Sunday is Palm Sunday and the start of Holy Week.

Our Circuit are holding Palm Sunday Service on Zoom - led by our children and young people.

We invite you to join us for this Service - the Zoom details are below.

Palm Sunday Circuit Service on Zoom

Time: Mar 28, 2021 10.15 am for 10:30 am

Join Zoom Meeting - click the link below

<https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fus02web.zoom.us%2Fj%2F88024961552%3Fpwd%3DLo5hajVza3IvRUZ4UDhhQUEyRoZDZz09&data=04%7Co1%7C%7C2f118125546a495425de08d8efa40cod%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637522835914440927%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&data=Dw4rJjNn5S1njvi5NDXxRBReb4NqN4ebca%2BmEYfelo%3D&reserved=o>

Or Log on to Zoom, click "join meeting" and use the following details:

Meeting ID: 880 2496 1552

Passcode: 039599



From St. James Church:- Invitation to Telephone Worship Sunday 28th March: 2.30pm (And now every Sunday until the end of March)

This Sunday our preacher will be Liz Hudson.

To join us for a short (15-20 minutes) Act of Worship :

Between 2.20pm and 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 able to chat with everyone else who joins until the service starts.

This Sunday's Act of Worship, or short service, will comprise:

Order of Worship:

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- Welcome and notices:
- Opening prayer (Host)
- Bible reading (Peter Hughes - St John 12: 12-16.)
- Lord's Prayer (Host)
- Talk or "mini-sermon" (Liz Hudson)
- Prayers (Dave Dickson)
- Grace and dismissal. (Host)

COST: - The above number costs the same to dial as ordinary UK numbers – if you have "free minutes" from your telephone supplier then there will be no cost.

If there is a lot of "noise" during your session you can mute everyone's telephones by pressing #5 – but please unmute – by again pressing #5 – at the end of your contribution.

Paper Palm Sunday Leaf

Feel free to print out this paper palm leaf for tomorrow's service.



Zoom service – Good Friday

**Morning Worship at St. James is now being held as a “Zoom” service.
Joining from 10.45 for an 11am start – Preacher: Revd. 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.

PLEASE NOTE: Where a preacher provides a copy of the words of their sermon, we will include this (after it has been preached) with our Church Notices and other Worship Material. – We do not want to waste a good sermon! even if it arrives a few days after it was preached.

God Bless

Graham Martin

Communications officer (and local preacher) St. James Church

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



Advance Notice - Memorial Service for Derek Long.

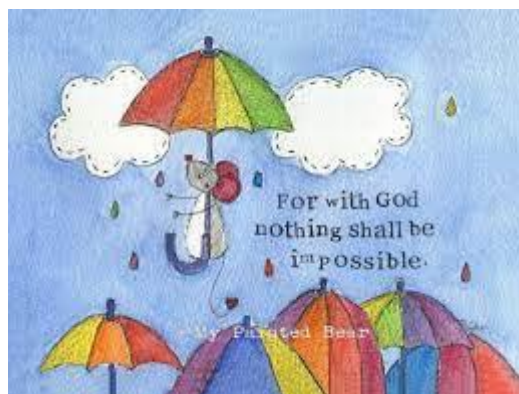
Jennifer Long and family hope to hold a Memorial Service for Derek conducted by Revd. Dr Mike Long on Saturday 24th July, 12 noon at St James Church, followed by refreshments in the Church Hall.

As with all plans at present, this will be subject to any Covid regulations which may apply at the time.

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!

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



SPRINGWATCH with St. James'

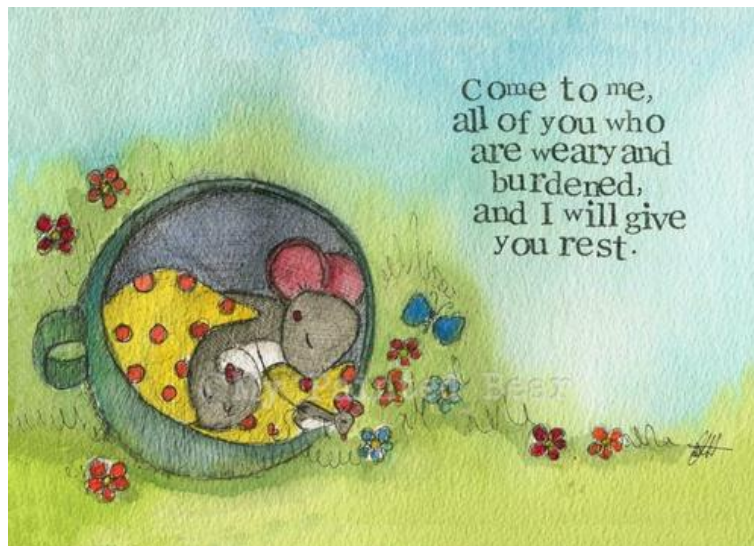
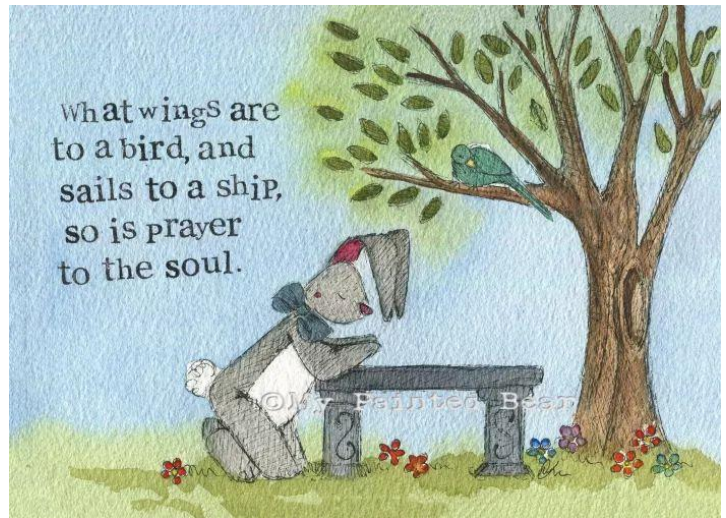
These delightful photos were taken at Speke Hall by Jayne McLaren.



PRAYERS NEEDED

Heavenly Father, it hurts so bad.
Dull the pain with Your love.
Blur the sharp edges by reminding me that
from bad comes good.
Help me appreciate that after the sorrow, joy
is sweeter.
I look forward to better times. I can endure
anything with You by my side.
Amen.

Lord of Heaven, I rest underneath your
mighty wings of love.
I dwell within your gentle heart.
I know there is healing in your touch.
Through the sufferings of Christ, I can ask for
restoration And trust in your goodness.
You are my Lord, my Saviour,
My healer and my friend.
I dwell within your gentle embrace.
Amen.



We pray for comfort and strength for those who are struggling at this time.
For those who are ill, both mentally and physically or for those caring for others.

We pray for those who have lost loved ones, comfort them in their grief and loss, cover them with your peace and presence, as only your spirit can do.
We especially keep Pam Draper and family in our prayers and also Sue Moister, Chris and Ian on the passing of Chas.

WHEN WE PUT
OUR PROBLEMS IN
GOD'S HANDS,
HE PUTS HIS PEACE IN
OUR HEARTS.



HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED IF YOU MIGHT VOLUNTEER FOR A LAY ROLE IN CHURCH LIFE, OR EVEN EXPLORE ORDAINED MINISTRY OR PAID LAY WORK?

- If you have a sense that God might be nudging you into a role in church life, but you're not sure and you don't want to make a fuss at church, then you can come to this event and meet people from other churches.
- It is a place where there are no 'silly' questions

How it works:

- We have some 'books' committed to be at the event.

Local Preachers, Administrators, Stewards (circuit and church), Presbyters, Deacons, Children Youth & Families Workers, Global Mission Partners, Pioneer or Planters, Chaplains, Youth Reps, Youth President and other young adult leaders.

- 'Readers' visit the 'books' in breakout rooms, and the 'books' share their stories, and the 'readers' can ask questions and together they engage in a conversation.

- The event is 10-12 on 22nd May
 - o There will be up to 3 breakout room opportunities, and 3 times of prayer all together (we will be engaging with 3 different styles of discernment prayer)
 - o If people only want to 'read' one book, they can visit that book 3 times, or they can head off after they have 'read' the book. It is very flexible.

www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/vocations/living-library/

Please contact Alison Ransome if there is anything else it would be helpful to know
ransomea@methodistchurch.org.uk

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LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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

Across: 1 Gallows, 5 Corn, 7 Christ, 8 Gnash, 9 Ezra, 10 Caesar, 15 Gentle, 16 Lesson, 17 Pearls, 20 Ants, 21 Eight, 22 Athens, 24 Herb, 25 Imprint.

Down: 2 Ash, 3 Loins, 4 Water, 5 Cana, 6 Rose, 7 Cockle, 8 Greece, 11 Easy, 12 Anoint, 13 Star, 14 Verses, 17 Psalm, 18 Abhor, 19 Wife, 20 Ahab, 23 Nun.

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.com

THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

Across

- 3 Jewel (3)
- 5 Birthright owner (4)
- 8 City of the Philistines (5)
- 9 Like Trophimus (8)
- 11 Fruit of the vine (5)
- 14 Purity (9)
- 16 Cast to make decisions (4)
- 18 Like the curtain of the temple (4)
- 19 A Mary present at the crucifixion (9)
- 21 Hunting weapon (5)
- 24 Tribe from the line of Joseph (8)
- 26 Marriage (5)
- 27 Latter part of the day (4)
- 28 Male sheep (3)

Down

- 1 King of the Amalekites (4)
- 2 Region (4)
- 3 Vegetation colour (5)
- 4 Husband of Ruth (6)
- 6 Judge of Israel (3)
- 7 Wash lightly (5)
- 10 Part of Samson's riddle (7)
- 12 Maid in Mary's house (5)
- 13 Province in Asia visited by Paul (7)
- 15 Ship's freight (5)
- 17 Nearer (6)
- 19 Plain near Hebron (5)
- 20 Prophet foretelling the destruction of Nineveh (5)
- 22 Weather experienced by Noah (4)
- 23 This drove away the plague of locusts (4)
- 25 Noah, alternative spelling (3)

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by Philologus

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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