

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

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

**MINISTER:** Revd. 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 25<sup>th</sup> April – 2021**



God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, with the blood of the eternal covenant: make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

***Fourth Sunday of Easter***

Good Shepherd of the sheep, by whom the lost are sought and guided into the fold: feed us and we shall be satisfied; heal us and we shall be made whole; and lead us, that we may be with you; for you are alive and reign, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



**MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER**

Hello Everyone. This weekend we take a big step forward as our Church opens for Worship. It will be great to see some of you there, and we will be thinking of all those who can't join us just yet - hopefully, you will be back soon.

We are all taking big or small steps in our lives as more becomes possible. I hope and pray that we will all be kept safe and appreciate the opportunities which we have. In all this, God is with us and the risen Jesus walks along with us along life's narrow way, God Bless. Peter

**UPCOMING PREACHERS**

**Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup>** Revd. Peter Hughes (**St James'**) & Chris Bolton (**Telephone**)

**Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>** John Greenwood (**St James'**) & Revd. Peter Hughes (**Telephone**)

**Sunday May 9<sup>th</sup>** Graham Martin (**St James'**) & Revd. Paul Wilson (**Telephone**)

Outdoor Worship at St Mary's Roman Catholic Church St Mary's are holding two Saturday afternoon Prayer Services in their Parish grounds at 12noon on Saturday 15th and Saturday 22nd May. They are inviting members of St James' and St Peter's to join them.

These Services tie in with the period of Thy Kingdom Come and celebrate Pope Francis's "**Care For Our Common Home**" The services will encourage people to recognise the value of spending time outdoors in prayer and thanksgiving for the wonders of nature.

You may wish to bring a picnic blanket, and folding chairs will be available at the services.

***Picture from our Church Railings.***

The Easter picture for today shows us a leaf springing to life again. Resurrection and new life is written into God's creation, as the Easter Hymn "Now the green blade riseth" reminds us. Just as Jesus rose again, and nature is awakening so God reminds us: "When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain, then your touch can call us back to life again". May love live again in your life this week."



**Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime.**

## **WORSHIPPING AT ST. JAMES'**

With the re-opening of church this Sunday, we will see many of you returning to St James' for the first time in a long while. Some of you may not feel confident enough to attend church at the moment and are waiting for when the time is right for you.

Hopefully, we may have a solution to this. One where you will get to experience our church service. Many of you have enjoyed our Zoom services during the last lock-down, so we have decided to trail something. We are going to broadcast a live church service from St James'. You will get to experience the service from the comfort of your home and join in with the fellowship.

As we are trailing this, we would like your feedback. God willing that technology won't let us down.

**Please use the Zoom link below**

**Joining from 10.15 for a 10.30 am 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.

**Also from St. James Church:- Invitation to Telephone Worship  
(And every Sunday until the end of May)**

This Sunday our preacher will be Chris Bolton.

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:**

- **Welcome and notices:**
- **Opening prayer (Host)**
- **Bible reading (Pat Fagan) John 10: 1-18**
- **Lord's Prayer (Host)**
- **Talk or "mini-sermon" (Chris Bolton)**
- **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.

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]



**Please read again all the information below so that we are all aware how we can behave safely and protect each other. This may seem a lot to remember but like everything else we have had to do over the last year, we will soon get used to it!**

### **Service Dates and times**

We plan to hold our services every Sunday at 10.30am (doors open from 10am).

### **Bookings**

Once again, you will need to book in advance to attend a Service. This is because the capacity of our Church has been much reduced by the need to observe social distance.

**You will need to book in each week. Bookings can be made by phone, text or email.**

**Please contact Jayne McLaren on 07859 062 692 ([jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk)) from 4pm on the Sunday afternoon for the following Sunday's Service.**

Places will be given on a **first come first served basis**. If we can't book you in for the coming Sunday, we will put you on the list for the following Sunday.

If you wish to sit as part of a family group, please tell us at the time of booking so that we can arrange seats together for you.

If you book and then find that you can't come to a Service, please let us know as it will create space for others to come.

**Please don't "turn up"** at Church if you haven't booked for that Service as it will be frustrating for you to have to go home.

It is essential that you do not come to Church if you are showing symptoms of Covid 19 or have recently come into contact with someone who is suspected of or confirmed to be infected. For all of us, including those who show no symptoms, getting a test (if available) in the week before coming to Church will help us to know we are safe when we have contact with others. Please do come when it is safe for you to do so. If you are in a vulnerable group, please think carefully about whether it is safe for you to attend. We have prepared the Church by cleaning and other measures.

### **Clothes to suit the Temperature**

You may wish to wrap up well to come to Church. The heating will be on and is now working on full power, but we need to ensure good air circulation by keeping some doors open. Please do not close any doors that the stewards have left open. Hopefully, the weather will be much warmer in the coming weeks than it was back in December!

**Please don't bring unnecessary bags or other items as they could potentially carry and transmit the virus**

### **Lifts to Church**

If you normally give a lift to someone or get picked up by someone to come to Church, please be aware that this is an informal, private arrangement between friends. Lifts are not arranged by the Church and are not offered on behalf of the Church. Please check the current Government guidance before giving or accepting a lift and ensure that any sharing of transport is carried out in a Covid 19 secure way

### **Face Coverings Required**

For now we are still required to wear a face covering at Church, as we are in shops and other enclosed spaces.

You will notice that those on duty will be wearing face coverings for your protection. Children under 11 are not required to wear face coverings. Some adults may also be exempt.

## **Arriving at Church**

The doors will open 30 minutes before the Service begins. Please do not arrive before then. When you arrive at Church you will be greeted by a Steward and be expected to clean your hands before entering. If there is a queue to enter or to use the sanitiser, please observe safe social distancing in the queue.

You may use the main entrance or the ramp entrance. If you are able to, please use whichever entrance is less busy at the time you arrive.

## **Track and Trace**

We will keep a record of who attends each service to help track and trace contacts in case anyone attending Church tests positive at a later date.

## **Social Distancing**

Please enter the worship area and find a seat as quickly as possible, do not gather in groups for conversation. Some chairs will be reserved for those who are coming in families or household groups.

**Please DO NOT move any seats as this will potentially compromise the way we have arranged them to allow social distancing.**

Throughout your time in Church social distancing of 2 metres will be in place, keep a safe distance, just as you would in any public place at the moment. Please don't put others in an awkward situation by going over to their seats and chatting to them.

## **Differences to Notice**

In order to minimise the risk of transmission, our Services will be much shorter than previously and will not include singing.

If you have brought your offering with you, please place it on a plate near the entrance as you arrive or leave. There will be no offering during the service.

We will not be using the Prayers of Intercession book; if you have a prayer request, please let us know by contacting a Steward Elder during the week.

At the end of the Service you will be encouraged to leave promptly rather than linger and chat, there will be no refreshments. All of this goes against what we are used to but it is to enable us to safely share in worship.

## **Children, Families & Households**

We are looking forward to welcoming children, young people and families back to Church.

Unfortunately, we won't be able to hold separate Junior Church, at least for now.

We encourage children to bring their own drawing and writing materials (including pen and paper), please don't bring toys. We request parents to help children in practicing social distancing, which we realise may be demanding! Families and people from the same household or "support bubble" will be able to sit together and we will provide you with the right number of seats together for your group as long as you tell us at the time of booking.

## **Holy Communion**

At first, while we are all getting used to being back in Church, Holy Communion will not be part of the Service. Later we will reintroduce Communion which will be shared in a Covid safe way.

## **Go Safely**

As you leave Church you will be offered hand sanitiser again so that your hands are clean as you return home.



### ***SPRINGWATCH with St. James'***

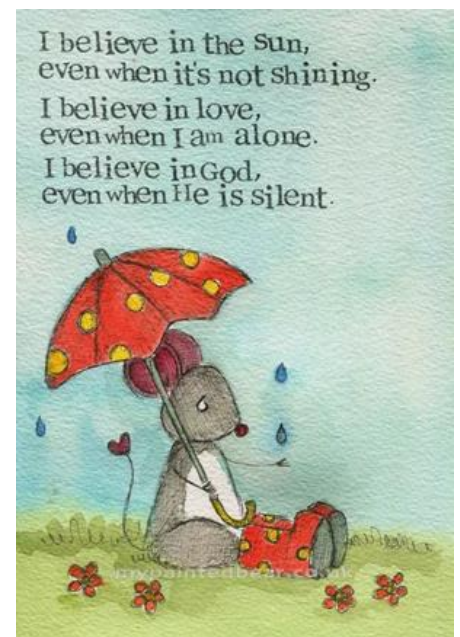
This picture from the Leeds & Liverpool Canal, between Skipton and Silsden, shows another example of the new life of spring. On this calm stretch of canal, some of the trees have green on them, others have buds on them or are still bare. In the next few weeks they will all be green. Thanks again to Revd. Peter Hughes for another wonderful photo.



### ***PRAYERS NEEDED***

Father of goodness of love,  
Hear our prayers for the sick members of our church family and  
for all who are in need.  
Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in  
your healing presence.  
Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken  
bodies whole and free downcast spirits.  
May these special people find lasting health and deliverance and  
so join us in thanking you for all your gifts.  
We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who  
believed.  
Amen.

We continue to pray for all those in need at this time, especially  
John Jeffers, who is recovering from surgery.





### ***Birthdays.***

For those who are celebrating a birthday this week, wishing you a wonderful time ahead.

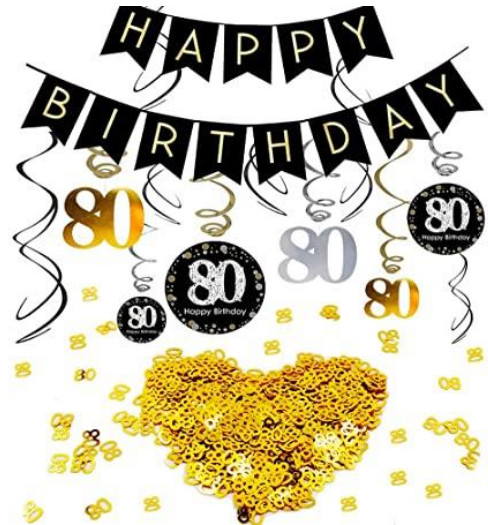
Happy, happy birthday,  
That's my birthday wish for you,  
I hope your day brings you joy,  
Whatever you plan to do.  
Live each moment to the fullest,  
Every single moment is dear,  
This is the time to remember,  
You only get one birthday a year.



Happy birthday to Irene Elliott who celebrates her birthday today (Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>)

Happy birthday to Sheila Thwaites, who will be 80 on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April.

**In your footsteps  
I want to walk  
With your resounding wisdom  
I want to talk  
Under your foliage  
I want to grow  
In the direction of your life  
I want to go  
A life like yours  
I want to experience  
Full of happiness and  
Exuberance  
Happy 80th birthday Sheila.**



### ***Prayers for Strawberry Field April 2021***

This month seems to have gone by very quickly, and we are so grateful to God for His goodness and blessings.

We had a very different but wonderful Easter. Good Friday saw our team out on the streets with a cross made by our Site Manager. We visited four streets where we know individuals and had spoken with them and offered to go with the cross. Karen shared a Good Friday reflection and then we shared silence at the cross. These were precious moments shared with people. One young couple came out of their house and shared with us their thoughts about how people need God in these days. Another young family came out and stood with us, the mother emotional as she shared how precious the moments were.

Easter Sundays Facebook Live from the grounds of Strawberry Field went well and engaged more people. Other social media posts on that day also engaged a lot of people. Joe had decorated the gates with his butterfly of Hope made up of ribbons representing hopes and memories from all sorts of people. A QR code enabled people to watch a short video by Joe sharing the thought behind using a Monarch Butterfly as its name means 'Sleepy Transformation'. We were able to share with a number of visitors at the gates whilst decorating them...no opportunity is wasted!

## A new member of St. James' church

Those who were at the Easter Day Zoom service, led by Liz Hudson, were introduced to Flo, Jimmy's new friend made by Roy Barker. Jimmy and Flo seem very happy in the sunshine - why not visit them and say 'Hello' if you are in Woolton Village?



## LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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

Across: 8 Ritual, 9 Urn, 10 Urge, 11 Intercedes, 12 Pool, 13 Gehazi, 16 Wanderer, 17 Recount, 18 Incense, 22 Separate, 25 Potter, 26 Body, 27 Overthrown, 30 Kiss, 31 Net, 32 Locust.

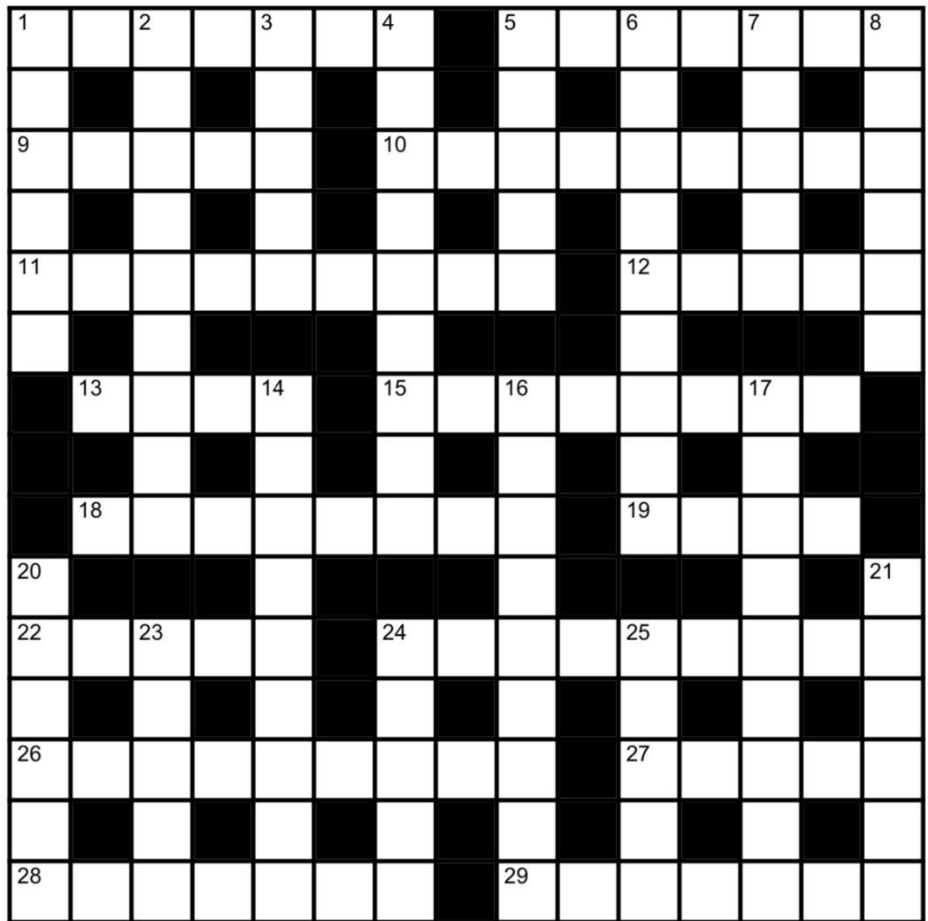
Down: 1 Lion, 2 Jude, 3 Election, 4 Sundown, 5 Unison, 6 Supplement, 7 Ignore, 14 Eye, 15 Apocalypse, 19 Naphtali, 20 See, 21 Repents, 23 Elohim, 24 Adorns, 28 Raca, 29 Wash.



## THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

### Across

- 1 Desperation; Praised  
(anag) (7)
- 5 God, doing this on day  
7 (7)
- 9 More refined (5)
- 10 One of Paul's  
letters (9)
- 11 Uncared for (9)
- 12 Encamp against  
city (5)
- 13 Charitable giving (4)
- 15 Consecrated (8)
- 18 Abraham received  
these (8)
- 19 Jesus raised in 3 (4)
- 22 Colour found only in  
Ezekiel (5)
- 24 Someone who  
shields (9)
- 26 Continuance of life (9)
- 27 Grind together (5)
- 28 Unusual (7)
- 29 Athalia's cry (7)



by Philologus

© BiblePuzzles.org.uk

### Down

- 1 Rely on (6)
- 2 Tail-ender (9)
- 3 Be in harmony (5)
- 4 Not wicked (9)
- 5 Reigned (5)
- 6 Contented (9)
- 7 Picture (5)
- 8 Good news (6)
- 14 The first, first-aid? (9)
- 16 Fradulent (9)
- 17 Slain by Moses (9)
- 20 They get the hump (6)
- 21 Parentless (6)
- 23 Prickly shrub (5)
- 24 300 bought ointment  
to anoint Jesus (5)
- 25 Keen-sighted bird of  
prey (5)

## 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)