

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

MINISTER: Rev. 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 – October 25th 2020

Eternal God, giver of love and peace, you call your children to live together as one family. Give us grace to learn your ways and to do your will, that we may bring justice and peace to all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lord of creation, you give new strength to our faith. Grant that we may recognise your presence in all life and history, and face our trials with serenity and peace. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Hello everyone, I hope you are doing well after another week in "Tier 3". I managed to do a 14-mile walk on the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, in an area which shares our Tier 3 status. I walked from Dover Locks to Wigan and back and then from Dover Locks to Leigh and back. Nearly all the people I passed exchanged a friendly smile and greeting; it was great to see the wildlife and autumn colours. The words of "How Great thou art" were in my mind as I wandered, not quite through woods and forest glades, but in areas that were once mines but are now being taken over by nature once again. The birds were certainly singing sweetly in the trees! Even walking up Speke Boulevard today, to and from the garage where my car was being serviced, had its charms. It was the sound of buses, cars and lorries that I heard but again I saw autumn colours, picked up some conkers and exchanged grins with the people I saw. Wherever we go there are signs of God's love, both from creation and other people.

I hope that this newsletter, lovingly prepared by Jayne, Andrew and others, will be a sign of God's love working through St James Church and reaching out to you.

God Bless every one of you, With my love, Peter.

Music in dark Times... 1pm on Wednesdays

You are welcome to attend the upcoming 'Lunchtime Concert Series', run by the University of Liverpool which will be free to watch online.

The concerts are streamed online accessible at any of the three locations below at **1pm each Wednesday**.

Each concert will last approximately 35 minutes and will be free to view on the following platforms:

Set your alarm to remember to join at the start!

Department of Music website - <https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/music/events/lunchtime-concert-series/>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/lunchtimeconcertseries>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJicHtqmT-ewkmZxTzIz21w>

ST JAMES SEASON OF REMEMBRANCE – November 2020

During November, you are invited to bring a ribbon or small strip of cloth (any colour) to tie to the church railings in memory of someone important to you who is no longer with you.

If you would also like to put your name, or theirs, on a piece of paper in the prayer box near the gate, they will be included in the Church's prayers.

Ribbons etc will remain in place till Friday November 27th. If you would like to take yours home again, please collect it before Thursday November 26th.

Thank you.

NEWS ON CHURCH OPENING

The Methodist Superintendent Ministers met during last week to discuss options for Churches during the time that Liverpool is on Tier 3 of the Coronavirus alert system. They asked the Churches to be informed of:

"Our very strong recommendation that those churches in tier 3 should not be open for worship.

This is the time to revisit our risk assessments.

We would like to highlight the following:-

- While worship is permitted, we cannot meet in the majority of other settings
- Alternatives to meeting physically for worship are available
- Our priority is to save lives
- Many of our regular worshippers are clinically vulnerable
- In holding services worshippers and preachers may be travelling in and out of the tier 3 region."

In order to honour this guidance, we will plan to open our Church again only when Liverpool has been moved out of Tier 3 and it is safer for us to meet together. We continue to pray for our city, that the infection levels will fall quickly, that God will help our NHS workers and that those who are ill will make a good recovery.

During the last week we have been aware of several members of St James' Church who are suffering with the virus. This reminds us how close to home it is and shows why we need to be so cautious at present. May God help us all through at this time.

TIER 3 – COVID REGULATIONS – LIVERPOOL

From the Faith Leaders in Liverpool

The Chief Executive of Liverpool City Council has requested that the video below be circulated through as many communication channels as possible.

Please do watch the video and share it with as many people as possible.

<https://vimeo.com/468117375>

BREAD MAKING

Fancy Baking some Bread??

Following Roy's talk about his love of baking bread in a service just before lockdown, he ran a few Zoom baking mornings once flour and yeast had been found. He's been asked to repeat the beginner's session, so on Saturday 31st October he's going to be throwing bread dough around the kitchen and baking some bread.

If you fancy having a go at baking bread for the first time or you just need a little reminder to build up your confidence, then please drop Roy an email or give him a ring and he'll send you further details. No fancy equipment is needed, just some bread flour, yeast and a little time.

But be warned..... once you've smelt and tasted homemade bread you'll be hooked!

Telephone Worship – Sunday 25th October 2.30p.m.

Dial In Instructions: Between 2.20pm and 2.30pm on Sunday:

From your normal “landline” telephone: **Dial:** 0330-159-6644

On being asked, enter the following number, or “Pin”: **37 38 18**

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

Order of Worship:

- Welcome and opening prayer (Host – Graham Martin)
- Bible reading (Jayne) Matthew Chapter 22: vs. 34 - 46.
- Lord’s Prayer (Host)
- Talk or “mini-sermon” (Rev Peter Hughes)
- Prayers (Pam Draper)
- Grace and dismissal. (Host)
-

Many thanks, and God Bless

Graham Martin

Host’s Pin 649010 (just in case)

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

DOTTY’S DIARY



There are some things that can’t be made up. Like the picture sent to me this week from Reynolds Park. In glossier publications than ‘The Diary’ it would be the beginning of a Captions Competition with a mega-prize. However, this is The Diary!

Other highlights of the week included: -
..... not one but 2 Covid tests, prior to a routine hospital procedure, whilst (theoretically) self-isolating. I’d have happily stayed at home, but didn’t dare to

disobey the instruction to ‘do not get out of the car; come in a mask; come alone; do not pass Go; do not collect £200 etc...



....the smile-raising profusion of pets now contributing to dial-in worship and zoom meetings. Maybe there is something to be said for lockdown after all. In-church services and traditional church councils were (sadly) never like this!!

....and because it’s that time of year – home-made jam and knitting for Christmas. Not sure yet how to dispose of the jam in the absence of a Christmas Fayre, but the knitted hearts are destined to be Christmas give-aways (see the MAG notice). I’ve completed just half of one so far and have a long way to go to catch up on the church’s most dedicated knitters who are well into their second hundred.

And finally, well, the diary completes the course this week. Having reached the 18th (extract) Dotty is heading for the club house! She wondered about a 3-week circuit- break to match the schools’ half-term holiday; then government changed its mind, again! So, having realised that the clocks go back this weekend, (Sunday 25th) hibernation seems like a really good idea instead. Now where is that teapot and / or the knitting needles?

Love and blessings to all St James church family. Stay safe. Dotty. 😊

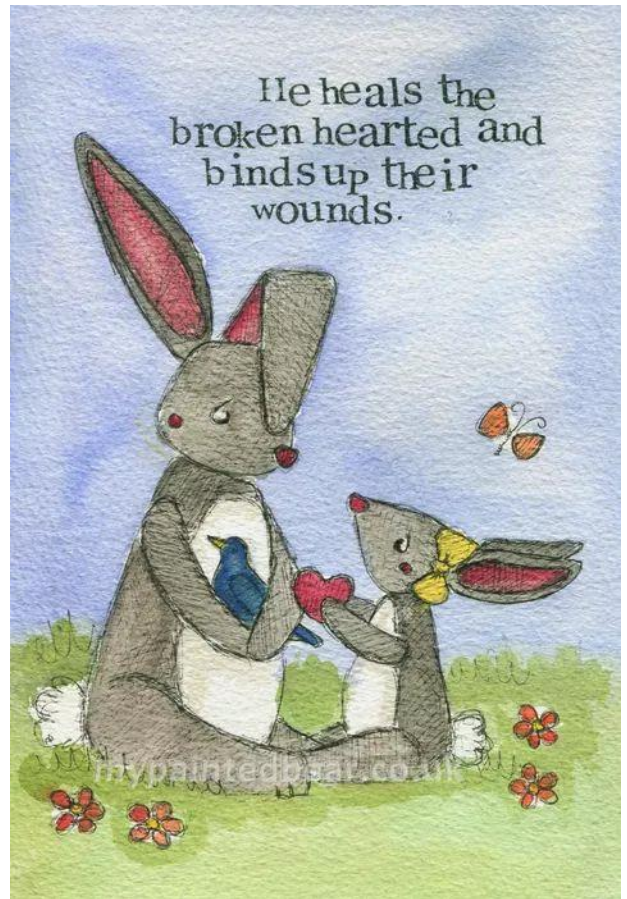


PRAYERS NEEDED

Father, we're praying for all those in need of Your healing touch for their hurting hearts.

Some of them have received emotional wounds, some of them severe. Help them be willing to let you heal those hurts so they won't become increasingly destructive over time, for You are the Lord who heals. We come to You with the same spirit of helplessness and dependence that Moses had when he was leading Your people through the desert. They came to water, but it was bitter and the people had nothing to drink. Moses cried out to You, and You showed him a piece of wood; when he threw it into the water, the water became sweet. We're now coming on behalf of these who are carrying emotional pain. In our hearts we bring the wood of the cross, asking that Christ, who heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds, would bring healing to any bitterness He finds in their hearts.

No matter what pain they've suffered, help them not to give into anger, resentment, unforgiveness, or bitterness and become captive to sin. May their hearts not become calloused or hard but refresh them in Christ. May they not lose heart but be inwardly renewed day by day. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Special prayers for Jill Gudgeon, Carol and Steve Skyner, Steve Elliott, Theresa Melia, Gladys and Alan Sinnott, May Kelley and Jayne McLaren. We continue to pray for Delilah Morris and her family as Delilah undergoes more treatment.

Eric and Margaret Peacop, Eric is now back in the nursing home recovering from his operation to pin his fractured hip.

We also pray for all those in need at this time, especially those who are dealing with COVID-19.

Harvest Update - Harvest Thanksgiving at St James - *Supporting our near neighbours via the local foodbank, and support centres for children, families and homeless people.*

Thank you to everyone who has been able to contribute so far. Many bags of tins and packet goods have been left at church or in Roy and Lynne's porch and the cash donations are close to £100.

If you would still like to help reach out to local people in need there's just this week left. The plan is to distribute whatever has been received after October 25th.

TINNED AND PACKET FOODS in carrier bags can be:

- Left in the porch of Roy and Lynne Barker's house at 88 Vale Road, OR call Liz on 0151 428 7252 to arrange a safe pick-up appointment at any time.

CASH DONATIONS for the groups to do their own shopping can be collected by any of the same methods, or send them:

- By Bank Transfer (Ref. HARVEST) as you would your weekly collection OR by post – a cheque payable to St James Church (please write HARVEST on the back) - to (the Treasurer) Mr S Elliott, c/o St James Church, Church Road South, Liverpool, L25 7RJ

ST. JAMES' RAILINGS

This week's picture from the Church railings comes at a time when many are thinking about Halloween, the day before All Saints Day. Sometimes the focus may be on darkness and fear, but in Jesus we have light and hope - stronger than evil. We can laugh at the Halloween costumes and houses decorated with pumpkins and other items but thank God that at a deeper level we have faith in the One who lightens our darkness, especially at this difficult time.



NEWS

Mike Hughes would like to say a big thank you to all his Church Family for the amazing photo poster, cards, gifts and special messages he received for his 90th birthday last Monday. He was truly surprised as he didn't think anyone knew.

May Kelley and Gladys & Alan Sinnott would like to thank everyone for their messages, phone calls and well wishes while they have been suffering with coronavirus. They are on the road to recovery and have been lifted knowing that they are in everyone's thoughts and prayers. Thank you all so much xxx

The congregation at Princes Park Methodist Church have received sad news of the passing of Barbara Dunkley, a member of the church for over 30 years. She was a wonderfully devout lady, with a wonderful knowledge of Scripture and a joyful awareness of Jesus in her life. Her funeral will take place on 26th October at 11.30am with interment at Toxteth Cemetery at 1.00pm.

AUTUMN SNAPSHOTS

This lovely snap was taken by Christine Brian in Calderstones Park.

If you would like to share your autumn photographs, please send them to Jayne and we will add them to our newsletter.



Christmas Fayre Gift Day – 14th November

We hope everyone is keeping as well as possible in these strange times.

Thank you to all of you for the financial support you have been giving to St James Church over the past 7 months. We appreciate that many of our fellowship have continued to contribute by direct payments into the Church's bank account. Others who previously have put their offering on the plate had put their money aside and contributed when they returned to Church. Others have now started to make direct payments. We are grateful for this help and without it the Church would have faced some significant difficulties.

At this time of the year we would normally be well into the preparations for our Christmas Fayre but sadly the current regulations mean that we cannot hold one this year. The Christmas Fayre is a significant part of our income at this time of the year, raising on average more than £1500.

In an attempt to help with our finances, we have decided to hold a "socially distanced" Christmas Fayre Gift Day instead. It would be really helpful if you could consider supporting this gift day as a way of making up this source of income. Perhaps you could send a gift to the value of what you would expect to spend at the Christmas Fayre.

Instead of bringing a gift to Church as we would for a normal Gift Day, we are asking you to get this to us by another method.

We have enclosed an envelope (if you have not received this by email) and if you wish to contribute to this, you could send a cheque to the Church with St James Church as the payee. The address is St James Church, Church Road, Liverpool, L25 7RJ

Or as an alternative this could be done by direct payment into the bank

If you wish to do this our bank details are

HSBC

Account name St James Methodist United Reform Church

Sort Code **40-29-39**

Account Number **11060856**

If you use this method, it would be helpful if you could email the treasurer (stevewelliott@aol.com) so he can look out for the payment.

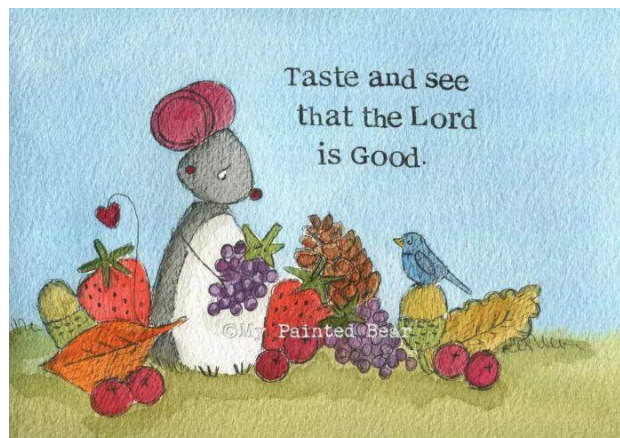
Those of you who receive weekly Service Sheets through your door could give by arranging to safely pass your envelope to the person who delivers your Service.

We do of course realise that not everyone will be able to assist in this however, can we thank everyone for the gifts of time and money that you do give to God through St James'; it is really appreciated, as without everyone's' dedication, support and sacrificial giving, none of the good work that St James' does in the name of Christ would be possible.

Take Care

Steve Elliott

Treasurer.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

For those who are celebrating a birthday this week, remember, you are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream. Everyone at St. James' wishes a happy birthday and enjoy your special day.

GOSPEL READING

The Greatest Commandment

34 Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. 35 One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: 36 “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

37 Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”[a] 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’[b] 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Whose Son Is the Messiah?

41 While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, 42 “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son, is he?”

“The son of David,” they replied.

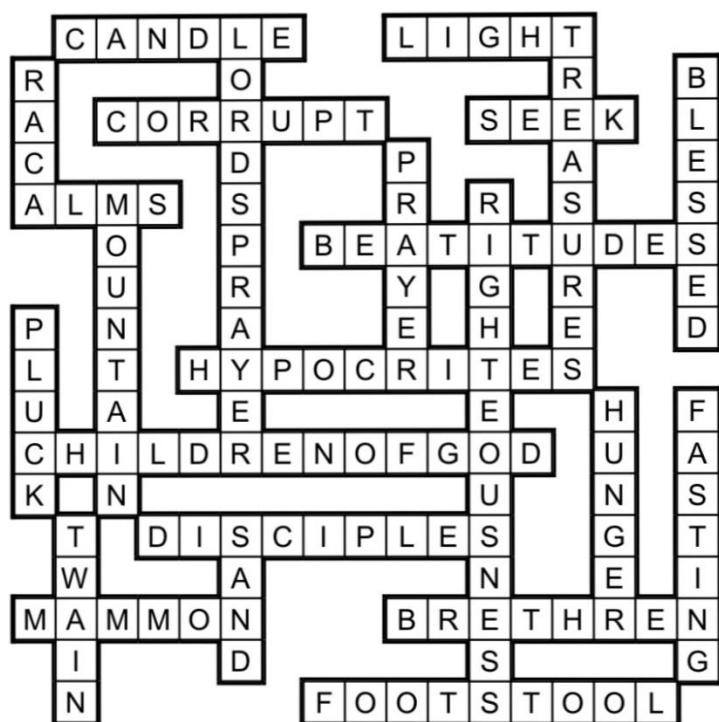
43 He said to them, “How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him ‘Lord’? For he says,

44 “The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand
until I put your enemies
under your feet.”[c]

45 If then David calls him ‘Lord,’ how can he be his son?” 46 No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS



Across: 1 Candle, 3 Light, 7 Corrupt, 8 Seek, 10 Alms, 13 Beatitudes, 15 Hypocrites, 18 Children of God, 20 Disciples, 22 Mammon, 23 Brethren, 24 Footstool.

Down: 2 Lord's prayer, 4 Treasures, 5 Raca, 6 Blessed, 9 Prayer, 11 Mountain, 12 Righteousness, 14 Pluck, 16 Hunger, 17 Fasting, 19 Twain, 21 Sand.

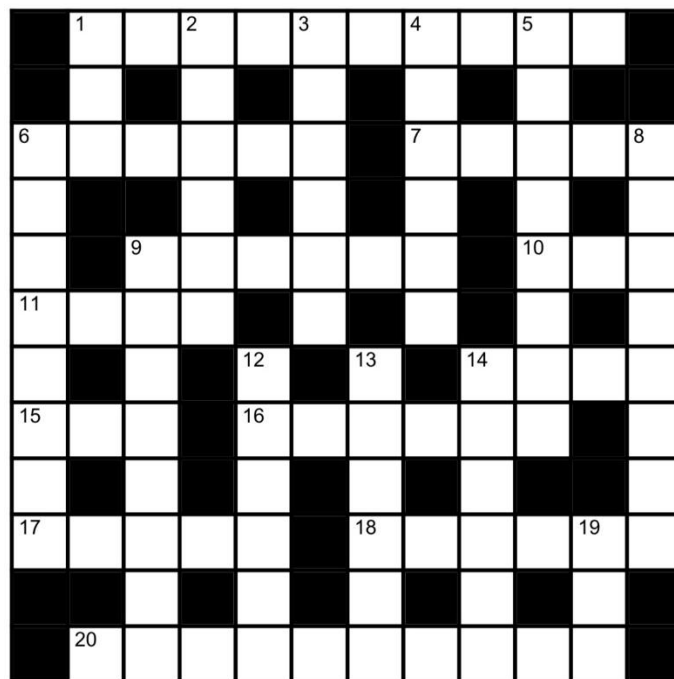
THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Remorse (10)
- 6 Consecrate (6)
- 7 Break a Commandment (5)
- 9 Make a hole (6)
- 10 Pot (3)
- 11 What Ai became (4)
- 14 This initially watered the earth (4)
- 15 Samuel's mentor (3)
- 16 Small river (6)
- 17 Mount that Moses climbed (5)
- 18 Prophet in David's time (6)
- 20 Biblical garden (10)

Down

- 1 Take flight (3)
- 2 One of the twelve (6)
- 3 All living things (6)
- 4 Response (6)
- 5 Guardians of Eden (8)
- 6 The father of Levi (8)
- 8 Grow (8)
- 9 Forbearance (8)
- 12 Second longest book (6)
- 13 Statue metal (6)
- 14 Sister of Lazarus and Mary (6)
- 19 Wood splitter (3)



by Philologus

© BiblePuzzles.org.uk

MAG Group - Christmas Wishes 2020

Christmas!! Yes, I know I'm starting early but I know how organised many of you are!! Over a number of years at St James we have had a "Christmas Wish Tree" in church where we have invited you, instead of exchanging individual cards with all your church friends, instead to write a Christmas message, hang it on the tree, and make a donation to give to the charity we had chosen.

Sadly, this year, due to our current circumstances, this will not be possible. However, we have come up with a plan for our church family to share Christmas messages with each other and we need your help. We are hoping to create a St James Family Christmas Card / booklet which will include everybody's greetings. We will then print copies of the card / booklet and distribute a copy to everyone. We feel that this will be a small way of connecting all our Church family members together at a time when we would normally be sharing and enjoying so many Christmas services and events together but will not be able to do so this year.

If you would like to have your greeting included, and you can send a photo too if you wish, you can either email me at pambellis@hotmail.com or you can write to me at 3 Park Cottages, Kinseys Lane, Ince, CH2 4NS. Please write your name clearly so that I know who the wishes are from.

If you also wish to make a Christmas donation with your wish then this can be done

- by Bank Transfer (Ref. CHRISTMAS WISH) as you would your weekly collection OR
- by post – a cheque payable to St James Church (please write CHRISTMAS WISH on the back) - to (the Treasurer) Mr S Elliott, c/o St James Church, Church Road South, Liverpool, L25 7RJ

Rightnow where did I put my Christmas cake recipe?!

Many thanks. Pam Bellis

MAG Group - Give Your Heart for Christmas

As many of you will know, for many years we have offered a "Christmas Experience", inviting the children from Woolton CP School and all the members of our Youth Organisations to come to church and share in the Christmas Story through Story Stations and activities, with a particular focus each year. Sadly, due to the circumstances this year we will not be able to provide this in the same way.

However, our Mission Action Group are keen to carry on our outreach and to try to offer something, particularly to the children from Woolton CP, although obviously not in church. In past years we have always given the children an item to take home with them, to remind them of the visit and what they have learned. During our discussions at our meeting we agreed that something we have all learned from the current situation is that it is not "things and possessions" that are important to us in our lives, but "people and acts of kindness". We thought that we would like our theme this year to be "Give Your Heart for Christmas" and that our "giveaway" could be a small heart.

A few years ago, I put out a request for knitted and crocheted poppies for our Remembrance Commemoration and was overwhelmed by your support. This year I would like to ask you to support us again by knitting, crocheting or sewing small hearts approximately 3ins / 8cm in size for us to use. If you would like to support us, the instructions are given below and we invite you to make as few or as many as you would like. Please let us know if you have made one / some and hold on to them for now, we will organise you getting them to us in a few weeks' time.

Thank you in anticipation for your support, which I KNOW will happen! See previous newsletter for instructions.

NEWSLETTER NOTICES FOR NEXT WEEK



If you would like to share anything during lockdown 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

