

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 – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021**



***This Week's Collect***

**Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Blessed are you, O Lord, and blessed are those who observe and keep your law.  
Help us to seek you with our whole heart, to delight in your commandments and to walk in the glorious liberty given us by your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we make our prayer.  
**Amen.**



Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch out your hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

***UPCOMING PREACHERS***

**Sunday October 3<sup>rd</sup> Liz Hudson (St James') Revd. Peter Hughes (phone)**

**Sunday Matthew Dyer October 10<sup>th</sup> (St James') (phone)**

**Harvest Festival Service**

## MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Hello Everyone,

I hope you are all well. It definitely feels like the start of Autumn this week, with warm sunny days becoming a happy memory! Thankfully, this Autumn many of our Church activities are able to start up and you are welcome to come along to our Monday Fellowship Group meeting in Church this Monday (4th) at 2.30pm. The love and support we can offer each other in our Church family and beyond is so important, reflecting our faith in Jesus who loves us and gave his life for us.

### ***This week's pictures***



This week I have chosen two contrasting pictures from my Sabbatical wanderings.

The peaceful sunny scene is on the Trent and Mersey Canal at Thurlwood in Cheshire.



The other picture is Clarence Mill on the Macclesfield Canal at Bollington in Cheshire. Clarence Mill was a cotton spinning mill built at the side of the canal by the Swindells family to take advantage of a new, cheaper means of transport.

Perhaps a return to Canal transport could help out with the shortage of HGV drivers!

**God Bless Peter**

### **Peter's Sabbatical Adventures:**

If you would like to hear more about my Sabbatical and to see some more of the pictures, there will be an opportunity on Monday 18th October at 7.30pm.

Normally I would have liked to do this in a face to face meeting, but to stay safe it will happen on Zoom.

The log in details will be published nearer the time.

If you aren't able to do Zoom, maybe a friend or family member could set you up with it on the evening.

I expect it will last for just over an hour, hopefully with time for questions.

**Peter**



## ***DATES FOR YOUR DIARY***

**Special Projects Group - have planned the following events.**

**Please put the date in your diaries and cross your fingers that Covid does not rain on our parade!**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October – Film Evening in the Church**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November – We are planning a Christmas Fair event**

**You are invited to come to our Family Film Night at St James Church, Woolton**

**Sing along Mary Poppins** – the original 1964 version

Running time 2 hours and 24 minutes

Saturday 16th October 2021 at 6pm – doors open at 5:30pm

Come and join us and bring the family for a good sing song to one of our favourite films.

There will be a tuck shop available with sweets and drinks.

You are encouraged to join in the fun and come in costume of one of the characters in the film.

There will be a prize for the best child's costume and for the best adult's costume.

Entry is by donation and paid at the door on the night.

We will still be practising careful Covid19 arrangements in church.

There will be sanitiser available on entry to the church and we would prefer that you wear a mask when moving about the church and while singing.

If you are planning to come it would help us to have an idea of numbers, so if you are able, please pass your name and the numbers attending to one of our stewards / church members, but don't worry if you can't, just come on the night

Thank you and hope to see you there!



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.



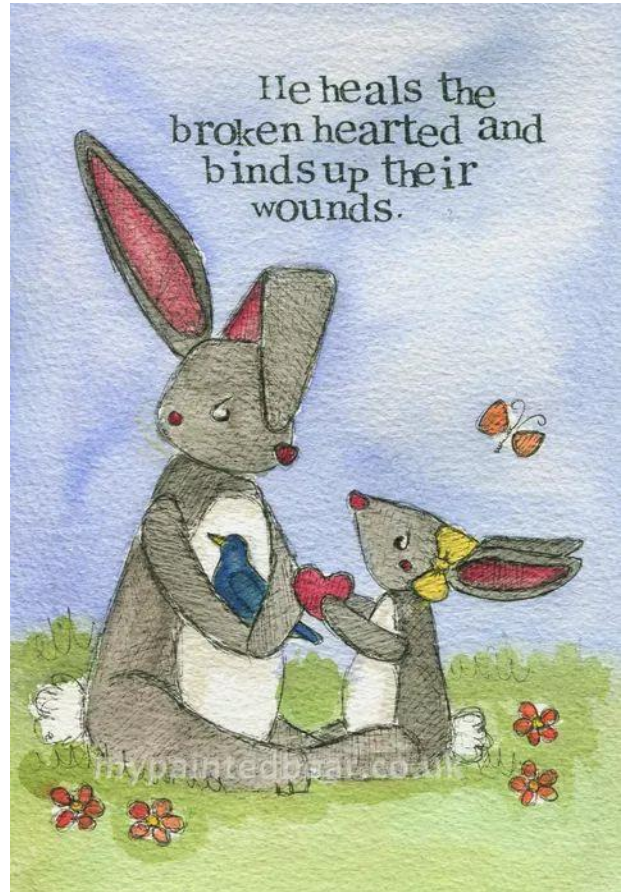
### ***PRAYERS NEEDED***

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.**



We continue to pray for Delilah Morris and family, Gordon and Christine Salmon, Ken Kitchen, Ann Wells, Wendy Doig and family on the sad passing of their beloved John. We also pray for all those who need our prayers.

***Thank you***

### **Margaret Peacop**

A big thank you for the good wishes, cards and donations to the Alzheimer's Society to help me celebrate my 90th birthday.

### **Ken Davies**

A huge thank you for everyone's kind wishes. I have settled in well to my new home and have transferred to Leyland Road Methodist, Southport.



### ***Photos from our St James' family***

The sun will no more be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory. Your sun will never set again, and your moon will wane no more; the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your days of sorrow will end.

This first photo was taken by Dave Bedford. Praise be to God.



This second picture was taken by Helen Miller.



Jesus welcomes us into his presence, whoever we are and wherever we are.  
Let us respond to his embrace and open our hearts and minds to God's word and the touch of the Spirit.

**Hymn:** Uyai mose, Come, all you people (Singing the Faith 22)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMZJFhhTroI>

Uyai mose,  
tinamate Mwari,  
Uyai mose,  
tinamate Mwari,  
Uyai mose,  
tinamate Mwari,  
Uyai mose zvino.

Come all you people,  
come and praise your Maker,  
come all you people,  
come and praise your Maker,  
come all you people,  
come and praise your Maker,  
come now and worship the Lord.

### ***Prayers***

Let us pray together  
God of mercy, your love for us is strong,  
but our love for you is weak.  
You call us to follow Jesus,  
but we are slow to obey.  
You care for all that you have made,  
but we ignore the needs of others  
and misuse your creation.  
We are sorry for our sins.  
Forgive us, and help us to please you by the way we live; Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

God is love and forgives our sins through Jesus. **Amen.**

***Today's Reading from the Old or New Testament: Psalm 8***

***Today's Gospel Reading: Mark 10:2-16***

***Time to Reflect***

The Gospel reading has much to say about relationships, and our reactions to aspects of it may vary. I've only recently discovered the concept of 'kin\_dom' instead of 'Kingdom', although I believe it's been around for a while, and is in the title of at least one book.

(The old model of civilization kingdoms were an area of land inhabited by people who were ruled by a king. Kingdoms had a top-down organizing principle. Kin-doms are self-organizing systems that are fostered in kin-ship – the recognition that we are all kin, working together cooperatively and collaboratively). How do you react to the concept of 'kin\_dom' as a counterbalance to 'Kingdom'?

In the Gospel, as the narrative proceeds, tension mounts. Jesus in many ways fits the pattern of a Rabbi but doesn't fit expectations. Even those who followed him closely struggle. He mixes with all the wrong people. He talks about the last being first and the first last – and even welcomes children!

What is it about children that Jesus is holding up as an example to emulate?

I think it may be to do with expectations. Children are much more accepting of people and situations, not held back by the accumulated assumptions, prejudices, status and power of adults. So, they come open and in humility.

The psalm says that God made us 'rulers' over creation, only a little lower than God himself (v. 5).

However, it is also 'through the praise of children and infants' that God silences the foe and avenger (v.2). It might look as though the psalmist is talking about 'Kingdom', but maybe it's more about 'kin\_dom'.

In our kinship relationships it's all too easy for us to slip into a 'Kingdom' approach to one another, full of set expectations, demands even, instead of rejoicing in one another for who we are, loved children of God.

Take a time to sit quietly

### ***A time of prayer***

Father, we thank you that you welcome us as we are, inviting not harassing; nurturing not oppressing; ever giving, never grasping.

We pray for those who feel oppressed, by political leaders, within groups they belong to, or by individuals, that they be released and find peace.

We pray for children who have been badly affected by the pandemic, that they will find mentors and role models to encourage and guide them.

We pray for all those we regard as our 'kin', that they, and we, will welcome you and one another in love and grace. Amen.

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

Our Father .....

Hymn: Let love be real. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pqPlXLj\\_HI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pqPlXLj_HI)

Let love be real, in giving and receiving,  
without the need to manage and to own;  
a haven free from posing and pretending,  
where every weakness may be safely known.  
Give me your hand, along the desert pathway,  
give me your love wherever we may go.  
As God loves us, so let us love each other:  
with no demands, just open hands and space to grow.

Let love be real, not grasping or confining,  
that strange embrace that holds yet sets us free;  
that helps us face the risk of truly living,  
and makes us brave to be what we might be.  
Give me your strength when all my words are weakness;  
give me your love in spite of all you know.

Let love be real, with no manipulation,  
no secret wish to harness or control;  
let us accept each other's incompleteness,  
and share the joy of learning to be whole.  
Give me your hope through dreams and disappointments;  
give me your trust when all my failings show.  
Michael Forster (b. 1946)



## *A prayer of blessing*

May you rest in the embrace of God,  
run to the love of Jesus,  
and reach for the Holy Spirit.  
Go in the kinship of the Trinity,  
blessed child of God.

### **Psalm 8**

#### **Divine Majesty and Human Dignity**

To the leader: according to The Gittith. A Psalm of David.

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honour.

You have given them dominion over the works of your hands you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

### **Mark 10:2-16**

Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' They said, 'Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.' But Jesus said to them, 'Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.'

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, 'Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.'

#### **Jesus Blesses Little Children**

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.





## LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS



Across: 1 Elisha, 4 Widow, 7 Watchtower, 8 Hail, 9 Herbs, 11 Radiant, 13 Trample, 15 Simon, 17 Gnat, 18 Diotrophes, 20 Myrrh, 21 Diadem.

Down: 1 Esther, 2 Seal, 3 Ancient, 4 Witch, 5 Dew, 6 Works, 7 Wisdom, 10 Ripens, 12 Trapped, 14 Esteem, 15 Sodom, 16 North, 17 Geba, 19 Oar.

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.org.uk

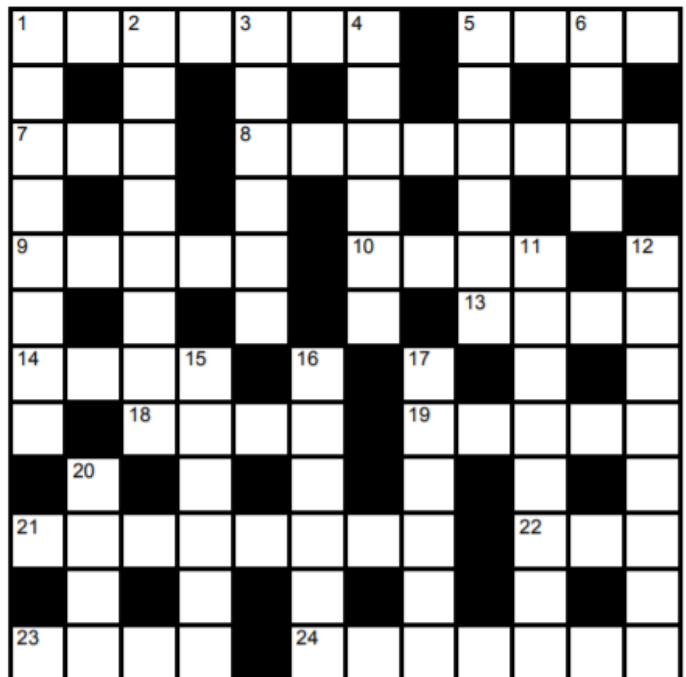
## THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

### Across

- 1 Announce (7)
- 5 Attire (4)
- 7 Shared at the last supper (3)
- 8 Moral virtue (8)
- 9 Abimelech's was crushed by a millstone (5)
- 10 False god (4)
- 13 Bridegroom, for one (4)
- 14 Dry measure (4)
- 18 Judas and Jesus dipped here together (4)
- 19 Swift flying bird (5)
- 21 More powerful (8)
- 22 Number of chapters in Haggai (3)
- 23 Name given to Barnabas (4)
- 24 Frustrates (7)

### Down

- 1 Ruling (8)
- 2 Caught (8)
- 3 Heavenly beings (6)
- 4 Hebrew name for God (6)
- 5 Price of redemption (6)
- 6 What Moses saw burning (4)
- 11 Expression of gladness (8)
- 12 Unselfish (8)
- 15 Treasures (6)
- 16 The Anointed One (6)
- 17 Language of Israel (6)
- 20 Number of books in the Pentateuch (4)



by Philologus

© BiblePuzzles.org.uk



LORD, our Lord,  
how majestic is your name  
in all the earth!  
You have set your glory  
in the heavens.

Psalm 8:1 NIV

## WORSHIP AT ST. JAMES'

There are now 3 ways in which you can enjoy our Sunday morning services.

- By booking a place and attending St James'
- Via telephone
- Via Zoom

All details and information are below.

**Please use the Zoom link below**

**Joining from 10.15 for a 10.30 am start – Liz Hudson**

Either click on this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/5913455610?pwd=aVdZcFpaZVVaMDdsZ1BiR3lhRE1yQTo9>

Meeting ID: 591 345 5610

Passcode: 12466

We hope to see you there.

If you want to listen in to the Service on Sunday, dial the above number, then PIN and listen in. You can chat up to 10.30, but when the service starts everyone will be “muted” to avoid feedback/noise.

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

**This Sunday our preacher will be Revd. Peter Hughes**

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:

**The Host for this service is Graham Martin**

### Order of Worship:

- **Welcome and notices:**
- **Opening prayer** (Host)
- **Bible reading** (Jayne McLaren . Matthew 9:vs1-7)
- **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.

### 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.





## **PROGRAMMES YOU MAY ENJOY – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

### **6.00 – 9.30 a.m. Radio Merseyside: Daybreak**

Helen Jones brings you the Sunday magazine reflecting Merseyside's worlds of faith.

### **8.10 a.m. Radio 4: Sunday Worship**

#### **Renewed and eternal hope**

From Croydon Seventh Day Adventist Church. Sunday Worship explores renewed and eternal hope amidst the uncertainties of life.

### **13.45 BBC 1 Songs of Praise:**

#### **60th Anniversary**

Westminster Abbey hosts a 60th birthday edition with special guests and favourite hymns. Aled Jones is joined by fellow presenters from the past and present to mark the occasion.

## ***The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse - Motivational Quote of The Week:***



"Is your glass half empty or half full?"  
asked the mole.

"I think I'm grateful to have a glass,"  
said the boy

### **PRAYERS NEEDED**

We continue to pray for Delilah Morris and family, Gordon and Christine Salmon, Ken Kitchen, Ron Swindells, Joyce Massey, John and Wendy Doig and all those who need our prayers.

### **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)**