

For your devotions ...



“A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples; if you love one another.” (John 13 v34-35)

A Prayer for Ourselves & Others

Giver of life, we think of our world today – where there can be so much greed and so little justice.

We pray for those for whom money is their great motivator, while other concerns get pushed aside.

We ask for a renewed compassion among those whose hearts seem so focused on their own gain, to the detriment of others.

We pray for situations we have heard about this week, where wickedness and corruption hold sway, and where those who have little are trampled under the heels of the powerful.

We ask for your light to spread into the darkest places – the remote areas scarred by suffering we know nothing about, the anguish behind closed doors of respectability, the evil that can lurk within human hearts.

Jesus, you defeated darkness by confronting it on the cross, and then rising to brilliant life again.

May we be your torch bearers, showing those around us a better way of living.

God of all relationships, God of solved problems, you care so much for each one of us. We praise and worship you, O God.

Whether our problems feel tiny, and hardly worth bothering you with, or huge, you are always there for us. We praise and worship you, O God.

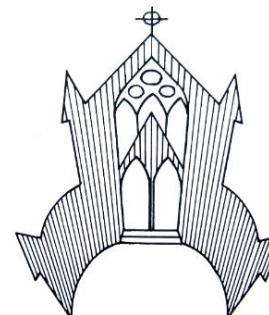
All things are possible with you most mighty God, you are the God of eternal life, you are always at the heart of all our concerns.

We praise and worship you, O God. In your name.

Amen

All contributions for future notices & items of interest for the Church Website are welcome! Please contact Lesley Jackson on brackenjack@btinternet.com or **telephone 01642 714384** or **Text on 07837178938**. All notices must be received by the Thursday before the following Sunday. Many thanks.

Stokesley Methodist Church



Sunday 10th October 2021



Minister: Rev Andrew Robinson

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The website address is www.stokesleymethodistchurch.co.uk .

Circuit Website <http://www.stokesleymethodistcircuit.org.uk/>

Leven Online – Your local Radio Station: <http://levenonlineradio.com/>

Alison Dumphy-Brook, Circuit Support Manager for Stokesley Methodist Circuit
(stokesleymethodistcircuit@gmail.com or Church Office tel: 01642 713130).

During these unprecedented times, we have changed the way we 'go to church' to help to protect ourselves and others. We have put in place measures that will enable us to still be part of the worshipping community, at home with family, online with friends, coming back together again in Church. If you go to the Circuit Website you will find a range of resources available for you to use at home which we hope will help you to continue your cycle of prayer and worship.

*Today our Morning Worship is at 10.30am.
We welcome Ron Kirk from Great Ayton
to lead us in our time of fellowship together.*

www.youtube.com/stokesleymethodistchurch/live

<https://www.stokesleymethodistcircuit.org.uk/news/join-us-at-home.html>

and <http://www.facebook.com/stokesleymethodistcircuit/>

Light a candle on Sunday as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ.



Today's flowers are a gift from Helen Weighell

A Gathering Prayer from the Roots resources:

Come and meet the Lord who loves us and is all we need.

Come, rejoice and be glad as we worship together.

Loving Lord, you know us better than we know ourselves.

As we come together to worship you, help us to explore our relationship with you. May your words and challenges strengthen and affirm us. May your love sustain us and guide us. May our worship be acceptable to you.

We come today with our ponderings, to bow before you, to ask you to meet with us here, and teach us with words of eternal life. **Amen**

Today's Readings:

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Psalm 116v12-19 (p616) How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me?

Exodus 4 v27 to 5 v1 (61) Moses Return to Egypt/Bricks Without Straw

Today's Lectionary Readings:

Amos 5 v6-7, 10-15 (p920) A Lament and Call to Repentance

Psalm 90 v12-17 (p599) Teach us to number our days aright ...

Hebrews 4 v12-16 (p1203) A Sabbath-rest for the People of God/Jesus the Great High Priest

Mark 10 v17-31 (p1014) The Rich Young Man

Message from the Church Mouse for EVERYONE!



This week the Lectionary readings explore what can get in the way of our relationship with God. A rich man asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life. Jesus challenges him to sell his possessions and give the money to the poor. The man feels unable to do this; he is too attached to what he has. This, Jesus says, makes it hard for rich people to enter the kingdom; following him involves sacrifice and letting go.

We are reminded that eternal life cannot be bought or achieved through completing a list of tasks but only by being in a relationship with God. Loving God is the most important thing we can do, and that must come first.

Look a little more closely and we see that the man's problem was not the fact that he had great wealth, but the importance this had in his life. Jesus' directive to give up his riches was not a statement about wealth or even lifestyle per se; it was a challenge about what took priority in the man's life. And that was his wealth.

Although he wanted to inherit eternal life, and although he knew God's commandments and the Law of Moses, his riches were more important to him. Whatever it is that gets in the way of developing or deepening our relationship with God is the equivalent for us of the rich man's wealth.

Have you ever played the game of 'Buckaroo'? The game involves loading a horse with lots of different items until the horse 'bucks' and sheds all the items. Like the rich man who came to Jesus, or the overloaded Buckaroo horse, if we carry too much 'stuff' it may cause a problem. Spend some time this week thinking about whether there are things in your lives that are, or risk becoming, so important that they might get in the way of your relationship with God or developing this relationship further.



I once knew a family with a disabled daughter who required constant care. To secure her future they sold up their home and raised money to establish a house in which she and a handful of other disabled people and carers could live securely. Although this is not a story about giving up everything to follow Jesus, is it perhaps an example of the kind of sacrifice Jesus speaks of, & also of the unintended (at the beginning) and positively wonderful consequences of doing so. Do you know other stories of people who have risked all for a different future?

Finally, sing to yourself the words of the hymn 'Take my Life & Let it be' & resolve that 'Here am I, all of me, take my life, it's all for Thee'.

Thank you

Many thanks for your generosity of donations for the Food Bank at last week's Harvest Festival ... & not a baked bean in sight!

And many thanks to everyone who helped with the Harvest Supper – setting out the tables, preparing the supper, the servers & washer-uppers, & all the tidying up that had to be done afterwards. A good time was had by all!

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 13th October 13th @ 2pm – U3A with returning speaker Andy Wilson, Research Engagement Manager, Yorkshire Cancer Research. Subject - “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” - We will hear about an amazing medical discovery and subsequent impact on research which has saved millions of lives worldwide .

This will be the first physical monthly Speaker Meeting in Stokesley Methodist Church since the pandemic began in 2019. Some important COVID related information - We will enter via the main front doors; Hand sanitiser will be available; It is requested that masks are worn until you are seated; A Register will be compiled and retained for Track and Trace purpose; Windows will be open to allow circulation of fresh air; Refreshments will not be available; Everyone will exit through the small hall and side doors - previously used as the entrance.

Tuesday 19th October @ 2.30pm – MWiB/Network meet for a musical quiz led by Helen, followed by refreshments – all welcome.

Thursday 21st October @ 1.30pm – Classical Cleveland presents Sarah Sweeting and Friends. ‘My Life and Music’ - A journey through Sarah's world of music from Gilbert & Sullivan to Puccini and Wagner with special guests. Earlybird tickets £10.00 available from The Yorkshire Store, High St. Stokesley. Tickets at the door £12.00. Pre-concert lunches will be served in the Church Hall from Midday.

Wednesday 27th October @ 8.00pm – Prayer & Praise

It is an informal time which includes singing traditional and modern Worship Songs, Hymns & Choruses. It is a time for singing, listening, quiet reflection, sharing & praying together. There is usually a theme and a visual focus on which to base the thinking and prayers, not forgetting general prayer concerns ranging from world-wide to local & personal. It would be good to make the circle grow. All are welcome.



SHOULD YOU NEED ANY ADVICE
PLEASE CONTACT
REV ANDREW ROBINSON (TEL:
01642 710358 / MOB: 07718
516236)

PLEASE CHECK THE CIRCUIT WEBSITE EVERY WEEK TO KEEP UP-TO-DATE WITH THE CIRCUIT PLAN AS THIS MAY BE AMENDED DEPENDING ON GOVERNMENT/METHODIST CONNEXION GUIDELINES

Please note that all the circuit churches have now re-opened for worship & you can return to church safely (see the guidelines in these notices). We will continue to provide online worship from Stokesley and Gt Ayton for those who prefer to worship from home.

Your Sunday 'Worship Online' Services

To access today's Youtube streamed service follow the instructions below: **Open your internet search engine/tab > enter '<https://www.youtube.com>' (or simply 'youtube' to find the link) in the search bar > when Youtube opens, enter 'Stokesley Methodist Church Youtube' in the search bar > Our Youtube channel should open with all the recent services, mostly, but not always in date order, starting with the most recent.**

If you want to follow the service from Great Ayton enter '**Great Ayton Methodist Church Youtube**' instead.

In addition, each week we are provided with a worship sheet from District which you can find on the 'Worship at Home' page & which is also available to download from the link in these notices.

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/23165/10-october-21-worship-if-you-are-unable-to-attend-church.pdf>

OUR PRAYER TREE - If anybody has a person or situation that you would like us to pray for, simply write your request on a 'leaf' and hang it on the tree. The leaves will be gathered at the end of each week and passed to the person leading worship on Sunday morning to add to the prayers of intercession during the service.

Arrangements for 'in-person' services at Stokesley Methodist Church



The Government has set out plans for tackling the COVID-19 virus during the autumn and winter periods & at this stage, the Methodist Church does not see a need to change its overall guidance as outlined in July. Whilst always adhering to government advice, we are still urging some caution for the sake of others in the church, community and for self-care. We will continue with the positive changes that have been made during the pandemic & look to improve on these as a means of giving everyone within and outside the church continued access to worship, teaching and support during this period of transition and change. The emphasis is on 'personal responsibility' & making 'informed' local decisions.

- ✓ Please do not come to church if you feel unwell or suspect you might have Covid 19.
- ✓ Face coverings are advised but not compulsory when in church. We ask that you wear your mask on entry until seated. Please use the hand sanitiser as you arrive & leave.
- ✓ You may enter & leave by the front door, but please be aware of others to avoid congestion.
- ✓ The rows of seating are safely spaced. There are no social distancing rules, although the risks to those deemed vulnerable need to be considered.
- ✓ Please deter from shaking hands and hugging others. The virus is still very active and everyone needs to take care.
- ✓ Communal singing is possible once more, though wearing of a covering whilst singing is advised.
- ✓ The services will still be live streamed, so if you are still nervous about coming to church, or simply can't manage for 10:30, it will be available on-line.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

What's On this Week

Monday 11th Oct	9.30am - Fitness Class (Hall) 2.00pm - Knit & Natter is now meeting IN CHURCH – Please join us for a 'chinwag' & to catch-up on all the things we've been doing at home! 7.15pm - Zumba (Hall)
Tuesday 12th Oct	9.30am - Toddlers Group (Church) 11.30am – Circuit Leadership Team meeting 5.00pm - Fireplace Youth Club (Hall)
Wednesday 13th Oct	1.30pm (Doors open) – U3A 6.15pm - Fitness Class (Hall) 6.30pm - Choir Practice
Thursday 14th Oct	6.00pm - Tang Soo Do Martial Arts Class (Hall)
Friday 15th Oct	10.00am – Shoppers' Service
Saturday 16th Oct	10.00am – 11.30am Coffee Morning in Church

On Sunday 17th October our Morning Worship is at 10.30am & we welcome Katherine Atha as she leads us in our time of fellowship together.



What makes a Methodist?



Worship



Learning & Caring



Service



Evangelism