

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

Lord, we pray for those who have given their lives to serve – whether on far-off mission fields or just around the corner, pouring out love and compassion on those you have placed in their care and in their lives; may they know your strength, especially when they are weary or overwhelmed.

Be their refuge, O God, and give them all they need for each day.

Lord, we pray for those who, in their vocations and workplaces, are in a position of caring for others in tangible ways –

looking after the sick and the lonely, providing housing or advice, being at the other end of a phone, transporting those who cannot get around easily.

We thank you for them, and ask your blessing on them.

May they be provided with the resources to do their jobs well.

And we pray that those who are in supervisory positions might have wisdom and awareness of the needs of those who work for them.

Lord, we pray for all of us here, that you may lead us in our own service of others, reminding us of the deep motivation of Christ's love, and giving us a heart for your world.

Lord, take our thoughts and turn them into prayer.

Take our prayers and turn them into love.

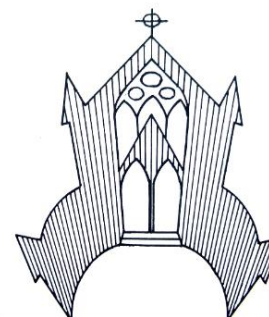
Take our love and turn it into life.

In Jesus Christ's name we pray, today and every day.

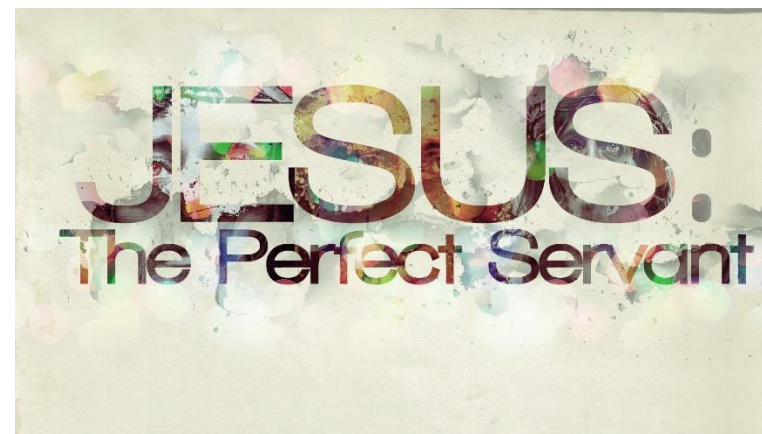
Amen

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 17th October 2021



Minister: Rev Andrew Robinson

The Manse, 15 North Road, Stokesley. TS9 5DY

Tel: 01642 710358

Email: rev.andrewr@gmail.com

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 Katherine Atha
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 Dorothy & Fred Pearson, sent with best wishes to us all.
They ask to be remembered by their church family.*

A Gathering Prayer from the Roots resources:

Let us come together to be still, to be known, loved, and held by God our creator, to be thankful for all that God gives us, to be healed and restored, that in our worship today joy and gladness may refresh and renew us.

Lord God, we come humbly into your presence this morning, ready to explore our place in your community.

Help us today to know that in this place we are a community and we are all in this together, one family, one church.

Amen

All In This Together

Today's Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah 53 v4-12 (p740) ... by his wounds we are healed

Psalms 91 v1-2, 9-16 (p600) 'He is my refuge and my fortress ...'

Hebrews 5 v1-10 (p1204) Jesus the Great High Priest

Mark 10 v35-45 (p1015) The Request of James and John

Message from the Church Mouse for EVERYONE!



This week the Lectionary readings explore working out our place in Jesus' community. Two of Jesus' disciples ask for special positions and recognition. This causes resentment among the rest of the disciples. But this bold, audacious or perhaps foolish request from the disciples provides Jesus with an opportunity to teach about how greatness in God's kingdom is achieved.

It is not about position, he says, but about serving others; it is not about being first but being prepared to be last.

Following and leading are intimately connected, but different activities. To follow is to go after, taking your lead from someone else. To lead is to set the direction and expect others to join with you in the task or journey. Both are very important. Today most people find following difficult. James and John aspired to leadership and status, but they are challenged by Jesus whose leadership is all about following, that is, following God and doing what God asks. How can we be better followers?

'Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love.' These are the words of Mother Teresa. When we are challenged to serve a needy world, the task can seem overwhelming. The world is a big place. We may feel useless, helpless, but we can do one thing with great love. And we can start by thinking about the needs of the part of the world where God has placed us. We are all in this together.

Beavers have been locally extinct in the UK for many years but, recently, they have been reintroduced in just a few locations as an ecological experiment. Beavers work as a community, creating a lodge and dam that provides their family space and shelter. And in felling trees and making dams, they change the landscape, creating new wetland habitats for themselves, and for plants and other animals in the surrounding countryside.

This broad description of beavers at work might be a helpful analogy for the gathered church. The church provides a place for a family, a community, to gather and shelter. Church members are called to serve and transform their local neighbourhood, flooding the area with God's unconditional love, bringing the light of Christ into people's lives, and improving the quality of those lives. Let's keep 'beavering' away & make our church a new habitat for young and old and everyone in between!



Thank you

Our friends at The Bridge send their thanks for all the Harvest Festival donations which were very gratefully received.

A big thank you to Sue and Richard who helped Sylvia & Ian to sort, pack and deliver to Guisborough, making their load much lighter.

The hamper is always open at the back of Church and all donations for the Food Bank are most welcome at any time.

Dates for your Diary

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.

Friday 22nd October @ 11.00am – Church Life Meeting. If you would like to be part of this group, planning the events that make up the 'life' of the church, you are more than welcome to come along with your ideas.

Wednesday 27th October @ 8.00pm – Prayer & Praise

It is a time for singing, listening, quiet reflection, sharing & praying together. It would be good to make the circle grow. All are welcome.

Leven Online Radio is a community radio station with a Christian ethos, serving the Leven Valley. It provides a platform for telling the community what's happening, sharing news & views, featuring broadcasts that will hopefully bring 'the light of Christ into people's lives' (remember the Busy Beaver? See the Church Mouse message). Leven Online Radio is funded and supported by the Methodist Church Stokesley Circuit and the Methodist Darlington District. Once a month, myself & Ruth Smith (GAMC) will be having a slot on the radio to broadcast our Church News. If you would like to be part of the 'conversation', I would be very grateful for any feedback you can give me on events you've taken part in or any news about events you're involved in that you would like the community to know about. It's a great opportunity for us to put our faith into action. Write it on a piece of paper, send me a text or an email, or simply tell me! Many thanks, Lesley



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/23232/17-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 18th 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 19th Oct	9.30am - Toddlers Group (Church) 2.30pm – MWiB/Network Music Quiz with Helen 5.00pm - Fireplace Youth Club (Hall)
Wednesday 20th Oct	6.15pm - Fitness Class (Hall) 6.30pm - Choir Practice
Thursday 21st Oct	12 noon – Pre-concert Lunches (Hall) 1.30pm – Classical Cleveland Concert 6.00pm - Tang Soo Do Martial Arts Class (Hall)
Friday 22nd Oct	10.00am – Shoppers' Service 11.00am – Church Life Meeting (Chapel)
Saturday 23rd Oct	10.00am – 11.30am Coffee Morning in Church

On Sunday 24th October our Morning Worship is at 10.30am & will be led by Rev Andrew Robinson



What makes a Methodist?



Worship



Learning & Caring



Service



Evangelism