

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)

Prayers for Others & Ourselves

Loving God,

we pray for those in authority, that they may not manipulate truth to retain power.

May the kingship of Christ guide them.

We pray for those exploited or abused by those in positions of power.

May the kingship of Christ guide them.

We pray for those robbed of their freedom for challenging injustice.

May the kingship of Christ guide them.

We pray for our church, that in confidence we would share your truths that we know, and in humility seek out the truths we have yet to learn.

May the kingship of Christ guide us.

We pray for one another and ourselves, that we would be open to truth and eager for wisdom.

May the kingship of Christ guide us.

Christ our King, as we go from this place, assure us of your presence with us – for we belong to you.

Help us to look for truth in all places, to seek and listen to your voice, and to use your power to serve.

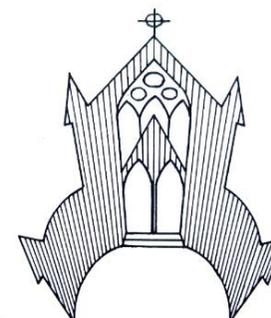
Bring heaven to earth and reign in our lives.

We pray in your name, Jesus Christ.

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 21st November 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.

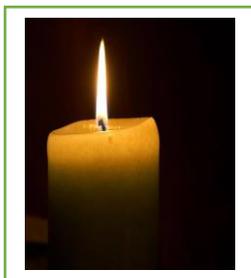
*Today our Morning Worship is at 10.30am
& will be led by Ron Kirk, Local Preacher from Great Ayton*

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
Francis Walker*

A Gathering Prayer from the Roots resources:

We come today to acknowledge Christ as King. His throne is a cross, and he reigns from high heaven. Beauty and holiness are the marks of his kingdom. He is the face of God revealed in human form. Let us keep our eyes fixed on him: King Jesus – the Way, the Truth and the Life.

God of gods and King of kings, be with us as we seek to know more of your truth. Speak to us by your Word and your Spirit. Help us to see Jesus, and to hear his voice – not just for today, but for all days, and for the glory of your kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**

Today's Reading:

Exodus 14 v5-18 & v19-31 (p71) Crossing the Sea

Today's Lectionary Readings:

Daniel 7 v9-10, 13-14 (p892) Daniel's Dream of Four Beasts

Psalms 93 (p601) The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty ...

Revelation 1 v4b-8 (p1233) I am the Alpha & the Omega ... who is, & who was, & who is to come, the Almighty.

John 18 v33-37 (p1087) "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Message from the Church Mouse for EVERYONE!



This week the Lectionary readings explore what it means to belong to the truth. The events in John 18 take place in the morning after Jesus was arrested. He has been put on trial by the religious leaders, now he is brought before the Roman leader, Pilate. Jesus and Pilate's exchange reveals the vast difference between Pilate's understanding of kingship and authority and Jesus'.

For Pilate this is about rules and power; for Jesus it is about truth and community. This is Jesus making it clear why he is here. He has come to make the truth known. But, as Pilate asked, what is truth? This too means different things to different people. We read in the New Testament that Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.

There is a well-known anecdote about Queen Elizabeth II when she was a young girl. One day she was wandering around one of the royal estates when a stranger asked her 'Who are you?' 'Oh, I'm no one,' she replied, 'but my father is the King.' Knowing the truth of who we are and to whom we belong can be enormously empowering & will strengthen us whatever challenges life may bring. Have you ever been in a situation where you were trying to listen out for someone's voice? For example, in a busy shop and you had become separated from the person you were with, or in a crowded station, when you were searching for the person who had come to meet you? You know the voice well and you try to tune your ears accordingly.

Jesus says that those who belong to him, who seek to follow the truth, listen to his voice. We will only be able to do that if we can recognise his voice in a world of competing voices. If we listen to his voice often enough, we'll begin to know its cadences, its rhythms and patterns. How do we discover truth? How do we listen to Christ's voice? Sometimes, though not for everyone, truth can come in the form of a dramatic revelation – perhaps through a dream as happened to Daniel, or a moment of vision like that of John in Revelation. More common is to hear the Lord speaking to us through reading his Word. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as embodying the truth. As Christ's body on earth today, the Church is called to embody and make known his truth. Often, we discover Christ's truth and discern Christ's voice through what seem, or start out as, just our ordinary conversations.

It's good to talk!

Christmas Fayre – Saturday 27th November, 10am-2pm

Donations of jigsaws and books can be left in the old vestry or handed to a steward & we'll be setting up between 2 and 4pm on Friday afternoon (26th). Gifts of cakes etc. can be brought to church then or before 10am on the Saturday morning. Will all willing and able volunteers please report for duty on Friday afternoon. As well as tables and chairs to move there is a Christmas Tree to erect and decorate! We will also need help on Saturday at 2pm to put everything back in place in time for our Advent Praise on Sunday morning. Thank you for all you are doing to make this a success. Many hands make light work! Christine

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 23rd November – Classical Cleveland Evening Concert @ 7.30pm featuring **Giulio Tampalini (guitar)**. The Italian maestro promises another enchanting evening from the world of guitar music. Earlybird tickets £12.50 from The Yorkshire Store/Tickets at the door £15.

Wednesday 24th November – Prayer & Praise @ 8.00pm

Friday 26th November – set up for Christmas Fair, 2.00pm till 4.00pm

Saturday 27th November – CHRISTMAS FAIR, 10.00am until 2.00pm

Stalls include Books, Cakes, Jigsaws, Lucky Bags, Crafts, Stained Glass, Flower Bulbs, Sweet Treat Gifts & Christmas Decorations & more!

Refreshments will be served throughout the day: Drinks, Cakes & Scones from 10.00am; Soup & Sandwiches from 12 noon.

There might even be a surprise visit from someone special!!!!

Hope to see you all there!

Sunday 28th November – Advent Praise Service @ 10.30am. We are collecting items for the Food Bank & hats, scarves, toys & toiletries for Refugees. Please give what you can to bring some Christmas cheer to others. **Now is the time when you can bring Advent Calendars for the Food Bank so that they reach the children in time for opening the first door on 1st December!**

Sunday 5th December – Welcome Service for our New members, followed by Sunday Lunch (see Ann K or Pauline R).

Saturday 11th December – Christingle Service @ 5.00pm. Weather permitting, we hope this will take place on the Church steps so that we can give out 'Make-Your-Own' Christingle bags!



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/23501/21-nov-21-worship-if-you-are-unable-to-attend-church.pdf>

This Sunday is the last in our lectionary year, the day we might know as "Christ the King Sunday". Jesus consistently reached out to serve the underserved, the neglected, the oppressed and the hurting. He is the king who fed the hungry and healed the broken. As members of his kingdom, we are surely called to do the same.

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.

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 22nd Nov	9.30am - Fitness Class (Hall) 2.00pm - Knit & Natter is now meeting IN CHURCH – Please join us for a 'chinwag' & bring your knitting! 7.15pm - Zumba (Hall)
Tuesday 23rd Nov	9.30am – Toddlers Group (Church) 10.30am – Stewards Meeting (Upstairs Lounge) 11.30am – Finance & Property Committee Meeting (Small Meeting Room downstairs) 5.00pm - Fireplace Youth Club (Hall) 7.30pm – Classical Cleveland Evening Concert (Church)
Wednesday 24th Nov	6.15pm - Fitness Class (Hall) 6.30pm - Choir Practice (Church) 8.00pm – Prayer & Praise (Church)
Thursday 25th Nov	6.00pm - Tang Soo Do Martial Arts Class (Hall)
Friday 26th Nov	10.00am – Shoppers' Service 2.00pm – Set up for Christmas Fair
Saturday 27th Nov	10.00am – 2.00pm CHRISTMAS FAIR 2.00pm – Tidy Up

On Sunday 28th November our Morning Worship is at 10.30am & Rev Andrew Robinson will lead us in our time of fellowship together.

Steward: Sue Frank
Reader: Dorothy Blakey
Welcome: Joan Barthram & Lyn Keeling
Flowers: Dorothy Agar

