

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

Holy One, God of the poor and defender of the weak, whose laws protected the widow and the orphan, we pray for those who have little, and all who struggle to make ends meet.

We give thanks for those who work for the relief of poverty, for those who provide food for the hungry and facilitate development among the disadvantaged.

We pray for all who work to bring an end to injustice through lobbying, awareness raising and education.

We pray for provision and assurance – that all may know their value, how much they have to give and the difference they can make, so that no one feels small and useless, but affirmed as precious children of God.

Help us, as individuals and as church, to be prepared to walk on the margins of life, to befriend the outcasts, to notice the invisible and to share what we have with others.

The world dictates that everything must be bigger, better, faster, yet walking and cycling are healthier for us and for the environment, consuming less means there is more to share with others, and shopping locally helps strengthen our community.

Teach us to see the greatness of the small.

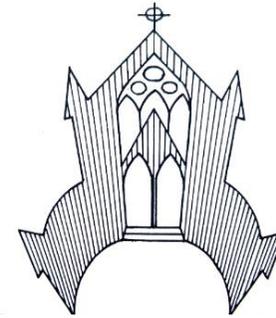
The greatness of the world in which we live is the accumulated goodness of many small and seemingly inconsequential acts.

Little things - who cares? God does. Little things are great things to those who love. May our little be given with love.

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 7th November 2021



Minister: Rev Andrew Robinson

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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 Rev Andrew Robinson.*

The service will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

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 Joan Barthram

A Gathering Prayer from the Roots resources:

Eternal God, you call us to this time and place, to still our minds and gather our thoughts, to see the immensity of your giving to us. You are the giver of life in all its fullness; the giver of gifts beyond compare; the giver of more than we can imagine or comprehend.

Generous God, we come, individually and together, as your people to be resourced, inspired and blessed.

We come, thankful for the self-giving love of Jesus. Inspired by his example, may we be generous and giving, with no reward other than knowing we are doing your will.

We ask this in his name. **Amen**

Giving Your All

Today's Lectionary Readings:

1 Kings 17 v8-16 (p358) The Widow at Zarephath

Psalms 146 (p632) Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving

Hebrews 9 v24-28 (p1207) The Blood of Christ

Mark 12 v38-44 (p1018) The Widow's Offering

Message from the Church Mouse for EVERYONE!



This week the readings explore living and giving generously. In Mark's Gospel, this scene takes place just after Jesus has made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and in the last few chapters before his death. The crowds love him, but the religious teachers are threatened and now begin, in earnest, to try to find ways to trip him up so that they can legitimately silence him.

But Jesus continues to speak out. Jesus is critical of the greed he sees in Jerusalem and its Temple; he contrasts the showy donations made by the rich elite with the tiny, but proportionally much greater, amount given by a poor widow. If we include the story from 1 Kings, we are asked to consider two widows who give everything they have. The one who so generously cares for Elijah is left only with God's promise, delivered through Elijah's prophetic words. The generous actions of the other is used by Jesus to teach about sacrificial giving.

When does giving stop? The saying 'charity begins at home' is often used to limit what we give or do, and to whom. But, as the 17th-century clergyman Thomas Fuller said (and others since): 'Charity begins at home but should not end there.' Charles Dickens amended it another way: 'Charity begins at home, but justice begins next door.' How do both these sayings help us to understand the story of Elijah and the widow, or Jesus and the widow at the Temple?

In 1956, with the wounds of World War Two still raw, Shanti Solomon shared an idea with six other women of different nationalities. Inspired by Jesus' story of the widow who gave all she had, they formed the Fellowship of the Least Coin – a movement of prayer for peace and reconciliation, at first around Asia but now worldwide. The idea was that, regardless of social and economic status, or nationality or history, women could have fellowship and find reconciliation through simple actions and prayerful lives. And for each prayer said, at least one coin of local currency was given, and when collected, this supported projects around the world.

Can we think of practical ways to respond to God's generosity to us?

What God sees is not the total given, but that the personal cost of the gift to the individual is the real measure of generosity. It is the heart of the giver, rather than the gift, that is important.

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

Please can you help by donating second-hand, good quality jigsaws & books, a gift (approx. value £2) for a lucky-dip bag, or baking cakes, biscuits or buns?

Can you help by looking after a stall on the day? **Can you help** with serving refreshments or setting up before the day & clearing up after 2pm on the day? If you can help in any way, please have a word with Christine or one of the stewards. Thank you in anticipation!

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 9th November @ 1.00pm (TBC) - Silver Screen Film afternoons are back! Join us for a Classic Film & lots of nostalgia!

Wednesday 10th November @ 2.00pm – U3A “Captain James Cook – Yorkshire's most famous and enigmatic explorer” with John Graham, Trustee / volunteer at the Captain Cook Schoolroom Museum, Great Ayton.

Sunday 14th November – REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Please note our Morning Service is at 10.00am & following the service we will join the parade along the High Street & gather at the War Memorial for the wreath-laying ceremony.

Tuesday 16th November @ 2.30pm – MWiB/Network An insight into the life & music of ‘Roger Jones’ by Pauline Rowell

SUNDAY 21ST NOVEMBER – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING following the Morning Worship. All are invited to join us for this opportunity to find out about the exciting opportunities & challenges facing us as we emerge from our lockdown year. We are looking to appoint 2 representatives from this meeting to join the Church Council. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Rev Andrew or one of the stewards.

Tuesday 23rd November – Classical Cleveland Evening Concert @ 7.30pm featuring Giulio Tampalini (guitar)

Wednesday 24th November – Prayer & Praise @ 8.00pm

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



Grab-a-bag Stall, Craft Stall, Cake Stall, Book Stall, Jig-saws & Name the Toy, Guess the Weight of the Cake, Sweet Gifts Stall, Refreshments & much more!



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/23495/7-nov-21-worship-if-you-are-unable-to-attend-church.pdf>

Through this teaching, Jesus asks us to examine our own Christian lives and patterns of giving.

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. We believe that prayer is an important element of Christian life and worship. It can take the form of petition, intercession, thanksgiving or praise – every little prayer is heard by God.

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 8th 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 9th Nov	9.30am – Toddlers Group (Church) 1.00pm – Silver Screen Film Show (Church) 5.00pm - Fireplace Youth Club (Hall)
Wednesday 10th Nov	2.00pm – U3A 'Captain James Cook' (Church) 6.15pm - Fitness Class (Hall) 6.30pm - Choir Practice
Thursday 11th Nov	6.00pm - Tang Soo Do Martial Arts Class (Hall)
Friday 12th Nov	10.00am – Shoppers' Service
Saturday 13th Nov	10.00am – 11.30am Coffee Morning in Church

*Remembrance Sunday
On Sunday 14th November our
Morning Worship is at 10.00am
& will be led by Rev Andrew
Robinson.*

"All we have of freedom,
All we use or know,
This our fathers bought for us,
Long, long ago."
Rudyard Kipling

