



Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
**Chislehurst Methodist Church**

[www.chislehurstmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.chislehurstmethodistchurch.org.uk)

CCLI95928

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**Prayer for the week**

God of life and love without limit  
we pray for those who seek peace in a world beset by chaos,  
overshadowed by destruction  
but are met with ridicule and marginalised.

We remember

all whose love for you urges them to hear your word  
to love their neighbours in the way that you love them;  
those committed to campaigning for peace,  
and those trying to get aid to starving people  
with so little time and so much opposition.

May we in love be compelled to keep on praying, never losing heart or  
failing in our love.

*Patricia Batstone, local preacher, Derbyshire North-East Circuit*

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**Minister: Rev'd Duncan MacBean** (Day off - Friday)

The Manse, 73 Hawes Lane West Wickham,  
Kent BR4 0DF. M:07432 093 353

**Church office: Sarah Ridgewell** (Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 2pm)

Chislehurst Methodist Church, Prince Imperial Road, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 5LX.  
E: chislehurstmch@gmail.com, T: 020 8468 7695 / M: 07720 617 426



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**Prayer Meeting – there will be a CSW prayer meeting on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February,  
after the morning service – please do come along. John Sennett**

Please take this notice  
sheet home with you

**Preacher: Mrs Pat Woodison**

## **Order of Service**

Call to Worship

First Hymn                      594 *Lord Jesus Christ*

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

First Reading:                1 Corinthians 1: 18-31

### ***Christ the Power and Wisdom of God***

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.' Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.'

Second Hymn                273 *Here hangs a man discarded*

Reflection

Third Hymn                362 *Meekness and Majesty*

Second Reading:        Matthew 5: 1-12

### ***The Beatitudes***

*When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 'Blessed are those who*

*hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

## Reflection

Fourth Hymn                      545 *Be thou my vision*

Third Reading:                  Micah 6: 1-8

### **God Challenges Israel**

*Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. 'O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.'*

### **What God Requires**

*'With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?' He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*

## Reflection

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Final Hymn                      713 *Show me how to stand for justice*

Benediction

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Next Service: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February - 10.30am, Rev'd Duncan MacBean, HC

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## NOTICES

### **News for Our Younger People**

There hasn't been a Junior Church for a few weeks. Let's get together again and start something new. We would love you all to be part of the fun and the planning so do come along on SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY at 10.30am, in the Wesley room.

### **Monday Focus**

Monday Focus this week will be led by Deacon Maureen Spinks. The title of her talk is '*Impressions of Israel*'. We do hope that you would like to join the meeting to find out more about the Holy Land. We meet at 12.45pm onwards in the Wesley Room as usual. There will be a sandwich lunch and other refreshments. Cost £5pp. All are welcome! Rosemary: 07791 603 668.

### **Memorial Book**

We are currently working on a memorial book for the church. We invite people to put forward names of people who had a strong connection to the church, for inclusion in the book. Entries will consist of full name, date of birth, date of death and (if wanted) a single line of text about the person (maximum 77 characters including spaces). Please contact Sarah in the church office for more information or to submit details. Once ready, the book will be displayed in the church.

### **Methodist Prayer Manuals**

There are still a few copies on the piano. Please take one if you think you would use it. They are free, but when they are all taken others can be purchased through Sarah.

### **Calendars from the Chislehurst Artists**

The Chislehurst Artists meet at here at the church once a month (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday) and they've kindly left two boxes of their 2023 calendars for the congregation to take. They've said, "if people wish to make a donation to the church's charity efforts that is brilliant, but we are not expecting any return for the calendars." New members are always welcome in the group, if you'd like more details about meeting times please contact the church office.

### **Blood Service Dates**

For information, the National Blood Donation Service is currently booked to use the church on the following dates this year: 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> February, 1<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> April, 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> May and 7<sup>th</sup> June.

## **Weekly Collection**

The Collection will be blessed during the service but will not be brought up to the front during the service. Main reason for this is that many people now give regularly by standing orders. Stewards on duty will mention the decision at the start of each service.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Thursday Zoom Services - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> February  
Apologies, there will be no zoom service on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

## **WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS**

We remember the Van Teutem family on the death of Helen's mother last Monday. Edith was known to many of us and had recently celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday surrounded by her family.

Those of our church community who are unwell or who have need for our prayers: Roland Beecher Bryant who continues to rest comfortably at home having been discharged from the PRUH ten days ago, Barbara Herriot, John Iles (Peter's father), Pam Wallace and Myrtle and Neill Truman.

All our friends who are in care homes, particularly Joan Clements.

As part of the fellowship of Churches Together in Chislehurst and Bickley; this week we pray for Ichthus Christian Fellowship.

