



Sunday 14th May 2023
Chislehurst Methodist Church

www.chislehurstmethodistchurch.org.uk

Prayer for the week

Ever loving, ever loyal, everlasting God, You are the source of all our loving, you are indescribable beauty, you are life itself.

Drawing close to you, we are fed, drawing close to you, we are shown what love really is, drawing close to you, we are given food to feed others.

May we draw ever closer to you, the source, with joy, with energy, with intent, for only by experiencing your love can we love your creation, only by touching your heart can we find heart for others, only by feeling your closeness can we draw close to those who are lost. In the security of your love, enable us to love this broken world. Amen

Sally Jones, probationer presbyter, South Warwickshire Circuit

Minister: Rev'd Duncan MacBean (Day off - Friday)
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Church office: Sarah Ridgewell (Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 2pm)
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Please note that the church office will be closed on Thursday this week. Sarah will be working remotely on Monday instead and can be contacted via mobile or email.



Dementia Friends will be holding an Information Session at Bromley Methodist Church on Tuesday 16th May @ 2-3pm.

It is a free session and parking is available, please register your car on arrival. See poster on the noticeboard for more details.

Please take this notice
sheet home with you

Preacher: Mr Chris Price

Order of Service

Welcome

Call to worship

First Hymn 397 *The spirit lives to set us free*

Whole Church Address

Second Hymn 83 *Praise my soul the King of Heaven*

Prayers

The Lord's prayer

First Reading Acts 17: 22 – 31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring." Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

Second Reading John 14: 15 – 21

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the

Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. 'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

Third Hymn 372 *Come down o love divine*

Sermon

Fourth Hymn 500 *Happy are those who find the grace*

Prayers of Intercession

Final Hymn 476 *One more step along the world I go*

Benediction

We thank Sharon Michaelides for the lovely flowers this week.

Next Service: Sunday 21st May - 10.30am, Rev'd Graham Thompson

NOTICES

Monday Focus

15th May: there will be a hot lunch in the Wesley room at the usual time of 12.45pm onwards. Cost £10 pp. There will also be a Bring and Buy table in aid of Monday Focus funds. All are welcome! Rosemary Hughes: 07791 603 668

Good News - Extra New Chairs Wesley Room

Seven new conference chairs have been bought from Kathleen Carpenter's legacy for her Monday Focus Friends. It is good news that the numbers of people who attend Monday Focus weekly has grown over the past few months, so extra light weight chairs are needed. Rosemary Hughes, Leader Monday Focus.

Circuit Merger Meetings

There are two Q&A meetings coming up regarding the proposed circuit merger. They are on Sunday 4th June at New Eltham Methodist Church and Sunday 9th July at Bromley Methodist Church. Both meetings run from 12.30-2.30pm, tea and coffee will be provided, and you are invited to bring your own lunch.

All are welcome!

Quiet Space at Church

During the week, the Creche is being opened as a Quiet Space that anyone can come and use for private prayer. The room will be open when the church office is open (subject to events in the church).

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.

Thursday Lunchtime Service

The next Thursday lunchtime service will be this week on the 18th May.

In June there will be a service on 1st June, but not on 15th June, as Duncan will be on leave. Zoom details for these services will be sent by email a day or two before the event.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

President of the Methodist Church

Rev'd Graham Thompson preaching at CMC: Sunday 21 May 2023 @ 10.30am

Circuit Merger Q&A meeting: Sunday 4th June @ 12.30
(New Eltham MC)

Open Mic Night Friday 23rd June @ 7pm
- *music, singing, comedy and poetry* (Mottingham MC)
This will take place every 3rd Friday of the month – please see poster on noticeboard for more details

Circuit Merger Q&A meeting: Sunday 9th July @ 12.30
(Bromley MC)

Farewell to Deacon Maureen Spinks: Sunday 23rd July 2023 @ 5.00 pm
(Bromley Common MC)

Chislehurst Creates – Community Art Event Saturday 23rd September @ 1pm
(poster on noticeboard and more details to follow)

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those of our church community who are unwell or who have need for our prayers: Monica Faux, Eileen Surguy – a member of Monday Focus – who is in the PRUH, Pam Wallace, Roland Beecher Bryant, Barbara Herriot, John Iles (Peter's father) and Myrtle and Neill Truman.

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

As part of the fellowship of Churches Together in Chislehurst and Bickley; this week we pray for St George's Church, Bickley.

