



Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
**Chislehurst Methodist Church**

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

CCLI95928

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**Prayer for the Week**

Faithful God, source of all our aspirations and ground of all our believing;

let us risk everything in the service of your kingdom and trust all things to the strength of your Holy Spirit;

through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*Samuel Azariah of Dornakal (written 1920)*

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

M:07432 093 353



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

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**Prayer Meeting**

There will be a CSW prayer meeting on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July, in the Wesley room, after the service.

Please do come along, John Sennett.

Please take this notice  
sheet home with you

**Preachers: Mrs Pat Woodison**  
**Order of Service**

Call to Worship

First Hymn 124 *For the fruits of all creation (tune ii)*

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

The Lord's Prayer

Second Hymn 250 *Jesus calls us*

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 6-13

*Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.*

Reflection 1

Third Hymn 157 *God has spoken by his prophets*

Second Reading (part 1) Matthew 13: 1-9

*The Parable of the Sower*

*That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them*

*up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!*

## Reflection 2

Fourth Hymn

438 *Your ceaseless, unexhausted love*

Second Reading (part 2)

Matthew 13: 18-23

*The Parable of the Sower Explained*

*'Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'*

## Reflection 3

Prayers of Intercession

Final Hymn

404 *God's Spirit is in my heart*

Blessing

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Next Service: Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July - 10.30am, Ms Deborah Spinks

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## NOTICES

### **Action for Children**

Thank you to Rev'd David Morris for his excellent service for Action for Children Sunday and grateful thanks to all those who have made donations. There is still time to donate. There are Gift Aid envelopes on the piano, please complete the details on the back of the envelope and seal it with your donation inside. Please leave the completed envelopes on the Collection Plate. I will pay the money to Action for Children at the end of the month. Please visit [actionforchildren.org.uk](http://actionforchildren.org.uk) to see the great work being done by this Methodist charity in these difficult times. Thank you. Christine Pott

### **Monday Focus**

There is sandwich lunch plus cake, puddings and refreshments, followed by a social. Cost £5pp. It is an opportunity to get to know each other better. We are a friendly group so do come and join us! The meeting starts at 12.45pm in the Wesley Room. Rosemary: 07791 603 668.

### **The Memorial Book**

A few months ago, it was decided that we should have a memorial book in church commemorating those who played a part in the life of our church in the past. It is envisaged that the book will stand on the table below the icon and be open at the page showing the month in which the remembered person died. The book has been purchased and some draft pages have been included to show how the names will be set out. At the moment these are just on ordinary white paper, but the final version will have good quality sheets - a page of which is enclosed in the book. There is also a list of those whose names have already been suggested giving dates of birth and death where known. The list is by no means comprehensive so if you can provide details for more, please give them to Sarah in the office or Elaine. It is hoped that there will be a brief comment about each person, perhaps saying what part they played in church life, a brief tribute or what that person meant to you. There is no strict rule. Please do let us have your suggestions. Do have a look at the book which is in an envelope below the icon but please leave it there when you have used it. Elaine Battarbee.

## **Dorothy Kelly**

In August, I will be holidaying in Scotland on a coach tour with my sister. It includes a visit to the **Isle of Bute** and I have arranged to meet up with **Dorothy Kelly** who I'm sure you'll remember, was a member of this church. Of course, will send her your greetings and buy her a cup of coffee, but if there is anything you wish to send to her, I will gladly take it. It must be small and light, and I must have it by Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – letters, cards, small items are all acceptable. Remember my holiday suitcase is the one up from cabin size! Susan Cope: 07557 100 902.

## **Thursday Lunchtime Service**

The next service will be 20<sup>th</sup> July. Zoom details will be sent by email a day or two before the event.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Farewell to Deacon Maureen Spinks:	Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2023 @ 5.00 pm <i>(Bromley Common MC)</i>
Chislehurst Creates – Community Art Event <i>(poster on noticeboard and more details to follow)</i>	Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September @ 1pm

### **WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS**

Those of our church community who are unwell or who have need for our prayers: Monica Faux, Pam Wallace, Veronica Crowther, 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 the Church of the Annunciation.

