



Sunday 30th July 2023
Chislehurst Methodist Church

www.chislehurstmethodistchurch.org.uk

CCLI95928

Prayer for the Week

O Holiness, O Beauty, O Life,
You called creation into being,
sustained by your will alone,
it is an offering of your love poured out for others to enjoy.
Your goodness echoes in the light and shade,
the palette and textures,
in the sounds and movements of life.
You look upon all you have made with love,
hold all things together in Christ,
and grant it daily life by the gift of your Spirit.
We rest in your gaze: knowing ourselves loved, we love.
We fall into your arms: knowing ourselves welcomed, we welcome.
We live through your generosity: knowing ourselves as recipients, we
give. Let our lives be all you long for them to be. Amen.

Kerry Tankard, Yorkshire West District Chair

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)

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Please take this notice
sheet home with you

Preachers: Mrs Susan Cope

Order of Service

Call to Worship

First Hymn 430 *My lips shall praise you*

Prayers of Approach, Adoration, Confession and Absolution

The Lord's Prayer

Prayer of Praise - Psalm 119: 129-136

Second Hymn 544 *As the deer pants for the water*

First Reading 1 Kings 3: 5-12

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?'

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.'

Second Reading Matthew 13: 31-33 and 44-52

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

The Parable of the Yeast

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

Three Parables

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Treasures New and Old

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

Third Hymn 254 *Seek ye first the kingdom of God*

Sermon...including the poem 'The Bright Field' by R S Thomas

Fourth Hymn 503 *Love Divine, all loves excelling*

Prayer of Intercession

Final Hymn 409 *Let us build a house where love can dwell*

Collection Prayer

Blessing & Grace

Next Service: Sunday 6th August - 10.30am, Rev'd Duncan MacBean

NOTICES

Prayer Meeting TODAY

There will be a CSW prayer meeting after the service TODAY, in the Wesley room, after the service. Please do come along, John Sennett.

Monday Focus

Please note change of venue due to maintenance work

Monday Focus will be meeting at the Annunciation Church, St Mary's Hall, Chislehurst, BR7 5AQ (opposite Sainsbury's). There are parking places available next to the hall but be mindful to not park in the reserved spaces for the doctors. We shall be meeting at the normal time of 12.45 pm onwards for a sandwich lunch and social. £5pp. We do hope that you can join us as all are welcome! Rosemary 07791 603 668.

The Memorial Book

We are still hoping to receive more entries for the memorial book. Please contact Elaine or Sarah if you need further information.

Church Office During Summer Holidays

Sarah will be working remotely for parts of the school summer holidays (w/c 24th July to 30th August) and working times may vary from normal office hours. She's best reached via mobile: 07720 617 426 or email chislehurstmch@gmail.com during this time. Please also note that we will be having some electrical work at the church from 31st July – 8th August, which will involve the power being turned off at various times and this will affect the wifi connection. We hope there won't be any wifi problems on Sunday 6th August but please take this as advanced warning just in case!

Thursday Lunchtime Service

The lunchtime services in August will be 3rd and 17th. Zoom details will be sent by email a day or two before the event.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Xmas Decorations Prep Meeting Friday 22nd September @ 10am
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, 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 Ichthus Christian Fellowship.

