

Sunday 21st January 2024 Chislehurst Methodist Church

www.chislehurstmethodistchurch.org.uk

CCLI95928

Prayer for the Week

God of mystery and imagination,

help us to see you in both the unexpected and the familiar,

for surely you are present in all things.

The stranger who, from nowhere, stops to help; the beloved friend who speaks a word of comfort; the stone when lifted reveals the life beneath; the child who marvels at such a world of tiny beings,



unnoticed and essential - all these display the wonders of your love, ever present if not always known.

In these times of uncertainty and doubt, enable us to lift our eyes to heaven.

Remembering the stars are always there but that it takes the darkness to reveal them. Amen.

Sheryl Anderson, District Chair, Liverpool District

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

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CSW Prayer Meeting - after the service TODAY

Today's CSW prayer meeting will focus on Myanmar using illustrations from the British Museum exhibition. Please do come along, John S.

Preacher: Mr Benni Harms

Order of Service

Welcome

Call to Worship (responsive)

First Hymn 465 Guide me O Thou great Jehovah

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Who will you follow?

Second Hymn 61 Our God is a great big God

First Reading Mark 1: 14-20

The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 7: 29-31

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

Prayers of Intercession

Third Hymn 471 Lord I come to You

Message: "Called by Christ"

Solo – I want to say 'Yes'

Blessing of the Offering

Final Hymn 673 Will you come and follow me

Benediction

Next Service: Sunday 28th January, Rev'd Duncan MacBean

NOTICES

Action for Children Christmas Collections

A big thank you to for those who organised, and all who gave, for *Action for Children* at our Christmas Services. I have banked £411, excellent! Christine Pott.

Churches Together Service of Unity 21st January 3pm

Christ Church will be hosting the annual service of Christian Unity on 21st Jan at 3pm. Mike Harrowing from Spinnaker Trust will be the speaker and refreshments will be served afterwards. All are welcome!

Monday Focus

We will be meeting at the usual time 12.45pm onwards in the Wesley Room. There will be a Sandwich lunch and other refreshments (£5 pp). This will be followed by a talk about The Repair Cafe by Colin Hughes. All are welcome! Rosemary: 07791 603 668.

Sunday Coffee and Flower Rota

We are getting very short of people to join the Sunday Flower and Coffee rota, if you are able to help, please contact Ruth Dawe: ruthdawe@btinternet.com

Recycling Postage Stamps

Do remember that your used postage stamps can be recycled for fundraising: any country, any value at any time of year. There is a box at the recycling station (outside the gents). Money raised will go to local GirlGuiding. Thank you. Gillian Beecher Bryant, Tel: 020 8467 6906.

World Day of Prayer – Friday 1st March

'I beg you, bear with one another in love'

The Christian Women of Palestine are calling us to connect with the land from where Jesus came; where our faith began and is rooted. Despite living in an area of the world where there is ongoing conflict and the future is uncertain, the women of Palestine are sharing with love a reminder that they are there, and they want to give hope to everyone. The theme of the service 2024 'bear with one another in love' seems very appropriate for these women who will not give up witnessing the love of Jesus Christ.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation led by women which enables us to hear the thoughts of those women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns, and prayers.

People will gather at 11am on Friday 1 March 2024 at St. George's Church, Bickley (Bickley Park Rd, Bromley BR1 2BE) to celebrate the service prepared by the women of Palestine. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 146 countries. It begins in Samoa and travels through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.

For further information and resources, see the WDP website: wwdp.org.uk

Thursday Lunchtime Service

There will only be one lunchtime zoom services in January on Thursday 18th. The zoom link will be sent a day or two before.

The Memorial Book

The memorial book is now on display in the church. New entries can be added at any time so please do contact Sarah if you would like to add an entry.

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Eddie Battarbee's funeral will take place on Friday 2nd February at 2pm at the church, there will be refreshments in the hall afterwards.

Those of our church community who are unwell or who have need for our prayers: Janet Woollett who is undergoing chemotherapy, Pam Wallace, Monica Faux, 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.

