

# EDGE LANE AND CLAYTON METHODIST CHURCH

## April Magazine 2023

Minister: Revd. Joy Rulton

### Preachers/Lectionary Readings

2nd April Palm Sunday	11:00am	Rev. Ken Stokes	Matthew Ch 21 v 1 – 11 Psalm 118 v 1 – 2, 19 -29 Isaiah Ch 50 v 4 -9a Philippians Ch 2 v 5 – 11 Matthew Ch 26 v 14-27 & 66
9th April Easter Sunday	11:00am	Rev. Joy Rulton (HC) (AAW)	Acts Ch 10 v -34 -43 Psalm 118 v 1-2, 14 -24 Colossians Ch 3 v 1-4 John Ch 20 v 1-18
16th April	11:00am	Mrs Liz Stuart	Acts Ch 2 v 14a, 22 -32 Psalm 16 1 Peter Ch 1 v 3 -9 John Ch 20 v 19-31
23rd April	11:00am	Mr Bernard Treves-Brown	Acts Ch 2 v 14a, 36-41 Psalm 116 v 1-4, 12 -19 1 Peter Ch 17 v 17 -23 Luke Ch 24 v 13 -35
30th April	11:00am	Mrs Abigail Parr	Acts Ch 2 v 42 – 47 Psalm 23 1 Peter Ch 2 v 19 -25 John Ch 10 v 1- 10

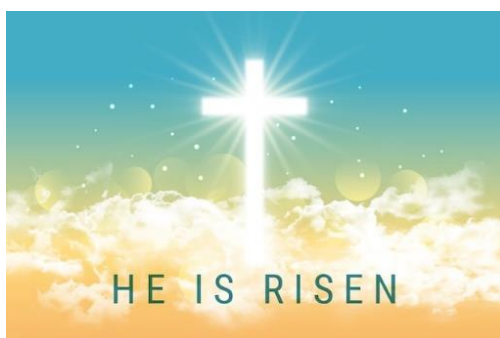
Dear friends,

**Jesus Christ is risen today. Alleluia!  
Our triumphant holy day. Alleluia!**

What's your favourite Easter hymn? The first hymn sung on Easter Day in the Baptist Church my parents took us to was Jesus Christ is risen today. It is still my favourite today, along with Thine be the Glory. I remember such a joyful atmosphere in the church, although I didn't really understand why this should be.

We are Easter people. We see new life and resurrection all around us, especially in nature. Birds are nesting, plants are growing – time to sow the vegetable seeds again!

The world was transformed for ever on that first Easter morning. Christ had risen. Nothing would ever be the same again. But it was so much more than one moment in time. Jesus appeared to his disciples several times after the resurrection. In the upper room, he stood before them and said, "Peace be with you." We know that Jesus is always with us and those are words our hurting world needs to hear. They are words of reassurance and hope when so many are living through war and struggling with life. They are words that those who are weary and anxious need to know.



Whatever is happening in your life, may you know his blessing and hope.

**Christ is risen  
He is risen indeed  
Alleluia!**

Grace and peace,

# CHURCH NOTICES

As we continue through our Lenten journey into Holy Week and to Easter Sunday and beyond, we look forward to our planning for our church and for the brighter days ahead, giving thanks to our Lord for guiding us along the path He has ahead for us. We remember the calling of the Methodist Church is 'to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.'

## **Church Council Meeting held on 23rd March 2023**

This was the first 'official' meeting of the 'new' church council since the merger in September 2022. The meeting discussed all aspects of our church life and building together with our future plans for the year. It was good to be able to come together as one and air our views and thoughts in such a positive way. For further details, please speak to Linda or Anne.

## **Dates for the Easter Season**

**6th April    Maundy Thursday**. There will be a service including Holy Communion at church at 7pm led by Rev. Joy Rulton.

**7th April    Good Friday**. There will be a service at Droylsden Methodist Church at 2pm. All are invited.

**9th April    Easter Sunday**

**Easter Breakfast 9am – 10am** followed by

**Easter Sunday Celebration at 11am** including Holy Communion. We will decorate our Lenten cross with spring flowers during this service. Please bring your own flowers to do this. The service will be led by Rev Joy Rulton.

## **Church Trips**

As we go to press, the Young people will be enjoying their trip out to Reddish Vale Park and we look forward to trips to 'Beauty and the Beast' and also Afternoon Tea in Ashton during April. We thank the circuit for these opportunities for fellowship and fun together as part of the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Manchester Circuit. We will enjoy this Spring.

## **News of Friends**

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all who are not well in body, mind or spirit and for those awaiting appointments and treatments. We particularly think of Doreen, Jean H, Jeff P, Val G, Harry, Joan P, Peter, Linda, Jean W, John S, Bill, David, Joan B and Rita. May our Lord keep you in His loving care and may you know He is walking with you along the way.

John S wishes to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers and calls in recent weeks when he has been unwell. He is recovering now and hopes to be back with us all.

David has been making Easter cards and all donations will go to the charity, Noah's A.R.T, where he enjoys art work and animal therapy. He has raised more than £70, well done David!

### **New Church Website -[www.edgelaneclaytonmethodistchurch.org](http://www.edgelaneclaytonmethodistchurch.org)**

We are pleased that the new website is being developed at present. If you have any ideas of what you would like on it, please get in touch with Elva or Philip (Jnr). The magazine will be available on the website from now on.

### **Easter Offering 2023**

Envelopes for donations and book marks are available at church. This annual appeal is from Methodist Women in Britain and all monies go to the Methodist Church's World Mission Fund. This fund helps to support mission partners working overseas, nationals in mission appointments and overseas students in ministry training. It also allows the church to make grants to 107 partner churches for special projects. A very worthwhile mission outreach programme throughout the world.

For more information on the World Mission fund, please go to [www.methodist.org.uk/worldmissionfund](http://www.methodist.org.uk/worldmissionfund).

The theme this year is 'No Borders to God's Love,' based on the bible verse from Leviticus Ch 19 v 34. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt! A very poignant theme at present.

Thankyou in advance for your support. Please return your donations by April 16th to church.

The Easter Offering Service will be held on 14th May on the Circuit Zoom Service at 6:30pm.

### **Church Outreach**

We have talked about beginning a coffee (or tea) afternoon on Thursdays, for the church people and the community. It is an opportunity for people to have a chat, games and refreshments during the week. If you are interested in helping or just coming along, please speak to a steward about it. Thank you.

### **Birthdays**

Wishing everyone born in April a very Happy Birthday. May your day and years ahead be full of love. God bless you with good health, peace, happiness and long life.

## **Next Magazine**

The May Magazine will be available on the website by 30th of April 2023. Everyone is welcome to make contributions by email to [\*\*marian.claytonmethodist@yahoo.co.uk\*\*](mailto:marian.claytonmethodist@yahoo.co.uk) or to Elva by the 24th of April 2023. Thank you.

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## **Some quotes for this season of Spring**

- The earth laughs in flowers. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)
  - Blossom by blossom the Spring begins. (Algernon Charles Swinburne)
  - A flower blossoms for its own joy (Oscar Wilde)
  - In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours. (Mark Twain)
  - A kind word is like a Spring Day. (Russian Proverb)
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## **A Prayer for Easter** *by Rev. Michaela Youngson*

When everything was dark and it seemed that the sun would never shine again.

Your love broke through.

Your love was too strong, too wide, too deep for death to hold.

The sparks cast by your love, dance and spread and burst forth with resurrection light.

Gracious God,

We praise you for the light of new life made possible through Jesus.

We praise you for the light of new life that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection.

We praise you for the light of new life that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy will live in us each day; and that we will be bearers of that light into the lives of others. Amen.

Rev. Michaela Youngson is a past president of the Methodist conference and is now the assistant secretary of the Methodist conference.

A Poem to celebrate the Spring Months

*By George Hughes*

**The Merry Months of Spring**

The months of spring are here at last,

Winter days are fading fast,

Nature's joy pervades the air,

Sweet life renewing everywhere!

Mad March hares box and tease

And lambs are leaping in the leas,

Flowers are bursting forth divine:

Primrose, Crocus, Celadine

In April, Easter bonnets grace

Ladies wearing bright new lace,

Bluebells carpet woodland floors;

What a joy to be outdoors!

In the very merry month of May

Around the maypole dance all day,

Whilst the cuckoo sings his song

On warmer breezes all day long

Happy memories for some of our older folk!

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**Looking forward to May** – as the last verse of the poem does, we also do, especially this year as it is the coronation of our King, King Charles III on Sat May 6th. The coronation crown was last worn by Queen Elizabeth II at her coronation in June 1953. This will be worn by King Charles at the moment he is crowned. After the coronation, he will wear the Imperial State Crown, created in 1937 for the coronation of King George

VI. The coronation crown is the St. Edwards Crown, first created for Charles II in 1661. What history to behold! If the reader is younger than 70 years old, you will never have seen a 'live' coronation in this country, (only maybe archive footage). What memories to make!

At church, we plan to celebrate this momentous occasion with a bring-and-share lunch and crown competition etc., after the service on Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup>. Please put this in your diary, so we can make it very special.

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### **A Meditation**

In the lectionary reading for 23rd April, Luke Ch 24 v 13-35, there is the story about the Road to Emmaus, when two of the disciples were travelling on the road to Jerusalem, and encountered Jesus, the risen Lord. However, they did not recognise him until he broke bread with them at the end of the journey. This was one of several more encounters with the risen Jesus. This passage reminds us that we should be always alert to welcome our Lord when maybe we do not expect him.

Here is a verse from a hymn written by Rev. John Forster 'Two Friends were walking home'

So as we gather here today,

The Lord still travels down this way;

Here at the table break the bread,

For he is risen from the dead.

He gives his gifts to all today

Who journey on the Christian way.

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# On the Road to Emmaus

Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.  
Luke 24:31a (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 24:13-35 (NIV).



W	X	Q	T	T	I	Z	H	E	G	H	W	Z	O	R
V	O	D	H	L	I	F	G	J	S	E	C	R	O	E
Q	P	E	A	Y	N	I	Q	I	H	Y	Q	T	G	U
C	E	P	N	A	B	J	L	X	D	E	I	A	T	X
T	N	Y	K	D	R	O	I	E	E	S	L	Y	U	H
J	E	I	S	E	O	Z	K	F	I	L	C	K	G	R
I	D	S	V	F	A	L	L	V	I	G	R	R	J	X
B	P	K	T	T	A	H	T	V	K	U	U	S	K	E
D	E	R	W	W	B	R	E	A	D	N	C	U	F	I
U	S	L	O	C	L	E	O	P	A	S	I	F	V	E
O	T	D	I	P	H	F	V	S	C	M	F	F	I	A
W	T	I	M	E	H	I	C	J	I	O	I	E	C	D
J	M	S	M	C	V	E	Y	K	J	S	E	R	Z	G
E	M	M	A	U	S	E	T	Y	L	E	D	P	C	O
J	V	K	V	I	D	K	H	J	E	S	U	S	R	Z

WALKED  
MOSES  
THANKS  
CLEOPAS

JESUS  
BREAD  
FOOLISH  
OPENED

SUFFER  
BELIEVE  
PROPHET  
VILLAGE

CRUCIFIED  
VISITOR  
EYES  
EMMAUS