

EDGE LANE AND CLAYTON METHODIST CHURCH

June Magazine 2023

Minister: Revd. Joy Rulton

Preachers/Lectionary Readings

4th June Trinity Sunday	11:00am	Mr Paul Johnson	Genesis Ch 1 v 1 – 2, 4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians Ch 13 v 11 -13 Matthew Ch 28 v 16-20
11th June	11:00am	Rev. Ade Kila	Genesis Ch 12 v -1 -9 Psalm 33 v 1-12 Romans Ch 4 v 13-25 Matthew Ch 9 v 9-13, 18-26
18th June	11:00am	Rev. Caroline Wickens (HC, AAW)	Genesis Ch 18 v 1-15 Psalm 116 v 1-2, 12-19 Romans Ch 5 v 1 -8 Matthew Ch 9 v 35 to Ch 10 v 8
25th June	11:00am	Mr Bernard Treves-Brown	Genesis Ch 21 v 8-21 Psalm 86 v 1-10, 16 -19 Romans Ch 6 v 1b -11 Matthew Ch 10 v 24 -39
2nd July (Droylsden Methodist Church will join us)	11:00am	Mr Nick Palfreyman	Genesis Ch 22 v 1– 14 Psalm 13 Romans Ch 6 v 12 -23 Matthew Ch 10 v 40- 42

Dear friends,

I recently found myself remembering a story from childhood: the Sleeping Beauty. The baby princess is cursed by a jealous fairy who wasn't invited to her christening. When she grows up, she will prick her finger with a needle, and the whole household will fall asleep for 100 years. And so it turns out; and 100 years later, the prince fights his way through the tangle of brambles and thorns that have grown up around the forgotten castle, to awake the sleeping princess with a kiss.

Why did this story come to mind? A twenty-first century problem: I had to upload some information to a website. First, I had to find the right access number. Then I needed a password. Then I needed an authentication code. Then I needed to reset the password. You would be right in thinking that I was identifying with the prince in the story, fighting my way through an impenetrable tangle to a distant goal.

Sometimes it can feel that way when we want to come close to God. The path seems full of obstacles and difficulties. There are so many calls on our time, so many people wanting to talk to us, or email us, or WhatsApp us. People are often surprised by, sometimes even scornful of, those who have faith. And it's so easy to find other things to do on a Sunday. There are many obstacles that get in the way of building a relationship with God.

The strange thing about my online encounter was that when I finally managed to access the website, filling out the form was surprisingly easy. A few questions to which I knew the answers, and it was all done. And I found that this too resonated with my experience of faith. After all the struggles to overcome the things that separate me from God, there are sudden moments of insight and connection, when all the distractions fall away and everything comes right.

All this put me in mind of some words written by the great Christian saint and teacher Augustine of Hippo, about 400AD:

Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you. And see, you were within and I was in the external world and sought you there; you were with me, and I was not with you.

Being a Christian is not meant to be a struggle. Jesus invites us to be his friends – he is there with us, even if we are not with him. He teaches us to ask him for the everyday things of life and to share bread and wine with him. And at the heart of his message is the simple teaching: love one another as I have loved you.

Every blessing for this new month

Caroline

CHURCH NOTICES

After the busy month of May with the bank holidays and coronation and so much more, maybe in June we can take time to enjoy the summer and be thankful for all that we see in nature around us at this most 'positive' time of year. Always trusting in our Lord to lead us along the right paths.

News Of Friends

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all who are not well in body, mind or spirit and for those in hospital, awaiting appointments and treatments. We think of Doreen, Jean H, Val G, Betty, Harry, Joan P, Linda, Peter, John S, Bill, David and add our own names to these. We pray that the Lord is with you and you feel His presence in these challenging times.

Birthdays

Wishing everyone born in June 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.

Special Birthdays

All birthdays are special to us, and this month we say 'Many Happy Returns' to Dorothy who will be 100years young. What a wonderful occasion and we send our love and best wishes to you, hoping you enjoy the day with family and friends.

Here are some more memorable occasions from 100 years in 1923.

- The first English cup final was held at Wembley.
- The Radio Times was first published.
- The chimes of big ben were first broadcast.
- The royal wedding took place between Prince Albert George (the second son of King George V) and Lady Elizabeth Bowes Lyon (The Queen Mother). Our late Queen Elizabeth being born in 1926.

Special birthday wishes also go to Joan C this month. You share a birthday this year with Mick Jagger, Billie Jean-King and Barry Manilow.!

2023 is also a memorable year as it is:

- 70years since Everest was conquered for the first time by Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing
- 75 years since the polo mint was produced

- 220 years since John Dalton put forward his 'Atomic Theory' here in Manchester. This theory changed chemistry from then on!

Of course, John Dalton Street in Manchester is named in honour of him, such an important person in the history of Manchester.

Strawberry Fayre

As we go to press, we will have held our Summer Fayre (on June 3rd) and trust that all had an enjoyable day.

Occasions in May

We had a 'busy' month celebrating. The King's coronation lunch and crown competition was a great success, with much food, fun and fellowship. A big thank you to all who made this possible.

Noah's Baptism

On May 21, 2023, our son Noah was christened at Edge Lane Methodist Church by Rev. Joy Rulton. It was a beautiful day, and the church was filled with friends and family from all over the world.

The christening ceremony was simple and heart-warming. Rev Joy spoke about the importance of baptism, and she prayed for Noah's future. One of the special moments of the day was when the children in the church were invited to come to the front of the church to watch Noah's baptism. It was a beautiful sight to see the children gathered, witnessing this important moment in Noah's life.

After the ceremony, we celebrated with some refreshments in the Church. There was food, drinks, and plenty of laughter. It was a wonderful day, and we are so grateful to everyone who came to celebrate with us.

We would like to express our gratitude to our family, friends, and community for their love and support. We can't wait to see Noah grow up. We are confident that he will be a wonderful person, and we are glad for the chance to raise him in a caring and supportive community.

Thank you once more for your love and support.

Sincerely,
Philip & Naicy

Also, the circuit 20th Anniversary celebration took place with nearly 100 people attending either in person or on zoom, making it a joyous time for fellowship and worship. The Manchester Gospel was dedicated and will journey to each church around the circuit. Many of our members and friends contributed to this unique book.

Christian Aid Appeal

Many thanks to all who contributed to this worthwhile appeal. The sum of £138.80 was raised.

Other Dates

15th June Circuit Meeting at 7:30pm. For all members of the meeting

18th June Father's Day

1st July Workshop for pastoral visitors from 10am – 1pm at our church. Please see Linda for details.

Next Magazine

The July Magazine will be available both on the webiste and by hardcopy. 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 June 2023. Thank you.

Trinity Sunday 4th June 2023

This is the first Sunday after Pentecost. It celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity- the three persons of God, the Father, the son, and the Holy Spirit.

The first seventeen hymns in our hymn book 'Singing the Faith' speak of the Trinity. Hymns such as 'Holy, Holy, Holy', 'With Gladness we worship'.

The last verse of that majestic hymn 'All People that on earth do dwell' says: -

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,

The God whom heaven and earth adore,

From earth and from the angel host

Be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

Written by Willian Kethe who died in 1594. This hymn is based on Psalm 100 (The old Hundredth).

William Kethe lived during the reign of Elizabeth I and was a Rector in Dorset and a military chaplain.

The Methodist Conference

22nd – 29th June 2023

The conference is the governing body of the Methodist Church which meets annually to discuss matters affecting the life of the church, the nation and the world.

The ordination of new presbyteral and diaconal ministers takes place on conference Sunday, 25th June. These services take place at Coventry Cathedral and Coventry Central Hall.

The new president and vice-president of the conference will be elected and inducted at the conference. The new president will be Rev. Gill Newton and the vice president is Deacon Kerry Scarlett.

The theme this year is 'Possibility', inspired by Matthew Ch 19 v 26, where Jesus answers us that 'With God all things are possible'. Let us remember all those who will be attending the conference and pray that 'all will be well' as they are guided by the Lord.

The collect for conference Sunday 25th June

God of all power and truth and grace,
You call your church to love and praise.
Inspire us with zeal for your gospel,
And grant us boldness to proclaim your word.
That we and all the world may praise your name;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This time of June – the time for long; warm light days and all nature 'showing off' at its best. There are so many different shades of green early in the season, that we can only marvel at God's creation.

Let's not be too busy to stop and look at all the natural world has to offer and give our thanks.

Here's a poem by John Darley which encourages us to look and marvel, whatever stage of life we are at.

Green with Envy

A garden, I've discovered,
Reveals the simple truth
Of how it's found the secret of

Eternal, blooming youth.
No matter if it's stood years
Overgrown, neglected,
Through skillful horticultural hands
It's quickly resurrected.

Some annuals or herbaceous plants
Can soon the weeds replace,
Their colours very similar to
Make-up on a face.
If only it could be the same
For people as for flowers;
A rich, top soil transfusion
Restoring all our powers

Though years may leave their mark on us
As we slip past our prime,
A garden in its glory is like
Stepping back in time

So let us enjoy this beautiful month of June!

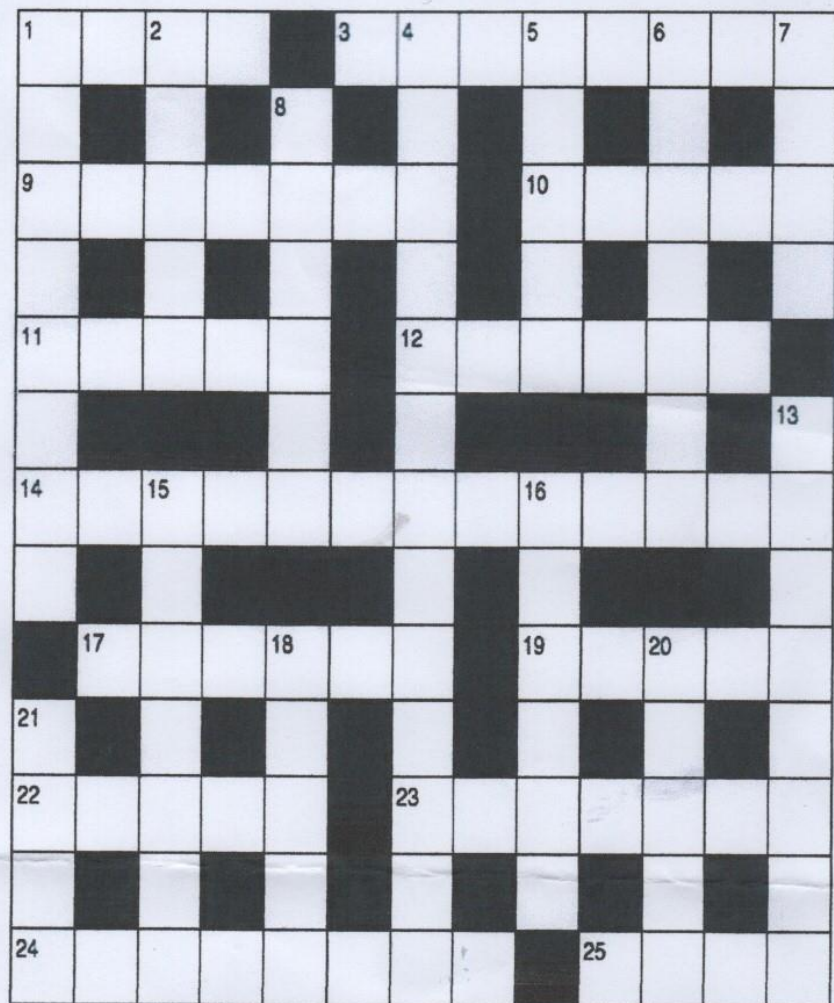
Small Talk

- Six-year-old, Josh, was asked 'so what did you learn at school today?' He replied cheekily, 'obviously not enough. I have to go back tomorrow!'
- A young niece was reading with her Auntie when the word 'irrelevant' was used, so she asked what it meant. 'It doesn't matter....' the Auntie began to explain, but the girl piped up, 'Yes, it does, I need to know what it means!'

CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 'Therefore let us — passing judgment on one another' (Romans 14:13) (4)
 3 'I — — these persons here present' (Marriage service) (4,4)
 9 According to a prearranged timetable (Numbers 28:3) (7)
 10 Group of eight (5)
 11 The cell into which the Philippian jailer put Paul and Silas (Acts 16:24) (5)
 12 — Taylor, pioneer missionary to China (6)
 14 Otherwise known as the Eucharist, Breaking of Bread, the Lord's Table (4,9)
 17 'So that after I have preached to others, I — will not be disqualified for the prize' (1 Corinthians 9:27) (6)
 19 Attend to (3,2)
 22 Approximately (Acts 4:4) (5)
 23 Tea rite (anag.) (7)
 24 Rule of sovereign (8)
 25 Test (anag.) (4)
- ### Down
- 1 The name of the street where Judas lived in Damascus and where Saul of Tarsus stayed (Acts 9:11) (8)
 2 'The playing of the merry — , sweet singing in the choir' (5)
 4 'We have been saying that — — was credited to him as righteous' (Romans 4:9) (8,5)
 5 Dr Martyn — Jones, famous for his ministry at Westminster Chapel (5)
 6 Port at which Paul landed on his way to Rome (Acts 28:13) (7)
 7 Observe (Ruth 3:4) (4)
 8 Minister of religion (6)



- 13 'I am — of this man's blood. It is your responsibility' (Matthew 27:24) (8)
 15 'Greater love has no one than this, that he — — his life for his friends' (John 15:13) (3,4)
 16 Archbishop who calculated that the world began in 4004BC (6)
 18 'No one can — the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit' (John 3:5) (5)
 20 Establish by law (5)
 21 Product of Gilead noted for its healing properties (Jeremiah 46:11) (4)