

EDGE LANE AND CLAYTON METHODIST CHURCH

April Magazine 2024

Minister: Revd. Joy Rulton



Preachers/Lectionary Readings

7th April Easter 2	11:00am	Rev. Ade Kila	Acts Ch 4 v 32 - 35 Psalm 133 1 John Ch 1 v 1 to Ch 2 v 2 John Ch 20 v 19 - 31
14th April Easter 3	11:00am	Mr John Worthington	Acts Ch 3 v 12- 19 Psalm 4 1 John Ch 3 v 1 - 7 Luke Ch 24 v 36b- 48
21st April Easter 4	11:00am	Rev. Joy Rulton (HC)	Acts Ch 4 v 5 - 12 Psalm 23 I John Ch 3 v 16 - 24 John Ch 10 v 11-18
28th April Easter 5 <u>At Droylsden</u>	10:45am	Mr Nick Palfreyman	Acts Ch 8 v 26 – 40 Psalm 22 v 25 -31 I John Ch 4 v 7 - 12 John Ch 15 v 1 -8
5th May Easter 6 & Vocations Sunday	11:00am	Rev. Joy Rulton (HC)	Acts Ch 10 v 44 – 48 Psalm 98 1 John Ch 5 v 1 – 6 John Ch 15 V 9-17

Dear friends,

What do you do the week after Easter? Over the last few weeks, we've followed Jesus on the journey to the cross. We've welcomed him into Jerusalem waving palm branches, we've been to Gethsemane, wept on Good Friday, and celebrated the third day when he rose again. Do you find yourself thinking, "What next?"

Peter and six others go back to Galilee, to the sea. They may have left Jerusalem, but they can't leave behind their memories. Life with Jesus over the last three years had been emotional demanding. They needed space, time to heal. So they return to a familiar way of life. Fishing was something they knew.

When they see Jesus on the shore, they don't recognise him, not until he tells them to put down their nets again. Peter, characteristically impulsive, leaps out of the boat to get to Jesus. Jesus cooks breakfast for them, and they share in the meal together,

At the end of the meal, Jesus takes Simon aside and asks him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Deep within his being, did he truly love Jesus? It's a question that Jesus asks us too, one that each of us must answer for ourselves.

However we feel we can answer at this point in time, we have a God who meets us where we are and as we are in Jesus. He knows our weakness and accepts us as we are with all our faults and mistakes, forgives us, and moves us forward.

Peter was sent forward with a commission. "Feed my sheep," says Jesus. Jesus challenged Peter to follow him, to live out his faith, sharing the gospel. His love for Jesus was to be shown in reaching out to people. Jesus calls us, too, just as we are, to "Feed his lambs," to love, to care, to serve. If we truly love Jesus, it will work itself out in ministry - to his people and to his world.

Jesus says to each of us, "Do you love me?" and then comes the challenge "Feed my sheep."

So, what next for you?

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jay".

CHURCH NOTICES

This month we continue our journey after Easter and Jesus's appearing to his disciples when there is celebration and hope for the future. Likewise, during this spring month, when all nature is waking and showing the beauty and splendour of the season, we move forward in hope and anticipation that we might be renewed and refreshed on our travels with our Lord.

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, treatments and operations as well as those recovering. We name Linda, David, Jean H, Joan P, Jean W, Joan and Harry, Peter, Jean W and Paul. We add our own names to these, trusting in our Lord that He will give you strength and comfort in difficult times and you will feel Him walking with you, supporting and sustaining you.

Verses from Psalm 4 (& lectionary reading for 14th April)

Answer me when I call you, O my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; be merciful to me and hear my prayer. Amen.

Services in March

We have had an excellent month of services with our congregation being more than 50 each week, with ages 1 year to well over 80 years young. What a joy to celebrate Mothering Sunday with Benjamin leading worship. Each person was given daffodils and a prayer card to remember this special time to thank the Lord for all who care for us throughout our lives. Here is the thought we all took home.

'A time for warm thoughts and fond memories for expressing the feelings and words that often go unspoken. For letting those special people know that they are loved and appreciated always.' This was followed by an uplifting service for Passion Sunday led by Deacon Jenny and then on Palm Sunday the young people led worship. They all joined in enthusiastically with songs and Drama and also prayers which was enjoyed by the congregation.

Finally, on Easter Sunday we celebrated with breakfast, worship and holy communion, culminating with the Easter Cross being decorated with flowers and taken out into the gardens for all to see. Hallelujah!

Church Meetings in March

Our church council meeting and also the circuit meeting were held in March. At church we are working to get our pastoral lists and community list up to date. Our circuit assessment (the money we are asked to pay to the circuit) is based on the number of church members and where they live. So it is important that these are correct. If you are not currently a member of our church and are considering being one, please contact

Rev. Joy or Linda for further details. For more information about what was discussed at the circuit meeting please see Sam, Linda or Elva who were present.

Easter Offerings 2024 'Let Justice Roll'

Many thanks to all who have contributed to this yearly giving for the World Mission Fund of the Methodist Church. It is still not too late to hand your envelope in, as the closing date is 7th April. There is a circuit service on zoom at 6:30pm on 26th May to officially recognise the work done and the money raised.

Table Top Sale Sat 13th April 10am -2pm

The date has been moved from 6th April to 13th April. This is a fund-raising event for our church. The cost per table is £10 and there is a café. Please publicize this to friends, neighbours and anyone who you think would like to sell their goods. For more details, please see the posters, social media, Linda and Janet. Please come along to support our community day. Thankyou.

Lectionary Readings for April

The Acts of the Apostles is featured in the bible readings this month. These tell the stories of Jesus's apostles, Peter, John, Philip and others who are spreading the good news about Jesus to many different people as they travel about preaching and healing. Here is a verse from a hymn by Rev. John Forster which reminds us today of our journey with Christ.

O May we walk with you each day-
your presence know and feel?
Lead us, O lord, along life's way
Your pilgrim path reveal.
So, Lord, we give ourselves to you
in worship and in praise;
All that we are we offer you –
your name on high we raise!

This can be sung to tune Soll's Sein a melody from D.G Corner 1649. It is the tune to 'How shall I sing that majesty' – a beautiful, haunting tune. Soll's Sein translated into English means 'it should be'

Birthdays

Wishing everyone born in April a very Happy Birthday. May the grace and favour of God be yours now and always. Have a very wonderful and relaxing day.

Next Magazine

The May Magazine will be available both on the website and in hardcopy. Everyone is welcome to make contributions by email to marian.claytonmethodist@yahoo.co.uk or to Elva. Thank you.

A Collect for the 4th Sunday of Easter (21st April)

Good Shepherd of the sheep,
by whom the lost are sought
and guided into the fold;
feed us and we shall be satisfied;
heal us and we shall be made whole;
and lead us, that we may be with you;
for you are alive and reign,
with the Father and the Holy spirit,
One God, now and forever. Amen

On this Sunday the lectionary readings suggested concentrate on the good shepherd (Psalm 23 and John Ch 10 v 11 -18)

In John Ch 10 v 14 -15, it says: -

I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me – just as the Father knows me and I know the Father – and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Reassuring words for us all at this time

Quotes to Ponder

- God writes the gospel, not in the Bible alone, but on trees and flowers and clouds and stars (Martin Luther 1483 – 1546)
- Find your purpose and fling your life out into it (Phillips Brooks 1835 – 1893 an American Clergyman and author)
- The Book to read is not the one that thinks for you, but the one which makes you think. No book in the world equals the Bible for that. (James McCosh 1811 – 1894)

James McCosh was a Scottish philosopher, born in Ayrshire who went to live in America in 1868 and became president of Princeton University. He was the first American religious leader who endorsed that the evolution of the species (put forward by Charles Darwin) could lie 'hand in hand' with religion.

200 Years ago

After all the lovely Easter eggs and chocolates we have enjoyed at this time, it is an important anniversary – Cadburys is 200 years old!

In 1824, John Cadbury opened a grocer's shop in Bull Street, Birmingham where he sold cocoa and drinking chocolate which he prepared himself. They became very popular and in 1831 he bought a warehouse nearby and started manufacturing. His sons

continued the business and in 1878 they moved to a new site, south of Birmingham which they called Bournville. They built a town full of green spaces, where the employees could live, work and play – with tennis courts, bowling greens, swimming pools – unheard of for ordinary people in those Victorian days. This was the first 'garden city' in the UK. Here are some Key dates

1875 The first chocolate Easter Egg

1905 Cadbury Dairy Milk bar

1915 Milk Tray Chocolates

1920 The Chocolate flake

1938 Roses chocolate – named after the English packaging equipment company. 'Rose Brothers' that manufactured and supplied the machines that wrapped the chocolates.

1971 The Crème egg

What are your favourites?

In 1935, the Cadbury Foundation, which won a charitable trust was begun. This continues to invest in local communities to help give everyone a better way of life.

Cadburys has more than 10,000 employees in this country and is now part of Mondelez International world Wide.

All are Welcome

At this time when we are asked to consider how we make and can make everyone feel welcome in our church community, when many of us have taken part in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion awareness training meetings. Here is a prayer, a poem that is very apt.

A Prayer for Everyone

Every colour of the rainbow,
Every shade of human skin,
All are loved and very welcome.
In the presence of the King.
You are precious in God's kingdom.
You, and only you, can bring
all your gifts as God has made you,
to the throne room of the King.
Jesus beckons you to follow,

Jesus waits to welcome you
Will you follow in his footsteps?
Will you welcome others too?

And now a poem of anticipation for the warmer, sunnier weather that we pray is on the way!

I love it when the sun shines down-
It lifts the heart and smooths the frown;
It drives away the cold and rain
To coax us out of doors again

And up there, in the azure sky,
I see the swifts and swallows fly,
Whilst other birds, now, all day long
Sound out their sweet, long summer song

The gardens, parks and country lanes
Flourish as the sun retains
Its welcome hold upon the land,
Spreading warmth, like God had planned.

John Darley

Word Puzzles

APOSTLES

How many words of 4 letters or more can you make from this? No proper names or foreign words. (there are over 200!)



scan me

The Twelve Apostles

DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the Apostles names in the grid.
Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.



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

ANDREW, BARTHOLOMEW, JAMES, JAMES, JOHN, JUDAS, MATTHEW, PETER, PHILIP, SIMON, THADDEUS, THOMAS