

EDGE LANE AND CLAYTON METHODIST CHURCH

October Magazine 2023

Minister: Revd. Joy Rulton

Preachers/Lectionary Readings

1st Oct	11:00am	Local Arrangement	Exodus Ch 17 v 1 – 7 Psalm 78 v 1-4, 12 – 16 Philippians Ch 2 v 1- 13 Matthew Ch 21 v 23 - 32
8th Oct Church Anniversary	11:00am	Rev. Caroline Wickens	Exodus Ch 20 v 1 – 4; 7-9; 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians Ch 3 v 4b-14 Matthew Ch 21 v 33-46
15th Oct At Droylsden	10:45am	Mr Keith Paver	Exodus Ch 32 v 1-14 Psalm 106 v 1-6, 19-23 Philippians Ch 4 v 1 - 9 Matthew Ch 22 v 1-14
22nd Oct AGM	11:00am	Rev. Joy Rulton	Exodus Ch 33 v 12 -23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians Ch 1 v 1 -10 Matthew Ch 22 v 15 -22
29th Oct At Droylsden	10:45am	Rev. Joy Rulton (HC)	Deuteronomy Ch 34 v 1 – 12 Psalm 90 v 1-6, 13 – 17 1 Thessalonians Ch 2 v 1- 8 Matthew Ch 22 v 34 - 46

Dear friends,

One of my favourite places to walk is Ecclesall woods, the largest area of ancient woodland in South Sheffield. In the spring, the ground is carpeted with bluebells. In summer, the shafts of sunlight through the bright green leaves are stunning. In winter, the trees are stark against the sky and we walk more quickly to the small outside café for hot chocolate. Now, in autumn, the colour of the leaves on the old trees is glorious. In a short while there will be sweet chestnuts to collect, conkers to see, marvelling at the spiky casing with its soft lining.



In shops and on television schedules we seem to skip over autumn and look to Christmas so early. Yet there is so much in creation to see and enjoy, without wishing time away. Time is precious.

Autumn is a time of harvest, a time to appreciate and be thankful for all that God has given us. We should learn to cherish the beauty of a sunrise, a crisp autumnal morning, spending time with friends. Autumn challenges us to live every day to the fullest.

So don't be in too much of a hurry to reach the next season.

*Autumn days when the grass is jewelled
And the silk inside a chestnut shell.
Jet planes meeting in the air to be refuelled.
All these things I love so well*

*So, I mustn't forget
No, I mustn't forget.
To say a great big
Thank You
I mustn't forget.*

C: 1969 Stainer & Bell CCL: 5441182

Grace and peace,



CHURCH NOTICES

As we move into October, we begin to see Autumn 'taking hold' of all nature and showing its full glory. Let us marvel in God's colourful world and give thanks to Him for the ever-changing scenes we see before us.

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 and those awaiting appointments and treatments. We name especially John S, David, Jean H, Jean W, Val G, Betty, Harry, Joan P, Peter, Jean W, Mercy and add our own names to these. We pray that the Lord will give you strength and uphold you in these difficult times.

Sad News

It is with great sadness that we announce our dear member and friend, Doreen, passed away in September after an illness borne with courage and positivity. Doreen has been a member at Clayton all her life and was very much welcomed as a member of Edge Lane and Clayton over the past year. She was such a hard-working, dedicated Christian lady so well respected by all she met. In her life at church, she has supported so many of the members in her pastoral work and regularly took part at church services as a reader until very recently. Doreen has been an invaluable member in the community outreach, running the weekly good-as-new shop for many years. In addition, she was an active member of the church-based walking group. She helped with cleaning the church and never missed in her support at the fayres, events and wider activities. Doreen will be greatly missed. We extend our condolences to her family, particularly Paul, Julie and Mike and to her wide circle of friends. May you rest in peace, Doreen, and thankyou for being there for us all.

Service on Oct 1st

We thank Janet, Ben and the young people for leading worship again for us. It is always a joy to share in the service with all ages taking an active part.

First Church Anniversary Oct 8th 11am led by Rev. Caroline Wickens.

We look forward to this special day when we celebrate the first anniversary of Edge Lane and Clayton Methodist Church. After the service, we will have a bring-and-share lunch, and spend time together as a church family. Please join us.

Church Council Meeting – Thursday Oct 19th

Please can all members of the church council try to attend this meeting. Thank you.

Oct 15th & Oct 29th

Just a reminder that we will attend a joint service at Droylsden Methodist Church at 10:45 on these dates. Thankyou.

Oct 22nd

The Annual General Meeting of the church will take place after the service led by our minister, Rev. Joy Rulton. This is a time for all to 'have their say' about the church community and to plan for the future.

Advanced Notices

- **Annual Shoe Box Appeal**

Items are being collected from now until November for this Christmas Appeal. Please get in touch with Janet for more details.

- **Christmas Fayre Sat Nov 18th**– This is a joint effort with St. Andrews Church. Please see Linda to offer help in preparation and on the day. Many hands make light work.

St. Mary's Droylsden 175th Church Anniversary Sat 7th Oct Church Open Day

All are invited to this very special day, with the church being open for coffee, lunch, singing, music, displays, children's crafts and quizzes and much more. We wish them a lovely day.

Harvest Sept 24th

What a joyous day we had with Nick Palyfreyman leading worship with a large congregation participating. The young people displayed the donated food, which later filled 21 bags to go to Droylsden food bank. The monetary collection for the charity 'All We Can' amounted to £200, a wonderful total. Many thanks to all for helping to make this such a special festival.

Birthdays

Wishing everyone born in October a very Happy Birthday. May you continue to grow in grace and Knowledge. May your years ahead be full of happy moments, and uncountable blessings.

Next Magazine

The November Magazine will be available both on the website and by hardcopy. Everyone is welcome to make contributions by email to **marian.claytonmethodist@yahoo.co.uk** or to Elva by the 27th of October 2023. Thank you.

A Prayer for the first Church Anniversary of Edge Lane and Clayton Methodist Church

Dear Lord,

As we celebrate our first church anniversary, we thank you for the fellowship that we find here, as we continue to journey together towards a deeper understanding of Your will for us in this place and area. We pray that all who seek You here may find You, and being filled with the Holy Spirit be empowered to share their faith as we live out our lives for You, our saviour. Amen

Lectionary notes for this month

In the Lectionary readings from Matthew Ch 21-22, there are the stories of three of the parables of Jesus

- The parable of the two sons
- The parable of the tenants
- The parable of the wedding feast.

Jesus spoke many parables to the people of his day and these stories help us today to understand the truth about the Lord and how we should live out our lives to his glory.

Thoughts to ponder

- Don't ask God to guide your steps if you are not willing to move your feet.
- God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain, but He did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears and light for the way.
- Wise men still seek Him.

In the Methodist Prayer Handbook for 2023/2024, Day 19 is the day when we are asked to pray for our district of Manchester and Stockport, together with praying for Christians in Asia.

The prayer for this day, from long ago, is written by Lucy Herbert (1669-1744).

Let us be yours, O God. Let us not draw back from you, neither from your presence, nor from your cross. Touch our hearts and make them holy. Consecrate our lives and enlist them in your service. Amen.

Lucy Herbert was an English aristocrat who left Britain to join a priory in Bruges, Belgium. She took vows in the monastic community and became prioress. In her time, the convent increased in members under the leadership. There is a portrait of her in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh and a portrait of her in Powys Castle in Wales.

80 Years Old

Methodist Homes for the Aged (MHA) is 80 this year. It began in 1943 when the Rev. Walter Hall and members of the Methodist church founded MHA. These founders wanted to improve the quality of life of older people in a time before we had a welfare state or NHS. Today, MHA provides care, accommodation and support for 19,000 older people across the UK, with 6,500 employees, 3000+ volunteers and there are over 100 chaplains representing 10 different denominations and faith groups.

Their Motto is: - **Live later life well**

Here are some comments from people you have helped.

'I go on dementia friendly day trips. We are off to the theatre next week. I had stopped doing things like that as they just felt too stressful, but since joining MHA, those things are possible'

'Before finding MHA, I was depressed, lonely and only went shopping once a week; now I am out all the time. I love being a member'

For more details on how to help and for their Christmas Appeal information, visit mha.org.uk

Autumn – the season of change in nature when all the shades of green turn slowly to shades of oranges, bronzes and russet colours and much of the vegetation starts to 'rest' for the coming months. Of course, the 'falling leaves' is the planet's gain as they provide cover for insects and animals and rotted down leaves provide nutrients for next years' growth.

Here is a poem by John Darley called

Autumn's Glory

It's like a magic trick each year,
The way green's made to disappear,
Replaced by copper, red and gold
As autumn's days start to unfold

I never tire of seeing how
Every tree on every bough,
Provides a vibrant free-for-all,
Before those leaves begin to fall.

I love this season, even though
What follows might bring frost and snow
But while the days may soon be duller,
Nature fills it, now, with colour.

What is your favourite season and why?

Why not write a piece for future editions of our magazine to share your thoughts?

A Prayer of Thanks for God's Faithfulness

The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever." Isaiah 40 :8

Faithful God,

We come to you with a thirst for your presence and real connection with you. This time of year, the flowers do fade, the leaves do wither and die, and even the bright sun will shine less. But oh, we praise you, for your faithfulness. That your truth, that your good and honest words and promises will stand forever. Though the seasons change, we know you do not. We lift up our voices in gratitude for your righteousness that we can always depend on. We thank you for being our rock and firm foundation, and that your word is a lamp unto our feet. Give us hope this time of year and remind us that though the season is changing, and the unknown journey lies ahead, we can trust in your unfailing truth and presence.

Amen.

Parables of Jesus

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

Great Banquet

Sower and the Soils

Net

Fig Tree

Rich Fool

Lost Coin

Growing Seed

Weeds

Wise and Foolish Builders

Friend in Need

Two sons

Sheep and Goats

Valuable Pearl

Mustard Seed

Lost Son

Lost Sheep

GOD BLESS ALL OUR READERS