Welcome to Stoneleigh Methodist Church

Sunday 30 August 2026 - 10:30am

Holy Communion with the Rev Emma Cusack

You can also follow many of our Services online at http://bit.ly/SMCTube

Welcome

A warm welcome to all worshipping with us here today - our Offertory this Sunday will be for the Methodist Church.

We can also accept **direct donations** to our General Church funds through our bank account 400206 20021725 using the description 'GASDS' – many thanks in anticipation.

Prayers

Please pray for **Emma** leading our Service here today; also, for our **Stewards** and others within the Church and beyond who work quietly and often unseen for the benefit of all. We remember in our prayers those of our members not on top form just now for various reasons. Please pray also for those in **Jeananne's** pastoral care group**.** Pray also for our Superintendent, **Revd Paul Timmis,** as he returns from his sabbatical.

Notices

COFFEE MORNING – we'll be holding this Church fundraiser on Saturday 19th September from 1000-1300 and **everyone** is welcome. Donations of cakes, biscuits and scones will be very much appreciated from the Church Family nearer the time – there is a list on the Communion rail for you to let us know what you can offer. Please let all your friends and neighbours know they are invited, and encourage them to drop in. *Robin*

SINGING THE FAITH – From time to time I check the contents of the Church Centre against our inventory – usually during the summer break.This year I was asked to try and find a specific copy of the 'words' version of StF, the smaller book in the pews, apparently with a list of specific hymns hand-written into the inside front cover – I couldn't find it but I did note that of the 69 copies recorded in the Church itself, a significant number seemed to be 'missing' – around 15. I appreciate that some might be 'at home' and I don't think the Church has any issue with that, but, if you do come across a copy with a list of hymns on the inside front cover, could you please let Denise know – thanks. *Robin*

FOODBANK – this week they need these items – **ALL are URGENT :-**

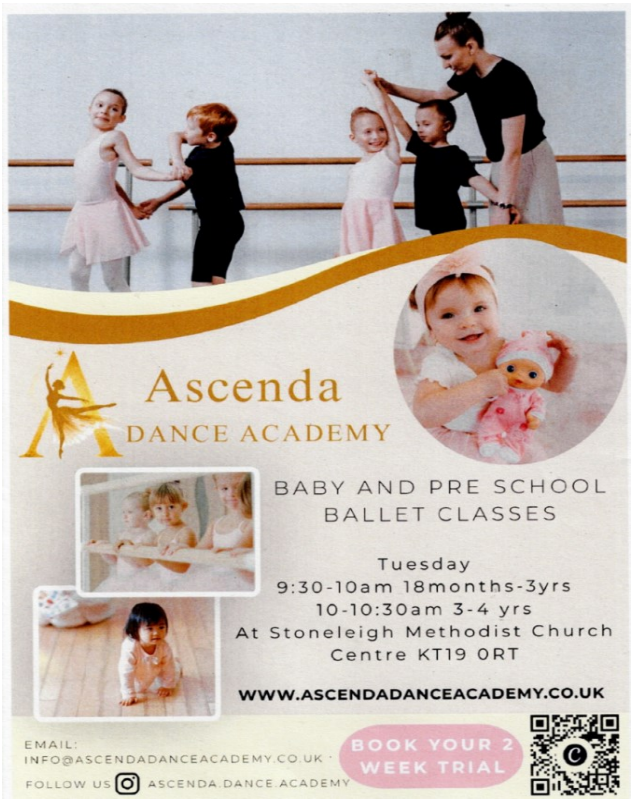
Please leave in the box at the bottom of the stairs to the Church Gallery, or in the porch at 198 Stoneleigh Park Road – *thanks*, *Robin*



PRE-SCHOOL BALLET

Starting 8th September 2026, Ascenda Dance Academy, Tuesday mornings. Owned and run by a fully trained & qualified ballet teacher, we welcome this new group to SMC – leaflets by the Link room entrance. *Robin*

PS – if the website address doesn't work for you, try the QR code!



Centre Usage etc this coming week -

Monday **BANK HOLIDAY**

Tuesday	*private meeting* **Fellowship Film**	*1000- 1200 in Room 1* **1400- in Link room**	**'The Choral' with Ralph Fiennes**
Wednesday	*private meeting* private badminton **Badminton**	*1300- 1630 in the Link room* 1330- 1500 in the Hall **1945- 2115 in the Hall**	
Thursday	*Carers & Toddlers* *private activity*	*0900- 1200, Link room & Hall, resource cleaning* *1830- 2030 in Link room*	
Friday	**Table tennis**	**1400- 1600 in the Hall**	**pop in Friday pm to enquire**
Saturday	**Church Cleaning**	**1000- 1200 everywhere**	**all are welcome, anytime**
Sunday	**Morning Worship**	**1030– Favourite Hymns and Songs**	

Thursday Zoom Prayer Group

Thursday	**Morning Prayer**	**0915- 1000**	**Click here or** *Meeting ID: 825 5146 8861 Passcode: 496144*

Sunday Worship, 30 August, 10:30am

With Holy Communion. Led by Rev Emma Cusack

Watch live or at any time convenient to you on YouTube: youtu.be/Trblb0SyEo8

Welcome, Notices, and Prayer

Call to Worship: Roots

Come, let us worship the one who calls us,
guides us and encourages us.
Let us praise the one who knows and loves us.
Let us join our voices, our hearts and minds,
as we listen for God's voice calling us,
coming to worship together as God's church.

Hymn: Singing the Faith 51

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love:

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

Thomas O. Chisholm (1866–1960)
© 1923, 1951, Hope Publishing Company (CCLI)

Opening Prayer Roots

Lord God,
thank you that you have called us here today:
to hear and receive your word to us;
to be inspired, challenged, motivated,
and supported in the steps we take.
Whatever the journey, long or short, easy or not,
we follow you in faith. **Amen.**

Prayer of Confession Roots

Lord, we can always come up with excuses
for not doing what you ask of us.
We are too tired, too busy, too shy.
We are not good enough, wealthy enough.
We are sorry for preferring our comfort zone
to stepping out into the risky unknown.

Forgive us for concentrating on ourselves and what we lack
instead of giving you and those in need our attention.
We are sorry for not looking to you first and foremost.

Forgive us for our excuses, for hiding behind our inadequacies.
Help us to look beyond ourselves and seek you,
taking courage for one step at a time. Amen.

Hymn: Singing the Faith 518

Father, hear the prayer we offer:
not for ease that prayer shall be,
but for strength that we may ever
live our lives courageously.

Not for ever in green pastures
do we ask our way to be;
but the steep and rugged pathway
may we tread rejoicingly.

Not for ever by still waters
would we idly rest and stay;
but would strike the living fountains
from the rocks along our way.

Be our strength in hours of weakness,
in our wanderings be our guide;
through endeavour, failure, danger,
Father, be there at our side.

Love Maria Willis (1824–1908)

Reading: Exodus 3: 1-15 NIV

[1] Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and
he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.
[2] There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses
saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. [3] So Moses thought, 'I will go over
and see this strange sight – why the bush does not burn up.'

[4] When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, 'Moses! Moses!'

And Moses said, 'Here I am.'

[5] 'Do not come any closer,' God said. 'Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.' [6] Then he said, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

[7] The LORD said, 'I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. [8] So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey – the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. [9] And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. [10] So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.'

[11] But Moses said to God, 'Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?'

[12] And God said, 'I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.'

[13] Moses said to God, 'Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you," and they ask me, "What is his name?" Then what shall I tell them?'

[14] God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: "I AM has sent me to you." '

[15] God also said to Moses, 'Say to the Israelites, "The LORD, the God of your fathers – the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob – has sent me to you."

'This is my name for ever,
the name you shall call me
from generation to generation.

Hymn: Singing the Faith 473

'Moses, I know you're the man,'
the Lord said.
'You're going to work out my plan,'
the Lord said.
'Lead all the Israelites out of slavery,
and I shall make them a wandering race
called the People of God.'

So every day,
we're on our way,
for we're a travelling, wandering race,
we're the People of God.

Continued on next page

‘Don’t get too set in your ways,’
the Lord said.
‘Each step is only a phase,’
the Lord said.
‘I’ll go before you and I shall be a sign
to guide my travelling, wandering race;
you’re the People of God.’

So every day,
we’re on our way,
for we’re a travelling, wandering race,
we’re the People of God.

‘No matter what you may do,’
the Lord said.
‘I shall be faithful and true,’
the Lord said.
‘My love will strengthen you as you go along,
for you’re my travelling, wandering race,
you’re the People of God.’

‘Look at the birds in the air,’
the Lord said.
‘They fly unhampered by care,’
the Lord said.
‘You will move easier if you’re travelling light,
for you’re a wandering, vagabond race,
you’re the People of God.’

‘Foxes have places to go,’
the Lord said.
‘But I’ve no home here below,’
the Lord said.
‘So if you want to be with me all your days,
keep up the moving and travelling on,
you’re the People of God.’

Estelle White (1925 - 2011)
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Reading: Psalm 105:1-6; 23-26 NIV

1 Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done.
2 Sing to him, sing praise to him;
tell of all his wonderful acts.
3 Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
4 Look to the Lord and his strength;
seek his face always.

5 Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,
6 you his servants, the descendants of Abraham,
his chosen ones, the children of Jacob.

23 Then Israel entered Egypt;
Jacob resided as a foreigner in the land of Ham.
24 The Lord made his people very fruitful;
he made them too numerous for their foes,
25 whose hearts he turned to hate his people,
to conspire against his servants.
26 He sent Moses his servant,
and Aaron, whom he had chosen.

45c Praise the Lord!

Sermon

Offertory Hymn: Singing the Faith 595

Lord, we have come at your own invitation,
chosen by you, to be counted your friends;
yours is the strength that sustains dedication,
ours a commitment we know never ends.

Here, at your table, confirm our intention,
give it your seal of forgiveness and grace;
teach us to serve, without pride or pretension,
Lord, in your Kingdom, whatever our place.

When, at your table, each time of returning,
vows are renewed and our courage restored,
may we increasingly glory in learning
all that it means to accept you as Lord.

So, in the world, where each duty assigned us
gives us the chance to create or destroy,
help us to make those decisions that bind us,
Lord, to yourself, in obedience and joy.

Fred Pratt Green (1903–2000)
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Dedication of Offering

Prayers of Intercession

HOLY COMMUNION

MWB

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God our Father and our Mother,
we give you thanks and praise
for all that you have made,
for the stars in their splendour
and the world in its wonder
and for the glorious gift of human life.

With the saints and angels in heaven
we praise your holy name.

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Holy God, you go on loving us even when we turn away from you.
You sent your Son Jesus who healed those who were sick,
wept with those who were sad, and forgave sinners.
To show the world your love he died for all upon the cross
and you raised him up in glory.

On the night before Jesus died, he had supper with his disciples.
He took bread, thanked you, as we are thanking you,
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After supper, he took a cup of wine, thanked you,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from it, all of you.
This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
It will be shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this to remember me.'

And so, God of love, we remember that Jesus died and rose again
to make all things new.
Through his offering for us all, we offer our whole life to you
in thanks and praise.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's saving body and blood.
May this same Spirit unite us
with all your people on earth and in heaven.

Bring us at last to live in your glory with all your saints,
that we may praise you for ever,
through Jesus your Son,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught his disciples, we pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The bread we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.
Christ is the Bread of Life.

The cup of blessing for which we give thanks
is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
Christ is the True Vine.

The Sharing of the Bread and Wine

A steward will direct you to the front to receive Communion.
Please approach the altar rail from the centre aisle
and return to your seats via the side aisles when dismissed from the altar.

All are welcome to receive Communion. If you do not want to receive,
you may approach the front for a blessing, or simply remain in your seat.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

God of glory,
we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands
the bread of heaven.
Strengthen us in our life together
that we may grow in love for you and for each other;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: Singing the Faith 464

God it was who said to Abraham,
'Pack your bags and travel on.'
God it was who said to Sarah,
'Smile and soon you'll bear a son.'

Travelling folk and aged mothers
wandering when they thought they'd done –
this is how we find God's people,
leaving all because of One.

Continued on next page

God it was who said to Moses,
'Save my people, part the sea.'
God it was who said to Miriam,
'Sing and dance to show you're free.'
Shepherd-saints and tambourinists
doing what God knew they could –
this is how we find God's people,
liberating what they should.

God it was who said to Joseph,
'Down your tools and take your wife.'
God it was who said to Mary,
'In your womb, I'll start my life!'
Carpenter and country maiden
leaving town and trade and skills –
this is how we find God's people,
moved by what their Maker wills.

Christ it was who said, 'Zacchaeus,
I would like to eat with you.'
Christ it was who said to Martha,
'Listening's what you need to do.'
Civil servants and housekeepers,
changing places at a cost –
this is how Christ summons people,
calling both the loved and lost.

In this crowd which spans the ages,
with these saints whom we revere,
God wants us to share their purpose
starting now and starting here.
So we celebrate our calling,
so we raise both heart and voice,
as we pray that through our living
more may find they are God's choice.

John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (1958-2019)
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Sending Out Prayer Roots

Lord, continue to guide our footsteps,
as we take things step by step to reach our goals,
knowing that you go with us,
our ever-present guide and enabler.
Wherever our footsteps take us, may your will be done. **Amen.**

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