Welcome to Stoneleigh Methodist Church

Sunday 6 September 2026 - 10:30am

Favourite Hymns & Songs

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 those leading our Service here today and for **Richard** at Ruxley in the morning and **Emma** this evening; 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 **Joan's** pastoral care group.

Notices

CHURCH CLEANING – everything clean and tidy after the summer break thanks to the work of our tireless cleaning team (really special job on the Link room carpet!) – well done all involved! *Robin*

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*

SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER – there will be a lunch in the Link Room after the Service. Please sign the sheet on the Communion rail this week or next, so I know how many to cater for. Thank you, *Denise*

DEAR CHURCH MEMBERS, first of all, my apologies for sending out my gratitude later than I anticipated. Thank you for the lovely arrangements of flowers and card at the time of celebrating my 60th birthday. It was a lovely occasion, and a total of £2,610 donations has been received from the party, and since my return from Ghana. (Cheques= £680; Online Transfer= £820; Cash £1,110 - this cash amount includes three envelopes with no names for £20, £25, £30) towards the Sudbury School Library project. This has made a massive difference to the school, and the money was enough to pay for the construction of library, roofed and tiled. Photographs will be shared when we have the next Sudbury School service. I am very grateful. *Emma*

JOINT PRAYER GROUP. Can I remind you of the next opportunity to pray together at Worcester Park Baptist Church **MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 7.30-8.30pm**. *Paula*

FOODBANK – this week the **Urgent** needs are:-
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*

Instant Mash
Pasta / Cooking Sauce
Sweetcorn
Tinned Meat
Milk UHT (Semi Skimmed/Full Fat)
Dried Pasta in Sauce
Tinned Vegetables
Beans
Tinned Fish
Pulses
Packet Soup

Tinned Fruit
Sponge Pudding
Squash
Sugar
Biscuits
Custard

Shampoo
Hair Conditioner
Male / Female Deodorant
Washing Up Liquid
Adult Toothpaste and Toothbrushes
Nappies 4, 4+, 5, 5+, 6, 6+



Epsom & Ewell Foodbank
Together with Trussell

BABY & PRE-SCHOOL BALLET
Starting next Tuesday, we welcome this new group to SMC – leaflets by the Link room entrance - if you know any young family who might be interested. *Robin*

Centre Usage etc this coming week

Monday	**Zumba Gold** **Ladies Badminton** **Conquest Art** *private meeting*	**0930-1030 in Hall** **1130-1300 in the Hall** **1400-1600 in Link room** *1900-2200 in Link room*	**contact Denise (**[redacted]**)** **contact Tina (**[redacted]**)** **contact Lesley (**[redacted]**)**
Tuesday	*Private dance* **Tuesday Fellowship**	*0930- 1030 in Hall* **1430- in Link room**	*see leaflets for Ascenda Dance* **Tania – Lady Gardener**
Wednesday	**Knit & Natter** Badminton **Badminton**	**1000- 1200 in Room 1** 1330- 1500 in the Hall **1945- 2115 in the Hall**	**contact Denise (**[redacted]**)**
Thursday	**Carers & Toddlers** *Leadership Team* *private activity*	**0900- 1200, Link room & Hall** *1200- 1400 in New Room* *1830- 2030 in Link room*	
Friday	**Hartbeeps** **Table Tennis**	**08:30- 1330 in Link room** **1400- 1600 in the Hall**	**see posters on Notice boards** **pop in Friday pm to enquire**
Saturday	**Ride & Stride**	**0900-1700--***SMC is a passive checkpoint for participants*	
Sunday	**Morning Worship** *private party*	**1030– in Church** *14:00- 1700 in Hall*	**with Richard Graham**

Thursday Zoom Prayer Group

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

MILK BOTTLE TOPS (on Hold for the moment) Thanks to all those who kindly collect and donate the screw tops from plastic milk bottles. I just heard that our regular recipient for these has ceased collecting, so whilst I seek an alternative, the kitchen collection box may get a little full. Please keep collecting though – I'll store them until I find an alternative. *Robin*

Sabbatical Greetings from Rev Paul Timmis

Hello wonderful people

I hope you are all well. As you are aware, I have been on sabbatical for the past three months - a wonderful gift offered to Methodist ministers every seven years. It really has been an incredible summer which has included an extraordinary trip to the Caribbean; a camping holiday in France and has allowed us time to meet with family and friends. We have celebrated Amélie's spectacular degree triumph and subsequent graduation, our 25th wedding anniversary, and Matilda's utter brilliance achieving more than she needed at A level to get into her first-choice uni. We are so grateful to each of you for enabling this season of celebration for our family during my sabbatical. Thank you. There is much to recommend this pattern of living and being work free on weekends! Life has felt free and normal and full of joy.

The day after A level results, however, Rebecca received some results of her own of a less good nature. She had a diagnosis of breast cancer and, following the official appointment just before the bank holiday weekend, had it confirmed.

It is all obviously very new, and we are a bit all over the place, trying to focus most energy on the early diagnosis/ treatable/ good prognosis strap line whilst being very upset.

As Rebecca has written to our friends at Martin Way, "There is never a good time, but this is simply not how our golden summer was supposed to round up.

We are being very open and transparent as friendship and kindness are what will get us all through but also because as we move forward, we may need to call on your generosity. Please be lenient if we miss a date; please forgive us if we are distracted or less able to be sociable. And please, please don't be weird. We are still the same people. And we value your friendship and this community very much."

Take care. See you soon.

Paul *x*

Favourite Hymns & Songs, 6 Sept, 10:30am

Watch live or at any time convenient to you on YouTube: youtu.be/nQqutRcFNW8

Welcome, Notices, and Prayer

Call to Worship

We meet as family in the presence of our heavenly Father. We meet as brothers and sisters in Christ, accepting the responsibility that this places upon us – to love one another as you have loved us. We meet as your lights in this dark world, and we pray that through our words and our lives, others might be drawn into your family and accept you as their Saviour and Lord. **Amen**

Hymn: Singing the Faith 100

Chosen by Jo, Joan, Barbara, Debbie

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colours,
he made their tiny wings:

The purple heathered mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky:

The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,
he made them every one:

He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty,
who has made all things well:

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–1895) (alt.)

Hymn: Singing the Faith 188

Chosen by Barbara

There's a light upon the mountains,
and the day is at the spring,
when our eyes shall see the beauty
and the glory of the King;
weary was our heart with waiting,
and the night-watch seemed so long;
but his triumph-day is breaking,
and we hail it with a song.

There's a hush of expectation,
and a quiet in the air;
and the breath of God is moving
in the fervent breath of prayer:
for the suffering, dying Jesus
is the Christ upon the throne,
and the travail of our spirit
is the travail of his own.

Continued on next page

He is breaking down the barriers,
he is casting up the way;
he is calling for his angels
to build up the gates of day:
but his angels here are human,
not the shining hosts above;
for the drum-beats of his army
are the heart-beats of our love.

Hark! We hear a distant music,
and it comes with fuller swell;
'tis the triumph-song of Jesus,
of our King, Immanuel:
Zion, go now forth to meet him;
and, my soul, be swift to bring
all your finest and your noblest
for the triumph of our King!

Henry Burton (1840–1930)

Introduction

Reading: 12:1-14 NIV

The Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread

[1] The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, [2] 'This month is to be for you the first month,
the first month of your year. [3] Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of
this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. [4] If any
household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest
neighbour, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to de-
termine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. [5] The
animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from
the sheep or the goats. [6] Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when
all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. [7] Then they
are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the door-frames of the
houses where they eat the lambs. [8] That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over
the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. [9] Do not eat the meat raw
or boiled in water, but roast it over a fire – with the head, legs and internal organs. [10] Do
not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. [11] This is how
you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your
staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD's Passover.

[12] 'On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both
people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord.
[13] The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood,
I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

[14] 'This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate
it as a festival to the LORD – a lasting ordinance.'

Hymn: Singing the Faith 274

Chosen by Pat

Jesus Christ, I think upon your sacrifice,
you became nothing, poured out to death.
Many times I've wondered at your gift of life,
and I'm in that place once again.
And I'm in that place once again.

And once again I look upon
the cross where you died,
I'm humbled by your mercy
and I'm broken inside.
Once again I thank you,
once again I pour out my life.

Now you are exalted to the highest place,
King of the heavens, where one day I'll bow.
But for now, I marvel at this saving grace,
and I'm full of praise once again.
I'm full of praise once again.

Thank you for the cross,
thank you for the cross,
thank you for the cross, my Friend.

Matt Redman
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Prayer of Confession

O Lord, for we are a broken people desperately in need of your grace and mercy. Some sins are blatant, but some are so secret we dare not think about them or acknowledge them before you. Hear our cry, O Lord. Hear our silent prayers, our silent longings, our silent confessions before you, laying bare our guilt and sin.

pause

We confess our personal sins, the ones we try so hard to hide from others, but which are so known to you. We confess all the things that stand as a barrier between us and your gracious desire for our lives. Hear our prayers.

pause

We consider the troubles and the sufferings in this world that seem so vast and oftentimes so far removed from our daily lives. We confess the times we have gone along with the sins of this world. Hear our prayers.

pause

We confess the sins committed against us and our response to those sins. We lament the brokenness we share with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Hear our prayers.

pause

We call out to you as those who are broken by our own inability to fix our own problems and by our ever-present propensity to make a mess of the beautiful world you have so graciously given us. Take these broken pieces of our lives and our souls and restore them with your mercy.

By his grace, our Father in heaven sent his Son, to be a sacrifice, to cleanse us from our sin. Alleluia. **Amen.**

Hymn: Songs of Fellowship 311

Chosen by Jo

Jesus, you are changing me,
by your Spirit you're making me like you.
Jesus, you're transforming me,
that your loveliness may be seen in all I do.

You are the potter and I am the clay,
help me to be willing to let you have your way.
Jesus, you are changing me,
as I let you reign supreme within my heart.

Marilyn Baker
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Hymn: Songs of Fellowship 387

May my life declare the honour of your name,
reveal the heart of Christ who came
to light the darkest place
with sacrificial love.

Cause me, Lord, to reach out in the Father's name,
to glorify the Lamb once slain,
to light the darkest place
with sacrificial love.

Teach me, Lord, to make my life as an offering,
to tell the world that Jesus Christ is King,
for the glory of God.

May my life declare the honour of your name,
reveal the heart of Christ who came
to light the darkest place
with sacrificial love, sacrificial love.

Dave Bilbrough
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Reading: Matthew 18: 15-20

NIV

15 'If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. 16 But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that "every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses." 17 If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

18 ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

19 ‘Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.’

A Thought

Reading: Romans 13: 8-14 NIV

8 Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. 9 The commandments, ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not covet,’ and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ 10 Love does no harm to a neighbour. Therefore love is the fulfilment of the law.

11 And do this, understanding the present time: the hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. 12 The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light. 13 Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. 14 Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

Offertory Hymn: Ancient & Modern 726

May the grace of Christ our Saviour,
and the Father’s boundless love,
with the Holy Spirit’s favour,
rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union
with each other and the Lord,
and possess, in sweet communion,
joys which earth cannot afford.

John Newton (1725-1807)

Dedication of Offering

Hymn: Ancient & Modern 576 Chosen by Keith

And did those feet in ancient time
walk upon England’s mountains green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
on England’s pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
among these dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
’til we have built Jerusalem
in England’s green and pleasant land.

William Blake (1757-1827)

Prayers of Intercession

God of justice and mercy, **hear our prayers**

In humility and need, we gather our prayers for others.
God of justice and mercy, **hear our prayers.**

Headline news shocks us with so much cruelty, tragedy and suffering that we barely know where to begin in our praying for those in need, but you, O God, do hear us.
God of justice and mercy, **hear our prayers.**

For those who do not know you, who do not know the depths of your love and care, who live with poverty of spirit and understanding, confusion and denial of you. For them all, may your Spirit speak to them and may the deeds and the words and the actions of how we live, shine with your Spirt for them. For those who know you but know they fall short of what you call them to be, give them encouragement to strive more and learn more and believe more.
God of justice and mercy, **hear our prayers.**

We pray for those who mourn, who have had their lives changed, turned upside down by the death of family friends or neighbours. In their grief may we and you be a comfort to them. A strength in times of trouble, a light to lead the way in their darkness.
God of justice and mercy, **hear our prayers.**

We pray for those whose arrogance, pride and vanity stop them from seeing the truth about themselves and the needs of others. For those who do not know what humility is and where it might lead them.
God of justice and mercy, **hear our prayers.**

We pray for those who daily, no matter what the cost to themselves, speak out your words of truth, who live lives reflecting your glory, who each day step-out to help and heal and care and show your love even in face of danger.
God of justice and mercy, **hear our prayers.**

We pray for those who find it within them to forgive others who really repent, those who forgive for the good of others and society, those who show mercy and compassion.
God of justice and mercy, **hear our prayers.**

We pray for those who work for peace, who strive for peace, who yearn for peace. Those who engage at the highest levels of state seeking peace and those who stand on the battlefield yearning for conflict to end and peace to be restored. For those caught in the middle, who feel helpless and hopeless in the face of war and aggression.
God of justice and mercy, **hear our prayers.**

For those peoples whose tragedies, injustice, crisis and suffering make the news head-lines today.
God of justice and mercy, **hear our prayers.**

For our families, our friends, our neighbours, those we know and love and care for who need our prayers especially this day.
God of justice and mercy, **hear our prayers.**

Hear our words, O God, and hear the yearnings of our hearts that we may walk humbly with you sharing love and generosity wherever we go.
In the name of and for the sake of Jesus. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: Singing the Faith 94

To God be the glory,
great things he has done!
So loved he the world
that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life
in atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate
that all may go in:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father,
through Jesus the Son;
and give him the glory –
great things he has done!

O perfect redemption,
the purchase of blood,
to every believer
the promise of God!
And every offender
who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus
a pardon receives:

Great things he has taught us,
great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing
through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher,
and greater will be
our wonder, our rapture,
when Jesus we see:

Frances Jane van Alstyne (Fanny Crosby) (1820–1915)

Closing Prayer

May the grace of God uphold you,
the peace of God surround you,
the love of God flow from you,
and the strength of God protect
and bring you safely through this day. **Amen.**

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