

BEING CHURCH – Newsletter 53

March 28th, 2021- PALM SUNDAY

WESTBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

Registered Charity # 1133833

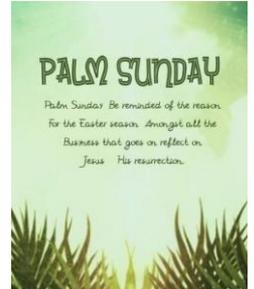


Website: www.westboroughmethodistchurch.org.uk

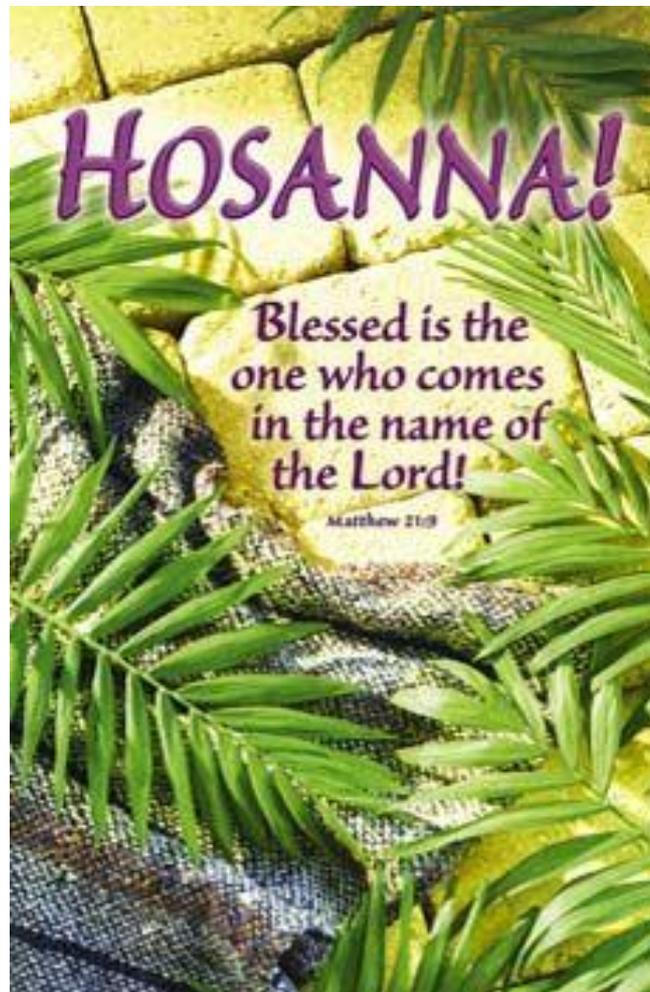
Email: westmethchurch1862@gmail.com

Tel: 01723 506926 (ansaphone)

Minister: Rev^d Graham Morgan



**WESTBOROUGH SERVICES WILL RESUME ON 4th APRIL – EASTER SUNDAY
10.30am Holy Communion with Revd Graham Morgan**



This newsletter is to keep us all in touch and to share information and any other items that may be useful or uplifting. **ALL CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME** to the Church Office

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK (March 28th, 2021)

Lord Jesus, as You walked Your steadfast way to Jerusalem, facing the risk of humiliation and even death, but always confident that You were in the hands of Your Father in heaven, so help us to trace this Holy Week with growing faith and confidence. Help us to be faithful companions and so, at the end. To stand with each other before Your cross in penitence, and rejoice with each other as we know Your risen presence. Amen.

(Donald Hilton from "Called to praise")

PRAYER REQUESTS

(Please send any requests for next week by Thursday)

For JILL and family

(Ron died at home earlier this week)

ELLEN

Ellen's surgery has gone well and she is recovering in hospital)



PRAYER HUB SCARBOROUGH

Prayer Hub Scarborough is available at www.prayerhubscarborough.org and on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram - @prayerhubboro



With regular prayers, resources and space for prayer requests.

Please do get in touch if you would like to know more tom.nycmcircuit@gmail.com

If you do not have internet access and would like to contribute a prayer please get in touch with Lesley by phone or post.



PRAYER HUB: WHATSAPP IS NOW AVAILABLE! The group is a space for any prayers you have or wish to share, anything that you feel is on your heart and for any particular prayer requests that can reach the group and be prayed for, all in the touch of a button! To join, please email your number to info@prayerhubscarborough.org (Please note that your number will be visible to others in the group). All are welcome.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to anyone celebrating at this time.

DOROTHY (27th)

If you have any remembrances, thanksgivings, celebrations or messages that you wish to share please let the Church Office know (Contact details on front page)

ALL WE CAN

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1.17pm, All We Can is sharing positive and uplifting content on the theme of 'Colossians 1:17 – All Things Hold Together' – a series of encouraging broadcasts that you can watch and join in with from the comfort of your home. You can catch them on <https://www.facebook.com/allwecanuk>



Many thanks to everyone who has and continues to support, particularly during these difficult times, as we journey alongside in love, solidarity and support, learning more about how our precious regular gifts help to transform lives. Build Back Better is the aim and the challenge. As we begin to emerge from the latest lockdown, please start to consider how you might involve others in raising funds.

The Lent resources “Change Begins” are available. They can be downloaded. The Lent Group to study the material concludes. The final session is on Wednesday (31st. March) at 8.00 p.m. Week 7 – Change Begins with – Righteous Anger.

There is a time of Collective Worship each Tuesday morning at 8.30 a.m. Whilst this is perhaps geared towards the family, there is a message for everyone.

The next “Big Sing” is on Easter Day, Sunday 4th. April at 4.00 p.m. You can be part of this event and raise your voices along with incredible Christian artists like Graham Kendrick, Noel Robinson, Celtic Worship and our very own National Methodist Choir. All performing to support All We Can’s work with people in some of the world’s most vulnerable communities. Join in as the Easter story is retold - featuring Joanna Adyinka-Burford from CBeebies and young people from around the UK - and celebrate resurrection together! Accessed through youtube.com.

The next One Mission Sunday will be on Sunday, 10th. October.



HELP

How generous are we as Christians? How hospitable are we as Christians, especially when it is not in our self-interest? Everything that we do to people, we do as if we do it to Christ.

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another.
1 John 3:16-18

helping one person might not change
the whole world,



but it could change the world for
one person.

WORSHIPPING FROM HOME



NORTH YORKSHIRE COAST CIRCUIT SERVICE:

These services can be accessed **each week** via the North Yorkshire Coast Methodist Circuit channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWbxG6b8fSphBbPQFMYJWpw>

There are Circuit Services for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday

This Sunday we are sharing in the District Service which will be a service of reflection on the events of PALM SUNDAY and Holy Week

www.yorkshirenethodist.org/district-services/

QUEEN STREET offers its weekly service here <http://queenstreet.org.uk/worship>



THE VINE AT HOME

The Vine at Home sheet is attached for your use. It is live-streamed every Sunday Morning at 10.30am on Budleigh Salterton, Exmouth and Lympstone Methodist Churches Facebook page. [Click here](#). It is then posted later onto The Worship Cloud Facebook page

THE DISTRICT all the monthly services are available to watch back on this page of the District Website: www.yorkshirenethodist.org/district-services/

A series of reflections for **Holy Week** prepared by the District are available – *contact Lesley if you would like a copy.*

CONNEXION Weekly service sheets for Palm Sunday and Good Friday are available. There are also three further services available: A Spiritual Communion; The Way of the Cross; and A service of Light and darkness. *(Please contact Lesley if you would like a copy)*

The Connexion is also offering a series entitled Journeying through Holy Week to Easter with Mark's Gospel which can accessed here: [Holy Week worship 2021 \(methodist.org.uk\)](http://methodist.org.uk)

A different type of contemplation drawing from art is also offered here: [Paintings, poems and prayers for Holy Week 2020 \(MMAC\) \(methodist.org.uk\)](http://methodist.org.uk)

DAILY HOPE offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. **0800 804 8044** – **set up particularly with those unable to join online church services in mind.**

Join the **President and Vice-President live on Facebook** for their weekly chat and prayers at 12:45 pm every Monday

TELEVISION

BBC 1: Sunday Worship at 11.00 am

BBC 1: Songs of Praise at 1.15 pm this Sunday

RADIO

Premier Radio

Radio 4: Sunday Worship at 8.10am
Something Understood at 23.30

Weekday service at 9.45am LW

Radio York: Sunday Worship 8.00am

If you would like the complete 'Worship from Home' document please contact Lesley.



CIRCUIT NOTICES

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Zechariah 9:9

BAKING

For those of you who enjoy baking below are a couple of links to some Easter recipe ideas. You may already have favourites of course – there are many available on the web. Not being a baker I haven't tried any of these!

[Hot cross buns recipe - BBC Food](#)

[9 best hot cross bun recipes of all time | delicious. magazine](#)

A TRADITIONAL LOVE FEAST CAKE RECIPE

Adapted from the Middlesmoor Lovefeast Bread used in the Yorkshire Dales at the time of John Wesley

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| - 1lb (400g) plain flour | - 2oz (50g) mixed peel |
| - 1oz (25g) baking powder | - 4oz (100g) sultanas |
| - 5oz (125g) butter | - 2 eggs |
| - 8oz (200g) sugar | - About half a pint (280ml) of milk |
- Mix the flour and baking powder together, rub in the butter, then add sugar, sultanas and peel.
 - Beat the eggs together with a little milk and add to the dry ingredients.
 - Add the rest of the milk to make a soft consistency.
 - Pour the mixture into two loaf tins or a large cake tin.

Cook at 180°C (350°F) or gas mark 4 for at least 45 minutes for the loaf tins, or 1 hour for the large cake tin.

The following documents are available from Lesley

- Circuit Prayer Sheet for April – Snainton and South Cliff
- Making Palm Crosses, spinners and a simple matching game
- Family Resources for Holy Week

Don't Forget To Change Your Clocks THIS Weekend

On Sunday, March 28, we will move to British Summer Time (BST)
– at 1am, to be precise. The clocks will move forward an hour.



“The mission of Westborough Methodist Church is to offer the love of God, and to share our Christian faith, by meeting the needs of all people through pastoral care and service”

PREACHERS planned for 10.30am at Westborough for April

4th April Easter Sunday – Holy Communion – Revd Graham Morgan

11th April – Mrs Kath Charter

18th April – Revd Nigel Spencer

25th April – Revd Graham Morgan

28th April – Wednesday 10.30am, Midweek Holy Communion, Revd Graham Morgan
(Hopefully midweek communion will continue on the last Wednesday of each month)



READERS

Please contact Colin if you can read at morning worship during April.

METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN

It is hoped to have envelopes available on Easter Day and the following Sunday for those who wish to contribute to the World Church Fund through Methodist Women in Britain. Please see or contact Colin for an envelope

A MAN went to the movies and was surprised to find a woman with a big collie sitting in front of him. Even more amazing was the fact that the dog always laughed in the right places through the comedy.

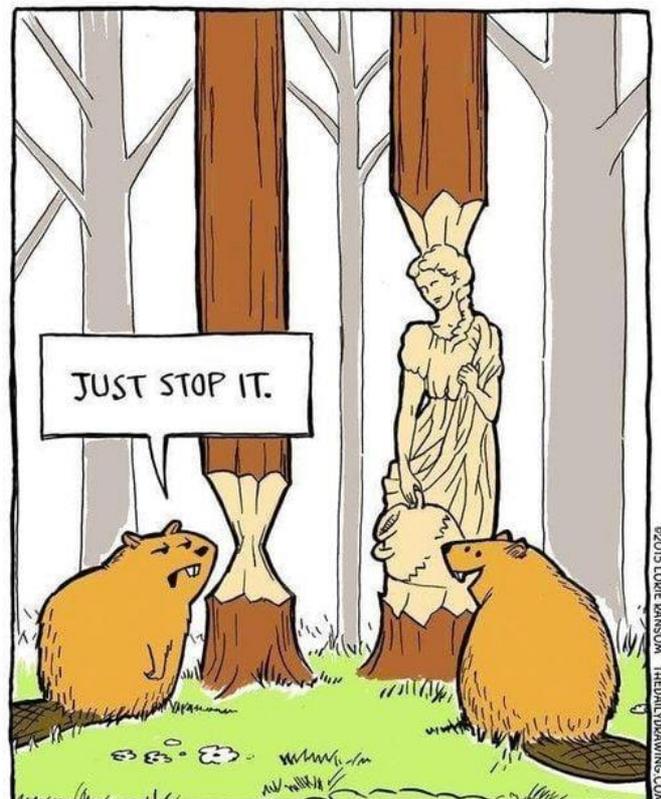
"Excuse me," the man said to the



woman, "but I think it's astounding that your dog enjoys the movie so much."

"I'm surprised myself," she replied. "He hated the book."

—Graham Foster in Tomahawk, Wis., *Leader*, quoted by Debbie Christian in *Milwaukee Journal*



LETTER FROM OUR SUPERINTENDENT

Dear friends,

As we approach this coming Holy Week let us fix our eyes upon Jesus who is the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2

On Palm Sunday a crowd greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem. Garments were spread on the road before him, palm branches were waved and the people shouted 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest' Matthew 21:9. Hosanna means 'save us'

As we fix our eyes upon Jesus, let us remember that He is our Lord and Saviour.

On the night before he died, according to John's Gospel, Jesus washed his disciples feet, much to the disgust of Peter! Jesus did this as an example of one who did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Matthew 20:28

As we fix our eyes upon Jesus, let us remember that He is the one in whose name we are called to serve.

During the Passover meal, Jesus blessed and broke the bread. "Take, eat" he said "this is my body" After supper he gave them wine saying "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins! Matthew 26: 26-28.

As we fix our eyes upon Jesus, let us remember that His body was broken and His blood was shed for us.

Jesus was crucified between two thieves. Despite the agony Jesus asked God to forgive those responsible. From noon until three o'clock darkness covered the land. Then Jesus said "It is finished," John 19:30.

As we fix our eyes upon Jesus, let us remember that this was not the end, it was the beginning.

As we journey through this coming Holy Week, may we journey from darkness to light, from despair to hope and from death to resurrection.

Gracious God,

We are often not the Easter People that we would like to be, living in the certain knowledge of your great mercy and love.

Distracted by the world around us we fail to hear your voice, or hide when faith is challenged as we wander off the path.

Forgive us, we pray;

restore the love that we first had, a faith that can endure.

We will keep our eyes fixed on you, Lord,
and with you at our right hand we shall not be shaken. Amen

With love and prayers as we journey through this coming Holy Week, Graham

Rev Graham Morgan – Superintendent Minister



FLOURISH PLANS

After a great deal of thinking and praying, consulting and discussing, we have now reluctantly agreed that the wisest and safest decision is to defer Flourish from this September. We have such wonderful and enduring memories of Flourish in 2019 and we want our next event to be equally inspiring and positive. Although it seems that it would have been possible to go ahead with Flourish this September, we cannot be sure of how free from restrictions we would be, and we have recognised that many will feel reluctant to gather in such a significant number so soon after the lockdowns of the past year.

We will now seek to arrange a new date for Flourish in, we anticipate, September / October 2022. All things considered this seems to be the preferable time of year, with the best opportunity for a really successful event which includes all ages as fully as possible.

We will of course keep you updated as our revised plans develop.



THE DIFFERENCE IF YOU MARRY A Yorkshire lass

The first man married a woman from Essex. He told her that she was to do the dishes and house cleaning. It took a couple of days, but on the third day, he came home to see a clean house and dishes washed and put away.

The second man married a woman from Sussex. He gave his wife orders that she was to do all the cleaning, dishes and the cooking. The first day he didn't see any results, but the next day he saw it was better. By the third day, he saw his house was clean, the dishes were done and there was a huge dinner on the table.

The third man married a lass from Yorkshire. He ordered her to keep the house cleaned, dishes washed, lawn mowed, laundry washed, and hot meals on the table for every meal. He said the first day he didn't see anything, the second day he didn't see anything but by the third day, some of the swelling had gone down and he could see a little out of his left eye, and his arm was healed enough that he could fix himself a sandwich and load the dishwasher.



23 March 2021

Dear Friends

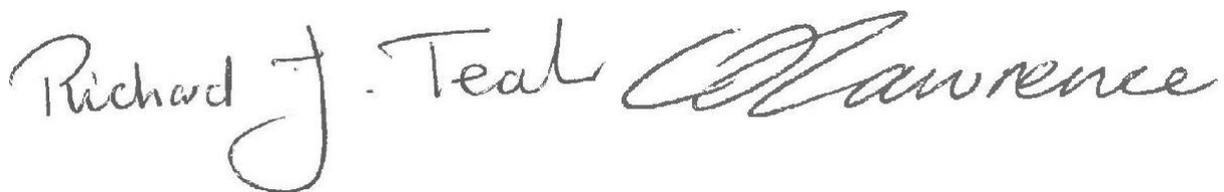
We would like to bring you greetings as we approach Holy Week and to wish you a Happy Easter. This past year has probably been one of the most difficult years many of us can remember and we have all been affected by the Covid pandemic in different ways. We have all experienced the difficulties of lockdowns and restrictions and the losses that accompany those constraints on our everyday lives. We also recognize that some of you will have faced sickness and bereavement as well as concerns over finances, mental health issues and isolation and has in many ways been a wilderness experience for many.

During this Lent season we reflect on Jesus in the wilderness and the lead up to the first Easter and recall the dashed hopes and dreams of those early disciples as they watched Jesus die, and then celebrate their joy and wonder when their Lord appeared to them again, risen from the dead.

We have been walking a difficult path through this pandemic but just as the longer days, flowers blooming and birds singing remind us that the earth is reawakening after the darkness and gloom of winter, we are reminded that there are signs of hope around us. Those of us who know and love Jesus have found comfort in knowing that he has been walking alongside us even in these difficult circumstances and we are encouraged to lift our heads and fix our eyes on Jesus as we look forward in hope to the future.

We pray that whatever your reflections on this past year, you will know the hope, comfort and peace of the risen Jesus in your heart and life and that you will see those glimmers of light as the dawn breaks. We pray that you will indeed discover the joy of the Lord to be your strength moment by moment and know the truth that 'The best of all is, God is with us.'

With every blessing,

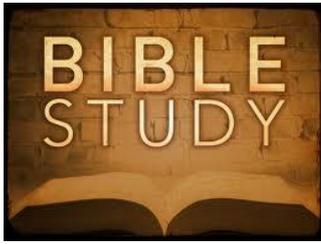


The Revd Richard Teal

**President of the Methodist
Conference 2020/21**

Mrs Carolyn Lawrence

**Vice-President of the
Methodist Conference 2020/21**



A WORD IN TIME BIBLE STUDY Jeremiah 31: 31-34

These bible studies are available daily using the link below.

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/the-bible/a-word-in-time/>

'I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts.' (v. 33)

Background

In the verses preceding today's reading, the theme of the previous few days continues with the promise of restoration and justice for the people of Israel. In [verse 31](#) Jeremiah shifts gear to a new theme, no longer about mere restoration, but instead the promise of something new. It is the promise of a new covenant between God and the people of Israel and Judah.

Christians will read this as a prophecy of the covenant fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. But we should be careful not to read too much into Jeremiah's meaning at the time of writing. For him the new covenant is between God and the people of Israel and Judah, and there is no mention of anyone else. It would have been a totally new and unexpected thing for Jeremiah for this covenant to be between Gentiles and God.

The idea of a covenant between God and God's people resonates with the ideas about God's faithfulness towards God's people in the readings this week. Jeremiah uses the metaphor of a marriage to describe the word 'covenant', explaining that the House of Israel broke the covenant even though God was the 'husband'. Marriage was seen as a patriarchal institution in which it was unheard of and illegal for a wife to divorce her husband.

This covenant is new because God's laws are now written within the people on their hearts and it does not need to be taught because people already have it within them. This contrasts with the Ten Commandments which were written on tablets of stone in [Exodus 20](#) or the commandments of [Deuteronomy 6:4-5](#) which were to be taught to children, written on door posts, and bound to hands and foreheads.

To Ponder:

- What new thing might God be doing today?
- What does it mean to have God's laws written on our hearts?
- How helpful or unhelpful to you is the metaphor of marriage to describe the covenant between God and God's people?

The Revd Jonathan Mead

Jonathan is a Methodist minister. He is based in the London NW Mission circuit where he is minister of Kilburn Methodist Church and a Pioneer starting a new church community with a rule of life. He enjoys keeping fit, reading history and visiting Mediterranean destinations.