



*Liverpool Road  
Methodist Church*

# Weekly Notices

## Sunday Worship

Minister: Rev Patrick Evans

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*16th April 2023*

**10.45am Service led by Rev Martin Abrams**

**6.30pm Easter Offering at Russell Road Church**

**23rd April - 10.45am Service led by Lesley Goddard**

**- 6pm Raising Praise at Leyland Road Church**

### **Mission Statement**

*Liverpool Road Methodist Church exists to proclaim the Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the people of Birkdale and beyond can come to know God and grow in his love.*

# *Lectionary Readings 16th April 2023*

**Acts 2.14a,22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1.3-9; John 20.19-31**

## *Prayer*

Faithful God, the strength of all who believe and the hope of those who doubt; may we, who have not seen, have faith and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



## *Cameo*

Our next meeting is on Wednesday April 19th.

A visit to The Swan for lunch 12pm for 12.30pm

All ladies welcome.



## *Church Notices*

If you have any items you want including in the notices please let Lucy Lloyd know on 01704 536648 or [lucy@southportmethodist.org.uk](mailto:lucy@southportmethodist.org.uk).

## *Sona*

Thursdays 9.15am. All welcome.



## *Guild*

The next Guild meeting will be on Tuesday 18th April at 7.30pm in the New Room. Speakers Beryl & Roger Wood talking about William & Ann Wood.



## *Bible Study*

Mondays 7pm in the New Room.



## *Birkdale Prayer Meeting*

The next Birkdale Churches Prayers will be held in the prayer vestry at Liverpool Road Church 10am on Monday 17th April.



## *Rev Patrick Evans Fundraiser*

for the Southport and Area Schools  
Worker Trust - 21st April - 4th May.  
Patrick is undertaking a sponsored  
bike ride of 871 miles across  
Europe. You can find more details  
on the flyers/sponsorship forms in  
churches or by following this link  
<https://ainsdalemethodistchurch.org.uk/d-day-to-ve-day-charity-bike-ride/>, there is also a Just Giving  
page at -

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/patrick-evans-1680245274175>, and

you can access the  
flyer/sponsorship form at  
[https://ainsdalemethodistchurch.org.uk/wp-](https://ainsdalemethodistchurch.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Patricks-Sponsorship-Form-2023.pdf)

[content/uploads/2023/03/Patricks-Sponsorship-Form-2023.pdf](https://ainsdalemethodistchurch.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Patricks-Sponsorship-Form-2023.pdf). You  
can find out more about the work  
of the Southport and Area Schools  
Worker Trust at

<https://saswtrust.com/>.

Thank you for your support.

**SASW**trust

## *Food Pantry*

Thank you so much for your  
continuing support to supply  
goods for the food pantry.  
In short supply at the moment are:  
mushy peas, tinned spaghetti  
hoops, toilet roll, baby food and  
tinned meatballs.

## *Ecumenical Prayer Meeting*

7.30am Tuesdays in April at  
Lakeside Church.

## *Flowers*

Our flowers this week have been  
kindly donated by Beryl & Roger  
Wood.

## *Tea/ Coffee*

Tea/coffee will be served in the  
schoolrooms after Sunday  
morning worship.



Dear Friends

In this Easter season we now have a few weeks considering the resurrection appearances of Jesus. I always feel sorry for Thomas, dubbed “Doubting Thomas”, for in reality all the disciples were doubting to begin with. Why didn’t history called Thomas “Courageous Thomas” for when he said to the disciples “let us also go [to Lazarus in Bethany], that we may die with him”. The disciples had just counselled Jesus against going because the people there had previously tried to stone him. Poor Thomas.

Resurrection in our human reasoning isn’t something we can comprehend, it shouldn’t happen, it cannot happen; can it? So when Thomas hears the disciples telling him what they have seen, no wonder he wants to witness it for himself!

*Jesus said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”*

*Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”*

*Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”*

*(John Ch 20 vs 27-29)*

So we fall into the category of those who have not seen. We cannot have the experience of Thomas in witnessing the resurrected Jesus, for that we rely on Scripture and its first hand accounts from those who saw with their own eyes. The story affirms to us that Jesus is alive and we worship a supernatural God of resurrection.

How does this play out in our own lives? What is our experience of resurrection? I love the story Jesus told of the Prodigal Son. I imagine the Father felt he had lost his Son when he walked off with his share of the inheritance. For me this is, amongst other things, an example of resurrection power. In this Easter season I encourage us to look back over our lives for where resurrection has taken place, and to pray for those circumstances where resurrection is craved.

*For blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.*

God bless

Patrick

