



*Liverpool Road  
Methodist Church*

# Weekly Notices

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*24th September 2023*

**10.45am Service led by Derek Taberner**

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

**6.30pm Fellowship Time led by Andy Trimble**

**1st October - 9am Circuit Communion Service at PPW**

**- 10.45am FACETS Service led by Colin Fyles**

**- 6.30pm Service led by Derek Taberner**

## **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.*

# *Lectioary Readings 24th September 2023*

Jonah 3.10-4.11; Psalm 145.1-8; Philippians 1.21-30; Matthew 20.1-16

## *Prayer*

Loving God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding. Pour into our hearts such love towards you that we, loving you above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## *Iona*

Thursdays 9.15am. All welcome.

## *Bible Study*

Mondays 7pm in the New Room.

## *Facets*

Classes meet each Tuesday from 9.30am.

## *Memorial Board*

Arrangements are being made to update the Memorial Board displayed in the vestibule. This relates to those whose ashes have been placed in the Memorial Garden. Please could the names of the people to be added to this board be passed on to me by 16th October 2023.

Doreen Iddon

## *Worship Consultation*

Our next worship consultation is at 18:45hrs on Wed 27th September in the church. All are welcome and it's your opportunity to share what you have found valuable (or not) in worship and what you would want to experience more of.

## *Food Pantry*

Thank you so much for your continuing support to supply goods for the food pantry.

In short supply at the moment are: tinned carrots, peas, other tinned veg and squash.

## *Giving Envelopes*

Special envelopes for donations to church funds are still an option should anyone wish to use them. I would be grateful if current users, and potential new ones, would let me know if they would like a set for next year: these run from December to the following November. The order will be placed the second week in October. Thank you. Doreen Iddon

## *Flowers*

Our flowers this week have been kindly donated by Peter & Janet Oldham.

## *Guild*

Tuesday 26th September in the New Room at 7.30pm. Educational - Lessons learned from moving house, Colin Fyles.

## *The Link*

Items for the link to Jim Lloyd by the end of September.

[j.lloyd816@btinternet.com](mailto:j.lloyd816@btinternet.com). (Word documents please)

Thank you

## *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).



Dear Friends

*"...thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven."*

*(Extract from The Lord's Prayer)*

These words act as an aide-memoire for what we hope for on earth; that it will be like heaven. As we pray the Lord's Prayer it hopefully prompts us as Christians to become enablers of heaven on earth.

And what opens our access to heaven? For me it is grace; the free and unmerited favour of God bestowed upon us all, despite the fact that in our humanness we don't deserve it. In our humannesses we focus on self rather than being selfless. There is no distinction between any of us in this regard...

*"...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans Ch 3 vs 23)*

So if grace is the key to heaven, for earth to be as it is in heaven, grace must abound in the present; and so it does from God to us, although does it from us to others?

Jesus' story of the Labourers in the Vineyard illustrates what the kingdom of heaven is like. Those hired early in the day have an expectation that those hired later in the day will receive a lower wage. Nah, says Jesus, that's not how it works. Grace does not have a price list like the local chippy where a large portion costs more than a small portion. In the kingdom of heaven unlimited grace is given to all.

*"And about five o'clock he [the landowner] went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'"*  
*(Matthew Ch 20 vs 6-7)*

There is no limit for the landowner as to how many labourers can be hired. The landowner continuously seeks to welcome all, valuing each the same. I wonder if we pick and choose how much and to whom we offer grace. If so, is it really grace?

God bless

Patrick

