



ST. MARK'S METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Rachel Leather

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Sunday 9th March 2025

Collect for the for the First Sunday in Lent

Gracious Father, your blessed Son Jesus Christ came from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world. Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him: through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

From the Methodist Prayer Handbook: Praying with Christians in South America and Britain.

*Attend our steps, O Lord, as we sing your praise. Direct our paths as we become more than conquerors. Open our mouths as we proclaim the good news of the gospel. **Amen***

(Henry Martyn 1781-1812)

Morning Worship 10.30am Rev Stan Brown

Live-stream link for morning service: <https://youtube.com/live/RGUTWz7YEnA?feature=share>

Please join us for refreshments in the hall after the service.

Order of Service

Call to Worship: Lent Liturgy

StF20 Be Still for the Presence of the Lord

Prayers

Introduction to Theme

StF 89 Strength Will Rise as we Wait upon the Lord

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

StF 459 Captain of Israel's Host and Guide

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:1-13

Sermon: Soul Food

Responsive Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

StF 728 O God you Search me and You Know Me

Prayers of Intercession

Dedication of the Offering

StF 528 The Earth is the Lord's

Closing Prayer: May the God who faced the wilderness feed your soul today. **Amen**

The Grace

Notices

Friday 7th March

19:00 – 20:00 Lamplighters Music Practise

Saturday 8th March

10:00 – 12:00 Pastoral Visitors training at Bethesda

Sunday 9th March

15:00 – Circuit Assembly Zoom Only – no Circuit Service

Tuesday 11th March

10:00 – 12:00 Tuesday Coffee Morning All are welcome.

14:00 – 15:30 Open Fellowship in the Small Hall



ST. MARK'S METHODIST CHURCH

Wednesday 12th March 09:00 – 10:00 Ecumenical Communion Service at Bishop's Cleeve Methodist Church

09:30 – 11:30 Toddler Group

Sunday 16th March 09:00 – 09:45 Breakfast Service with Rev Rachel Leather

10:30 – Holy Communion with Rev Rachel Leather

Other Notices

Lent Study Group: Exploring why the cross is good news for all creation; a six-week course meeting at Bethesda, Wednesdays 7.30pm starting 12 March. Contact Rev Rachel Leather for more details.

Churches Together: You are invited to an event to relaunch Churches Together on Monday 24th March at 7pm. During the evening we will hear from invited speakers representing groups which are made up of ecumenical partners, showcasing how ecumenism allows them to live out their discipleship. We will then have a time of networking and refreshments, followed by some feedback, and to try and answer the What Next question. This event is for anyone interested in ecumenical relationships, for church leaders, clergy, and laity. Everyone is welcome. We may differ in our styles of worship and disagree on points of theology, but we can all be united in our desire to spread God's love throughout our town.

Roots (Saturday, 5th April 3pm-4pm), our brand-new service! Something new is growing, and we'd love for you to be part of it here at St Marks Methodist Church, Cheltenham. Join us for a relaxed, informal, and interactive space where we'll explore what it means to grow deep roots as a church family. Expect real-life testimonies, worship, and plenty of space to reflect and connect in whatever way feels right for you. Whether you're new or have been with us for years, this is a place to grow together, strengthen our faith, and build something lasting. Come as you are, bring a friend, and let's take this journey together! Please support this new venture in prayer. We ask you to pray:

**We pray for all called to lead worship in your church,
especially for those leading 'Roots'.**

Fill them with your Holy Spirit.

**Let their lives reflect the examples of
the saints who have gone before.**

Let their gifts shine through in their ministry.

Give them strength as they face the challenges.

Encourage them in their doubts.

Give them joy as they recognise your hand in their work.

**Lord God, remind them, that their call is from you,
and you walk alongside them - always.**

Amen

SAVE THE DATE!

We are planning a joint church away day with Bethesda on Saturday 7th June at Evesham Methodist Church. More details nearer the time.



ST. MARK'S METHODIST CHURCH



Our current shopping list

- Tinned Cold Meat (or fish)
- Pasta Sauce
- Washing up liquid, washing powder (powder or capsules please, not liquid)
- Soup - packets or tins
- Desserts - hot or cold, packets or cans
- Deodorants – Ladies' and Men's

Thank you for all your donations for the Foodbank. You can leave items in the boxes near our entrances at church. These are collected once a fortnight by volunteers from the foodbank at Elim.