ST. MARK'S METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Rachel Leather Tel: 01242 262657

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Sunday 22nd November 2026

Collect for Sunday before Advent in Ordinary Time

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithfull people, that they, bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be richly rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

From the Methodist Prayer Handbook: Praying for our partners in the Pacific.

Discipline our energies, O God, to your purpose; school oour tongues to your praise and soften our hearts to your wisdom. ***Amen***

10:30 – 11:30 Morning Worship - Rev Rachel Leather

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

Tuesday 24th Nov	10:00 - 12:00 Coffee Church
	19:30 - 21:00 Green team meeting via Zoom
Wednesday 25th Nov	09:00 - 10:00 - Ecumenical Communion service Bishop's Cleeve Methodist Church
	9:30 - 11:30 Toddler Group
Friday 27th Nov	19:00 - 20:00 Lamplighters music practice
Sunday 22nd Nov	10:30 - 11:30 Gift Service - Jenny Jackson
	Advent Sunday

Other notices

Take home Christmas flyers

The Christmas flyers that we take to houses in the area are ready for distribution and need to go out this week. If you can help with putting these through local letter boxes then please sign up on the sheet in the Choir Vestry. Thank you.

Carol Service:

Our Carol Service this year is on 20th December for which we would like singers to form a choir. Practices will take place after the morning service for four Sundays from next Sunday (29th). If you are interested please come along or talk to Helen or Stephen if you want to know more

The Knitted Bible

Will be on display at Bishops Cleese Methodist church on the following dates:

Fri 27th Nov, Tues 1st Dec, Fri 4th Dec, Tues 8th Dec, Fri 11th Dec - 1400-1600, also Sat 5th Dec, 1330-1730.

Admission is free but donations are welcome, refreshments available on all afternoon dates and there are also stalls in the church hall on the 5th Dec.

Gift Service Sunday 29th November

Once again we will collect for the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal at the Gift Service. They are usually in most need of items for under 1 year olds, and 10 - 12 year olds (which is always the hardest). The main Salvation Army website suggests: games and toys, stationery, books, hair accessories, gloves, scarves, hats for that age group. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please place either cash or cheques (made payable to the Salvation Army) in an envelope and it will be passed on with the gifts. You can also donate online at https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/donate but that may not go directly to the Cheltenham Branch.

Christian Aid Autumn Fair

Please come along and support our annual Christian Aid Autumn Fair on Saturday 21st November. Please note that this year it will be at **Salem Baptist Church**, St George's Road, where parking is available. (See poster attached)

Christmas Card Board

The Christmas Card Board will be in place at the back of the church from Sunday 28th November (1st Sunday in Advent). You are invited to place your church family Christmas cards here, with all donations going to Action For Children. It will be available until Epiphany, when the cards will be taken down for recycling.

Friday Club 4th December 2.00p.m.

We are holding our Christmas Tea Party and would like to invite you to come along and join us.

Hearts in Harmony will be there to entertain us followed by tea party refreshments.

Please indicate on the noticeboard if you would like to come for catering numbers.

Christmas Quiz(see attached)

Join us for an evening of quizzing with a Christmas twist!

Time to engage your brain for an evening of trivia and festive fun - all in the name of winning ultimate bragging rights and raising funds to go towards the work we do.

Buy your tickets and bring a team or come along and join one.

Saturday 5th December, 7:00-9:00pm, The Pavilion, GL51 6PN, £5 per ticket

https://www.tickettailor.com/events/youthforchristgloucestershire/2423837

Cheltenham Food bank - Our current shopping list ....

Tinned Cold Meat (or fish) , Pasta Sauce, Soup - packets or tins, Desserts - hot or cold, packets or cans, Washing up liquid, washing powder (powder or capsules please, not liquid)

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.

Order of Service: Sunday 22nd November: St Mark's

Call to worship

StF: Be still for the presence of the Lord

Prayers

Welcome new members

StF 626 Even though I walk through the valley

Reading: Romans 16:1-16

Reflection

(kids leave)

Song: Who can know the mind of our creator

Reflection: St Rita

StF: 756 Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reflection: St Lidwina

StF: 756 Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reflection: Harold Moody

StF:82 O Lord my God

Prayers

Hymn: O when the saints go marching in

Bless