



ST. MARK'S METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Rachel Leather

Tel: 01242 262657

minister@stmarksmethodist.org.uk

Sunday 27th July 2025

Collect for the for the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

God, you have poured the Spirit of your Son into our hearts so that we call you Father. Give us grace to devote our freedom to your service that we and all creation may be brought into the glorious liberty of the children of God For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

*Give us a new heart, O God, free enough to live by faith, brave enough to endure in hope and generous enough to love without limit. **Amen** (El Salvador, source untraced)*

Morning Worship 10.30am Rev Rachel Leather

Live-stream link for morning service:

<https://youtube.com/live/l7zRrE31co?feature=share>

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

Notices

Tuesday 29th July 10:00 – 12:00 Tuesday Coffee Morning All are welcome.

Wednesday 30th July 09:00 – 10:00 Ecumenical Communion Service at Bishop's Cleeve Methodist Church

Friday 1st August 14:30 – 16:00 Friday Club

Sunday 3rd August 10:30 – 11:30 Morning Worship – Local Arrangement

Monday 4th August 12:00 – Funeral of Barbara Turner (see below)

Other Notices

Funeral of Barbara Turner

The funeral for the late Mrs Barbara Turner will take place on August 4th with a thanksgiving service at 12 noon at St Mark's followed by refreshments in the hall and then the service at the crematorium will take place at 3.30. This is a change to



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the timings announced in church last week. This service will be live-streamed and the link will be sent out as soon as it is available.

Roots (Saturday, 9th August 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**

Methodist Prayer Handbook

Russell will be ordering copies of the 2025/2026 edition of the Methodist Prayer Handbook to be here for 1 September. Each copy will cost £4.15 as last year. If you would like a copy, please now let him know.

Tel.01242 244036. russell.buley@btinternet.com.

Volunteer at the Hush – Cheltenham Literature Festival

We're excited to once again be part of Cheltenham Literature Festival, hosting our restful and reflective venue 'The Hush'. We're looking for volunteers to offer time throughout the festival to engage with members of the public, speak confidently, authentically and openly, offer hospitality and a warm welcome, notice God and join in with the fun!

Dates are the 10th-19th October, for more information or to sign up visit Volunteer with us at Festivals and Events - The Methodist Church or email lauderb@methodistchurch.org.uk. It is a requirement that all volunteers hold a valid DBS issued by the Methodist Church and have undertaken safeguarding training, this can be arranged for you ahead of the festival.



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Road Closure

Please see the attached for the closure of Gloucester Road commencing 28th July. There is a map with the closure outlined for you to look at in the church.

Bethesda Backpackers

The Backpackers meet at 9:30am on Friday, 1st August for a 4 mile walk around St Anthony's Well. Please ring Elaine Bailey (07974 428125) by 6:30pm on Thursday if you wish to join the walk. There is the opportunity for wild swimming/paddling at St Anthony's Well. We will be eating at the Red Hart at Blaisdon.



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.