



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

Where all are welcome – all the time

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Sunday 8th March 2020

Welcome to worship with us – whether this is the first time you have entered our church, or if you are a long-standing member of our congregation. We seek to offer friendship and opportunities for learning more of God's will in this place and in this generation.

Refreshments are usually served in the hall after Sunday services – do stay for a chat over a cuppa and a biscuit.

Sun 8th Mar 10.45 **MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION** **Rev Alison Walker**

*Bible readings: Genesis 12: 1-4a (page 9)
Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17 (page 146)
John 3: 1-17 (page 89)*

18.30 **EVENING WORSHIP**

“A Community of Witness” (1) (see overleaf)

Bible reading: Acts 22: 1-11 (page 136)

Prayer topic: for our Lenten journey

Wed 11th Mar 10.00 “Time to Be” prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 Strength and balance exercise class

Thu 12th Mar 10.00-12.00 “First Friends” baby and toddler group

18.00 Open Bible Discussion Group (see overleaf)

Sun 15th Mar 10.45 **MORNING WORSHIP** **Rev Colin Smith**

18.30 **IONA SERVICE at St Luke's**

Welcome to Castle Street Methodist Church!

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please make yourself known to one of the stewards and pick up a welcome leaflet. All people of this church are part of the ministry, led by the Revd Alison Walker who may be contacted electronically via the church website or by telephone on (01223) 872 862.

Our church magazine **Castle View** contains more details of events taking place each month – please pick up a copy of the latest issue.

There is a **Prayer Request** book at the back of the church, which is used during services and at prayer meetings – but remember it is on display for anyone in the church to read, so please respect the privacy of those concerned and avoid including names and other personal details unless specifically requested.

Service this evening

Those who have looked at the new circuit preaching plan will note that there are five evening services over the next three months which are marked as “LA” – “local arrangement”, when it has not proved possible to allocate a minister or local preacher to lead the service and it is down to the church itself to organise the service. Maureen Kendall (one of our regular evening congregation members, formerly of Castle End Mission, and a lay preacher in the United Reformed Church) has kindly agreed to lead worship on 26th April, while we are still waiting for confirmation of the plans for 3rd May.

However, for the three before Easter – during Lent – the services will be a Lent study using the East Anglia District’s notes, “A Community of Witness”, prepared with the aim of strengthening our Christian witness and shared common life in Christ. The sessions will be following the Acts narrative, as Luke tells the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church, and exploring the theme of being “a Community of Witness”. The first one, this evening, will be led by Chris Rayson, while Mike Sharpe and John Boocock will lead on 22nd March and 5th April respectively. Do come along for something slightly different.

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### **“A Faith to Live By” – next Sunday evening (15th March) at 6pm**

The next of these special services at Haslingfield Methodist Church takes place next Sunday evening, when Revd Julie Norris will address the subject of “Can we serve the common good by transplanting pig organs into human patients?” As usual, the format will include a time of worship, the address by Julie, refreshments, and time for questions.

### **Thursday morning Circuit Lent Study Group**

The third in the series of circuit Lent study groups at 35 Millington Road, this coming Thursday morning (12th March), will be led by Revd Stephen Burgess, who will look at the second part of Psalm 139 (verses 19 to 24). It starts at 10.45am (with coffee from 10.15am), and will finish at around midday.

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Open Bible Discussion Group – second and fourth Thursdays

This twice-monthly ecumenical Church at Castle group, which began meeting in July last year, starts a new series this week (on Thursday – 12th March), meeting at Castle Street again (Aldersgate room) from 6pm to 7.15pm. This week Dr James Carleton Paget will give some background to the Pauline Epistles. There's more information in the March *Castle View*, or contact Patricia McGuire (e-mail: patricia dot mcguire5 at virginmedia dot com).

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### **“Science Meets Faith” at Wesley Church – tomorrow (Monday 9th March)**

“Climate Change: What it means and what we can do about it” with Prof Joanna Haigh, Physics Department, Imperial College London University. Light refreshments from 7.15pm; talk will start at 7.45pm. Retiring collection.

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Buckden Handbell Ringers at Royston Methodist Church – Thursday (12th March)

This concert is in aid of Royston's church refurbishment project. A band of ten people – twenty hands and over fifty handbells – perform a repertoire of classical music, ragtime and popular music from shows and films. Tickets cost £5 and are available from Sue (e-mail: walter962 at btinternet dot com) or on-line (visit ticketsource.co.uk/rmc1). It starts at 7.30pm.

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### **Appeal for catering help – urgent response required**

We have been approached by the Women's Fellowship of St Mark's Methodist Church in London asking if they could use Castle Street as a base for a day out in Cambridge on Saturday 30th May. They have also asked if we could provide them with a tea before they go home. Before we can realistically offer to do this, we need volunteers who are willing to help make sandwiches, provide homemade cakes, and help set out and clear up afterwards. If anyone can commit to helping, please contact Denise as soon as possible so we can respond.