

**ST JAMES' METHODIST & UNITED REFORMED CHURCH  
WOOLTON L25 7RJ**

Web address: <http://stjameswoolton.org>

**MINISTER: Revd. Peter Hughes** [peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk](mailto:peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk)  
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Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.



**Weekly Notices 23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

**This Week's Collect:**

Creator God, in the beginning your word subdued the chaos and in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, your Son, to rebuke the forces of evil and to make all things new. By that same power transform our fear into faith that we may have courage to follow in the way of your kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**This week's Worship:**

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 10.30am:** Rev Peter Hughes - Holy Communion

**This week's readings:**

**Genesis 1: 1 – 2: 3**

**Romans 1: 18 – 23**

**Romans 3: 21 – 26**

**Forthcoming services at St James':**

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am:** Rev Peter Hughes

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July 10.30am:** Liz Hudson

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July 10.30am:** Rev Peter Hughes, All age worship & Holy Communion

**Forthcoming events:**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm** – Steward/Elders meeting

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 9.30 – 11.30am** – Morning Coffee

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 7.00pm** – Special Projects meeting

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July 9.30 – 11.30am** – Morning Coffee

**WORSHIPPING BY PHONE:**

**IF YOU CANNOT COME TO WORSHIP AT ST JAMES IN PERSON WHY NOT  
LISTEN IN**

**The dial in instructions are as follows:**

Between 2.20pm for 2.30pm on Sunday:

1. From your normal "landline" telephone: Dial: 0333-016-0300
2. You will then be asked for your Room number:

Enter 86 10 75 55 followed by the # key

Then when asked, enter the PIN: 2544 followed by the # key

You will then be directly entered into the pre-service "worship chat".

Please say your name so people know you have joined.

**This Sunday the host is Pam Bellis, the speaker is Liz Hudson,  
reading Graham Martin: 1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, and 18:10-16,**

**prayers: Dave Dickson,**

Everyone is invited to, and very welcome at, this time of worship and fellowship.

## Prayers

We keep in our prayers all those who are poorly, their family and friends and those caring for others.

We also pray for everyone in our Church family and those known to us who are in need of our prayers this week.

## Request from our Guiding group: Rainbows need your help!

Rainbows at St. James are currently a thriving unit which feeds into the very nearly full Brownies and then onto Guides and Rangers. We are unique in that we have all four sections together. However, Rainbows are very close to having to close down which would result in the other sections closing too.

Do you have time to spare?

We are desperate for someone to take over some of the Rainbow unit admin (checking waiting lists, sending emails etc). This would be done in your own time and would probably be around one hour per fortnight. We do not need you to attend meetings (unless you would want to!) We have continuously asked Girl Guiding for help over the past year and have received very little. This is evidenced by the fact that our Guide leader has had to take on the Brownies and Rangers to prevent them from closing after Guiding offered nothing. We desperately want to keep the units open.

Please contact Helen Boag-Munroe at [hbmguiding@gmail.com](mailto:hbmguiding@gmail.com) if you would like any further information.

## Benevolent fund

The Benevolent Fund collection at the communion service on **23<sup>rd</sup> June** will be for **Methodist Homes**.

## Wednesday Fellowship Group

The next Wednesday Fellowship group meeting will be **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 7.15pm**.

## Praying for the Growth of our Church

As leaders of our Church share in the Circuit's "Leading Your Church into Growth" Course over the next few months, we are all challenged as a Church to pray for growth. Please can we encourage everyone at St James to include the prayer below in our daily prayers.

### Leading your church into growth - a prayer.

God of mission, who alone brings growth to your church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, joy to our worship, and power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Church Flowers

If you would like to donate money for flowers on a particular Sunday - perhaps in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a happy event - please speak to Jonquil Dickson who can add you to the calendar for the months ahead. Also, if you would simply like to donate for flowers so that we can make sure all Sundays are covered, please speak to Jonquil. At present, we have many dates available. We have a box at the back of church for any donations or small change.

All donations are gratefully received.

## General Election

As you know, our country is preparing for a General Election on Thursday 4th July. St James Church Hall will be serving as a Polling Station.

The Joint Public Issues Team, which is a body including the Methodist and United Reformed Churches has issued some helpful guidance for us at this time. Their overall heading is "Love. Pray. Vote". Within Charity Commission law there are regulations which prevent Churches and Church leaders suggesting which way people should vote. We are all free to make our own choices and shouldn't be pressurised by others to vote in a certain way.

However, we are challenged to consider the important issues facing the UK at this time, and to examine the policies of the different parties in relation to these issues. Then we can prayerfully and lovingly cast our votes.

The Joint Public Issues Team have identified six important issues which they think that we as Christians should be concerned about.

These are:  
Poverty  
Asylum & Refugees  
Environment & Climate Change  
Economy  
Peace & Conflict  
Politics

Personally, I would add to the list the issue of concerns about the NHS.

You can read and download a briefing on these issues at: [jpit.uk/election](http://jpit.uk/election) and <https://jpit.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/202405-Election-issues-briefing.pdf>

A few printed copies will be available at Church.

The Joint Public Issues Team also offer a prayer for us to use at this time, which is below.

May God guide us and bless our country at this time.

Peter

### **A prayer for voters**

Loving God, we face a choice.  
Be with us as we consider the options  
weigh the arguments  
and assess the claims and the candidates.  
But also prompt us to listen:  
to the voices on the margins  
to the cry of the earth  
and to those who reach a different conclusion to us.  
God, we pray that you would  
stimulate our minds  
stir our hearts  
and sanctify our choosing.  
Help us also to remember  
your command to love our neighbours  
both during and after this election.  
Amen

*You can download all notices [from our website](#).  
Anything you wish to be included in the weekly notices,  
please email by Thursday evening: [St.James.notices@gmail.com](mailto:St.James.notices@gmail.com)*