



## BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH AND CENTRE.



Minister: Rev Peter Powers. 07941 328155.

Bromsgrove Methodist Centre: 835843.

Church Website: [www.brommethcentre.org.uk](http://www.brommethcentre.org.uk)

Circuit Website: [www.brmethodists.co.uk](http://www.brmethodists.co.uk)

*Encouraging, supporting, and developing followers of Jesus Christ and  
Sharing God's love in the wider community*

**PRAYER:** Day and night, we confess your name, O Lord, and proclaim your glory. In wisdom you have made all things and by your Spirit you sustain them. From sunrise to sunset you reveal your majesty, speak peace to our hearts and protect your people. With unending praise, with all your saints, we rejoice in the gift of salvation. **Amen.** *North African Liturgy (3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> century)*

**BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024. (Palm Sunday**

### **THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP:**

**The Welcome Coffee Shop Opening Hours; Monday to Thursday inclusive from 10.30am until 12.30pm. Plus 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of each month from 10am till 12noon.**

**The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024. (Palm Sunday)**

**Services on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024. (Palm Sunday)**

**10.30am: Morning Worship led by Rev Peter Powers.**

**6.00 pm: Holy Communion led by Rev Brian Mason.**

**Arrangements for worship.**

Good ventilation, social distancing and the use of hand sanitiser should continue.

*Please join us for Coffee after the service.*

*Caution and distancing still relevant.*

**GIVING BY INTERNET BANKING:** If you prefer to donate to the Church via Internet Banking the bank details are as follows: - **Sort Code: 40-15-07. Account number: 81213652. Account name: Bromsgrove Methodist Church. Reference: Collection.** For donations to our charities' Fund use the bank details above. **Reference: Charities.** **UK Tax payers please consider Gift Aid and complete a 'Gift Aid' Declaration** available at the back of the Church. Completed declarations please to Eleanor Wright – Gift Aid Secretary, one of the Stewards or myself. Thank you.  
*Sheila Sharman.*

**Services on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March. 2024. (Easter Day)**

**08.00 am: Holy Communion led by Rev Peter Powers.**

**10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Mrs Sarah Leeson.**

**90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY:** The Church family wish DENNIS RIDOUT a very happy ninetieth Birthday on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March. Congratulations and love!

**THANK YOU:** It was a lovely surprise on Sunday to receive beautiful flowers from church delivered by Terry and Ilona. Thank you , they were such a joy to receive. I am making steady progress with the help of professional care and a loving family, and lovely messages thank you everyone. *Sandra Deboo.*

**BIRTHDAY:** Jill Palmer celebrates her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday at Easter and invites the Church friends for coffee and cake on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 37, Fordhouse Road, from 10.30 am. Look forward to seeing you! *Jill Palmer.*

**EASTER OFFERING 2024:** Envelopes will be available on Palm Sunday and Easter Day. Details in your February/March Forum. Your support is always much appreciated. The donations of all the Circuit will be dedicated here at Bromsgrove on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 6.00pm. The service will include Communion, led by Revd Ruth Wilson. Book the date now! *Janet Henderson for MWiB.*

**BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** This will take place on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April, at 12 noon, following Holy Communion. This is open to all, but voting is restricted to church members. Please do your best to attend, when important reports will be presented, and appointments made. Thank you. *Pam GALE, Church Council Secretary.*

**EASTER LENT GROUPS:** We will be holding weekly Lent study groups on Thursdays. We will be following the Holy Habits Lent study. We will be meeting at church on Thursday mornings at 10.45am and there will be an evening zoom meeting, the link is below. You are welcome to join either.

Rev Peter Powers is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: BMC Lent group.

Time: 7.00pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97689857511?pwd=WUNWR0UxNmo1VHdEbTNGMn-VuNGgvZz09>

Meeting ID: 976 8985 7511

Passcode: 516271

*Janet Millward.*

**CTiB GOOD FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH:** Good Friday Silent Walk of Witness. 10.15am: Meet at Bromsgrove Methodist Centre, Stratford Road. 10.30am: Silent walk through the High Street stopping for a for a service of Bible Readings, hymns and

reflection. 11.30am: Hot Cross Buns & Refreshments back at the Methodist Centre. Hope you can join us for the Walk of Witness. Please bring anyone else who would like to join us and witness. *Blessings, Hilda Roxborough.*

**GOOD FRIDAY:** Our friends from Lickey End invite you to join them on Good Friday at 10.00am, for a short service led by Mrs Di Ross. This will be followed by hot cross buns and coffee. All are welcome. *Miriam Prosser.*

**SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING NEWS:** The next Fundraising event will be on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm. This will be a new venture....AFTERNOON TEA DANCE. See the posters in the Church for details. Tickets priced £5 will be available from Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March from Jim Buchanan or in the Welcome Coffee Shop Monday to Thursday. *Jim Buchanan.*

### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – WHY EASTER EGGS ?**

**COMMENT:** When we buy or consume or give Easter eggs, or take part in Easter egg hunts with the children or grandchildren, do we consider why the tradition is there? The Easter bunny by the way has no connection, and is purely a commercial ploy: at a stretch it could be said that rabbits are a-plenty about springtime. Eggs symbolise new life. They were a pre-Christian symbol of fertility and regeneration of Nature and the earth in Europe as spring followed the dormant period of winter.

European Christians borrowed this image and applied it not to the regeneration of the earth, but to specifically the new resurrection life of Jesus when he rose on the third day on what we know as Easter Day. New life emerges from eggshells, just as Jesus rose from his tomb. The Easter egg also symbolises the new life that faith in Christ offers believers.

Come to think of it, all life comes from an egg or a seed – both human and plant-life.

The tradition of decorating eggs is an ancient one. Early Christians decorated theirs red to symbolise Christ's shed blood at Calvary.

Our word Easter is believed to derive from the old English word "Eastre", the name of a pre-Christian goddess, associated with Spring and fertility.

However we view the symbolism of eggs, whether to do with regeneration of the earth or regeneration of the Christian soul, we see the loving hand of God at work.

This understanding should take away the feeling of guilty pleasure as we (perhaps) indulge in a chocolate egg or two. Every blessing *John.*

### **Suggested Readings Week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> March. (Suffering and Glory)**

**Sun 24. Mark 15:1-39.**

**StF 277**

**Psalm 31:9-16. Care.**

Mon 25.	John 12:1-11.	StF 278	Psalm 36.	Pray.
Tue 26.	John 12:20-36.	StF 280	Psalm 27.	Flourish.
Wed 27.	John 12:44-50.	StF 289	Psalm 70.	Live.
Thu 28*.	John 13:1-7, 31b-35.	StF 268	Psalm 116.	Serve.
Fri 29+.	Isaiah 52:123-53:12.	StF 273	Psalm 22.	Challenge.
Sat 30f.	John 19:38-42.	StF 292	Psalm 4.	Learn.

*\*Maundy Thursday. +Good Friday. f Holy Saturday.*

All items for inclusion in the next edition should be submitted by 9am on Friday morning to [kenb740@gmail.com](mailto:kenb740@gmail.com) Thank you.