



BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH AND CENTRE.



Minister: Rev Peter Powers. 07941 328155.

Bromsgrove Methodist Centre: 835843.

Church Website: www.brommethcentre.org.uk

Circuit Website: www.brmethodists.co.uk

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

PRAYER: Praise to you, O God of all mercy, Lord of all being, Master of the day of judgement, guide of the true way and Path of the blessed. You alone do we serve. You alone are our helper. *The Qur'an (7th Century)*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 31st March 2024. (Easter Day)

THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP:

The Welcome Coffee Shop is closed this coming week and reopens on Saturday 6th April at 10.00am.

The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 7th April 2024 .

Services on Sunday 31st March 2024. (Easter Day.)

8.00 am: Holy Communion led by Rev Peter Powers.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mrs Sarah Leeson.

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.*

Service on Sunday 7th April 2024.

10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Mr Charles Ashworth.

90TH BIRTHDAY: The Church family wish DENNIS RIDOUT a very happy ninetieth Birthday on Sunday 31st March. Congratulations and love!

THANK YOU: Thank you for the lovely flowers from the Church given to me last Sunday. My sisters funeral went really well and I managed to do the reading really well. *Margaret Anderson.*

BIRTHDAY: Jill Palmer celebrates her 90th Birthday at Easter and invites the Church friends for coffee and cake on Saturday 30th 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 28th April at 6.00pm. The service will include Communion, led by Revd Ruth Wilson. Book the date now! *Janet Henderson for MWiB.*

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY CHURCH: We are seeking to be a welcoming, inclusive and nurturing community to all who enter our doors, including those living with dementia.

On Saturday 6th April at 11.00am in the lounge there will be the first of a series of sessions relating to living with dementia – *Introduction to living with dementia.* If you are able, please come along to find out more about dementia and how we as a church can help those living with dementia and their carers.

OUR OWN ***Memory Changes Café*** for those with the diagnosis and their carers is opening on Friday 19th April in room 6 from 2.00pm – 4.00pm. As well as drinks and home made cakes there will be suitable activities to stimulate the brain cells! There are leaflets available, please take one for anybody you may know who might benefit from this event. Posters are also available if you know somewhere they could be displayed. We ask for your prayers for this new and exciting venture. *Sheila Sharman.*

WEDNESDAY MEETING POINT: There is an error in FORUM for the programme in April and May. The correct events are:- April 17th Easy Country Dancing. May 1st Flower Arranging. Apologies. *Jim Buchanan.*

CHOIR CONCERT MARCH 23RD: The final total raised at the splendid concert was £1096 to be split between Primrose Hospice and the Church. Thanks to all who participated and those who supported the event. *Jim Buchanan.*

BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: This will take place on Sunday 14th 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.*

SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING NEWS: The next Fundraising event will be on Saturday 13th 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 24th March from Jim Buchanan or in the Welcome Coffee Shop Monday to Thursday. *Jim Buchanan.*

THOUGHTS FOR EASTER DAY:

Inspired by “Celtic Prayers” by David Adam – adapted

Celtic prayers were used in Saxon times, and introduced by early saints such as St. Cuthbert and St. Aidan, who brought the gospel to ancient Britain.

Christ risen in glory, scatter the darkness from our path
Lift the heaviness from our hearts, dispel the troubles from our minds.
Christ risen in glory, take the weariness from your world,
And we will serve you with joy in our hearts, with faith, hope and love.

In the light of our Lord’s having risen we have the hope of new life, too, both in the here and now, a life of purpose, fulfilment and service – and at the end of our earthly journey life everlasting. So we can say the following prayer with confidence in the Celtic tradition –

I arise to life today, I arise to light and love, through the love of God above
I arise to life today in the power of the Creator adored.
I arise to life today through Christ, our risen Lord
I arise to life today with energy for each hour, in the Holy Spirit’s power.

We celebrate our holy day (Sunday) as the “last day of the week”, our seventh day when we rest in God, as per the commandment. Sunday is also special to us because it is the “third day” mentioned in the gospel account of the Resurrection, Jesus having been crucified on the eve (Friday) of the Jewish Sabbath, which is Saturday, their last day of the week. Hence, because of the Resurrection having been discovered on Sunday, the Christian tradition also celebrates every Sunday as a remembrance that we worship a “risen Lord”. And we sing “This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, ... this is the day he rose again, he rose again”.

To conclude here is a further Celtic prayer –
Risen Christ, come.

Raise the fallen, strengthen the weak, support the weary.
Give peace to the troubled, comfort to the anxious.
Uplift all who are down, give wholeness and healing.
Risen Christ, be with us now and forever.

A blessed Easter, *John.*

Suggested Readings Week beginning 31st March. Easter Week. (Lord of Life)

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| Sun | 31*. | Mark 16:1-18. | StF 298 | Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24. | Worship. |
| Mon | 01. | Revelation 1:12-18. | StF 293 | Psalm 135. | Notice. |
| Tue | 02. | Luke 24:1-12. | StF 294 | Psalm 136. | Tell. |
| Wed | 03. | Matthew 28:16-20. | StF 299 | Psalm 114. | Live. |
| Thu | 04. | 1 Corinthians 15:20-28. | StF 303 | Psalm 117. | Pray. |
| Fri | 05. | Acts 3:11-16. | StF 304 | Psalm 66. | Care. |
| Sat | 06. | John 11:17-44. | StF 311 | Psalm 145. | Share. |

**Easter Day.*

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