

Newington Methodist Church

Church Lane, Newington, Sittingbourne, ME9 7JT

News and views for the week commencing 14th November 2021

*Let's hold on to the confession of
our hope without wavering,
because the one who made the
promises is reliable*

Hebrews 10:23



Notices

Sunday Worship with is Remembrance Sunday and we are joining with St. Mary's at **10:15a.m.**

Next Sunday Worship 21st November is LA.

- **Sunday 14th November circuit live stream worship 10:30** will be led by Deacon *by* Elizabeth Harfleet. Follow the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WS5kd1IW-UY>
- *The next Sunday circuit live stream, 21st November will be led by Bart Woodhouse.*

- **Looking back with thanks**

- Coffee morning -thanks to all for supporting this event with cakes, helping hands.
- Newington History Group – unfortunately not much to say as I could not attend, perhaps we will hear later where the tree of peace grows.

- **Dates for your Diary:**

- **Christmas season in Newington Church** (*this may be altered, watch this space!!!*)
 - 28th November, 1st Advent Sunday, Covenant service
 - 19th Dec. Sunday service in a Christmas spirit.
 - 24th Dec. Friday Christmas Eve – no service
 - 25th Dec. Saturday, Christmas Day – no service
 - 26th Dec. Sunday after Christmas – no service or joint with St. Mary's PC

Reflection on God's word: Isaiah 43:1-7, Luke 12:1-7

Do not be afraid - is a heavenly voice resounding throughout the entire biblical revelation. It is the language of God speaking to all who choose to listen. And we can find out that it is not an empty promise. The battle for man's soul is happening every day and we know very well that sometimes it can cost a lot, even life itself. **Do not be afraid.** God wants us to know that in all possible struggles, he has the power to save us, even if we die. Jesus said clearly that the only thing we should be afraid of is "*the one who has authority to throw our souls in hell*". This evil enemy really can obsess and possess our true self and keep it, use it and do with it as it likes. The only power which breaks this darkness is the power of the risen Christ. Jesus is destroying the power of darkness and death every day since his death on the cross. It is the unique and unrepeatable act of God's love.

Jesus also has an army. Those are the people who would rather die than lose their souls. To lose one's soul is a tragedy of our race. We sell real values for temporary power, pleasure or fame. It is a high flying game. Entire countries and nations fight and struggle to achieve something which has no real value. Today we remember all who sacrificed their lives in this continuous drama. With respect we remember all who gave their lives for a noble cause. All those who died in the hope that tomorrow we will remember them with respect and learn to understand what really matters. *O Jesus strengthen our hearts so we fight a good fight AMEN*

People and places for prayer

We also lift up in prayers people we know who need your comfort: Peter and Beryl, Eileen H. and her family, Judy S., Val T., Elena M. , John G., Ernie S.,

Pray for Jenny G. neighbour Rosemary L. and her family.

We remember those who died and their loved ones. Audrey G, Margaret S.

Please send news, prayer requests and any other contributions for inclusion in the weekly newsletter to robert.zachar@gmail.com Bank details for Offerings: Newington Methodist Church, HSBC Sittingbourne. Sort Code 40 – 42 – 04, Account 70614696. If you prefer to send a cheque contact our church treasurer Chris Ch.

Remembrance Sunday - Intercessions 14 November 2021

As we pray today I invite you to use a poppy, either by detaching it or holding it where it is. If you don't have a poppy with you, please picture one in your mind.

First we hold onto a petal. Father, the red of this petal like the red of the blood shed by so many in the wars and conflicts of the last century. We remember families involved directly, those in the armed forces and those civilians caught up in the fighting across the world. We remember injury, trauma, death, courage and fear – lives changed forever. We give thanks for those willing to pay the highest cost of all....

Lord in your Mercy – **Hear our prayer.**

Now we take hold of another red petal on our poppy. In doing so, we hold before God the violence and warfare of our times – the simmering violence in Africa, Afghanistan and other parts of the world. ... The open Hostilities in Israel and Palestine The threat of terrorism everywhere. We pray Father that you will give us politicians and military leaders equal to the huge tasks they face. Wise in Judgement and makers of peace.

Lord in your Mercy– **Hear our prayer.**

Now we touch the centre of the poppy, the place where the seeds are kept, ready for new life. Lord, take the seeds of peace which lie in the hearts of your people everywhere and cast them generously over every continent and nation. Let those seeds flourish especially today that your world may be a better place as decisions are reached at COP 26 for climate change. Beat our swords and weapons of destruction into ploughshares. Spears into pruning hooks. The use of technology to improve the plight of the poor and destitute.

Lord in your Mercy– **Hear our prayer.**

Now we hold the green leaf or green stem in our hand and remember the green and growing hope which comes from faith alone, faith in a God for whom everything is possible, even in the darkest hour. May hope guide our politics, our, nation, our thinking and our lives. May the outcomes of the COP 26 discussion give light to the world and real hope for the children of today and their grandchildren of the future.

Lord in your Mercy– **Hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, forgive our foolish ways,

In your mercy help us to listen before we fight.

In your mercy hold back the people of war.

In your mercy save the innocent and guide the stewards of your world. **AMEN.**