

Newington Methodist Church

Church Lane, Newington, Sittingbourne, ME9 7JT

News and views for the week commencing 21st November 2021

....You have thought me to say:
“It is well, it is well with my soul”

Mission Praise 757 by Horatio Gates Spafford



Notices

Sunday Worship will be led by LP Alan Thorn. Service starts 9:30 am

Next Sunday Worship 28th November will be led by R. Zachar.

Sunday 21st November circuit live stream worship 10:30 will be led by Julien Myles(change to plan) . Follow th link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vxUOX-Mgcrl>

The next Sunday circuit live stream, 28th November will be led by Rev Tony Graff.

- **Looking back with thanks**

- **We met on 12th November as an extra church council meeting** to discuss the circuit strategy report and to say where we see our church in present, two and five years' time. For more details read the minutes of the meeting in attachment.

- **Dates for your Diary:**

- Choose your favourite Carol for 19th December Sunday carol service. Send it to Robert by 12th December.
- **The Parish Council** is planning a Jubilee Picnic on Saturday 4th June to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and would like to invite all groups within the Parish to be part of the celebration. Please save the date, further details of the event will be published on the Council's [website](#) and in the Village Voice. We also need help organising the event and help on the day. If you or anyone in your group is interested in joining us please let me know.

Wendy Licence, Clerk to Newington Parish Council

- **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: 2 Samuel 23:1-7; John 18:33-37

Pilate is an important character in the Gospel. He is proof of the historicity of these records. Here he is having Jesus under arrest. This is not the last time that Jesus submitted himself to the judgment of a man. The illusion that we can kill or remove God from this world is for ever repeated. Jesus was betrayed, sold, denied, mocked, tortured, abandoned, accused and hated, killed, buried, he visited hell. What a drama and what kind of people are we? Why can we come to such an aversion to the truth, and everything that is meant for our good?

But God is not dead. We believe in the risen Christ. The power over all our judgments and actions. The power of forgiveness and restoration. This can truly make a new man of all who call on him to restore their lives.

Jesus said to Pilate: *"My kingdom is not from this world, I came into the world to testify to the truth"*. Not everyone is ready to accept the truth of the Gospel. Even knowing it is the truth, it takes a great deal to change the course of someone's life. We are busy securing our life as it is and we do not give much space to acknowledge that we have a soul to take care of as well. It is the mission of the church to offer a wakeup call. To be the alternative. We have to be people who see through and understand the importance of the kingdom, which is not from this world, yet it breaks through into this world already. In the Old Testament reading, 2 Samuel 23: 5 we hear King David's last words. He is saying: *"Is not my house right with God?"* That's what really matters! Is our house right with God?

People and places for prayer

We continue to hold each other in prayers. We pray for the mission of our church to reach those who look for God.

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.