

Worship... Service ... Witness ... in the name of Jesus

Beckminster Welcomes You

Check Out Our Website @ www.beckminsterchurch.co.uk

MINISTER: Rev. Dr. PAUL NZACAHAYO

Email: paulpetit7@hotmail.com

☎ (Office) 344910 or 07952206407

Administrator & Safeguarding Co-ordinator: SUE LORIMER

Email: info@beckminsterchurch.co.uk (Room Bookings)

☎ (Office) 344910 (Home) 761322

What's On This Week....

Monday 23 November
9.30am - 12.30pm Office Closed

Tuesday 24 November
9.30am - 12.30pm Office Closed

Wednesday 25 November
9.30am - 12.30pm Office Closed
9.00am Zoom Prayer Meeting (See Notices)

Thursday 26 November
9.30am - 3.30pm Office Closed

Friday 27 November
9.30am - 12.30pm Office Open

Saturday 28 November

Worship and Fellowship

22 November 2020

Sunday before Advent

Collect for the Day

To ponder and pray
Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



**Come and join us next
Sunday, 29 November 2020**

1st Sunday in Advent

10.30am Love Feast

led by Rev. Dr. Paul Nzacahayo

**6.00pm Circuit Advent Service
on Zoom**

(See notices for Zoom details)

**10.30am Morning Worship
led by Rev. Glennys Bamford**

Call to Worship

‘Know that the Lord is God. It is He that made us,
and we are His people, the sheep of His pasture’.

StF 317 At the name of Jesus (v 1 & 4)

1. At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of Glory now.
‘Tis the Father’s pleasure
we should call Him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.

4. In your hearts enthrone him;
there let him subdue
all that is not holy,
all that is not true;
crown him as your captain
in temptation’s hour:
let his will enfold you
in its light and power.

Caroline Maria Noel (1817-1877)

Springdale. Sunday service on Zoom at 10.30am. Zoom link available from Janet Fenney or Revd Teddy Siwila.

Stowlawn. The church is currently not open. Folk are invited to join in with other acts of worship around the Circuit.

Stratton Street. Sunday Service on Zoom at 11.00am with Revd Christopher Collins and Student Deacon Suzie Sale. For Zoom details please contact Rev. Chris Collins.

Upper Ettingshall. Sunday service on Zoom at 11.00am. Zoom link available on request from Revd Steve Jackson.

Wombourne. Sunday Service on Zoom at 10.30am. Zoom link available on request from Janet Fenney or Revd Teddy Siwila

**Beckminster Methodist
Church
Birches Barn Road,
Penn Fields,
Wolverhampton
WV3 7BQ
Tel. 01902 344910**

Brewood. Sunday Service on Zoom at 10.30am. Zoom link available on request from Helen Share.

Codsall. Sunday Service on Zoom at 10.30am. Zoom link available on request from Helen Share.

Coven. Sunday Service on Zoom at 10.30am. Zoom link available on request from Helen Share.

Cranmer. Sunday Service on Zoom at 11.00am. Zoom link available from Revd Sam Hagerman

East Park. Sunday Service on Zoom at 11.00am with Revd Christopher Collins and Student Deacon Suzie Sale. For Zoom details please contact Rev. Chris Collins.

Fallings Park. Sunday Service on Zoom at 11.00am. Zoom link available from Revd Sam Hagerman.

Fordhouses. Sunday Service on Zoom at 11.00am. Zoom link available from Revd Sam Hagerman.

Hurst Hill. Sunday Service on Zoom at 11.00am. Zoom link available on request from Revd Steve Jackson.

Lanesfield. Not open for worship. Folk are invited to join other acts of worship around the Circuit.

Rakegate. Not open for worship. Folk are invited to join other acts of worship around the Circuit.

St. Andrew's. 10.30am there is a simple weekly YouTube service that is recorded and lasts about 30 minutes. The YouTube channel is "ST ANDREWS CHURCH SEDGLEY" and is accessible during the week.

St. John's. Sunday service on Zoom at 11.00am. Zoom link available on request from Revd Steve Jackson.

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

Leader: 'In your grace and mercy'

Response: 'Pardon and restore us.'

Readings

Ezekiel 34: v 11 and 15 - 22 read by Pete Prescott

Matthew 25: 31 - 46 read by Chris Reed

Sermon 'Inasmuch'

We look out on our world with fear and despair at the state of government, the pantomime of the US election, and the disfunction in Downing street, the removal of human rights in Hong Kong; the conflicts in Ethiopia. Armenia and Azerbaijan, the instability in the middle East, Syria, Israel-Palestine and parts of Africa. We long for good leadership.

The lesson from Ezekiel is all about that, the failure of the leaders of Judah, in the time of the exile, and the return. According to the prophet they have failed as the shepherds of God's people, His sheep. So God promises to be a faithful shepherd and care for His people and their needs, and bring back David, the shepherd, the Messiah to care for the sheep and judge the sheep who behave selfishly. It is a passage of judgment and hope.

Matthew ch 25 is a chapter about Judgment, illustrated in parables, the parable of the 10 girls, the parable of the talents, and the parable of the sheep and the goats, which is ours for today. This parable cuts to the centre of our lives as disciples. Its words are direct and clear.

Firstly, we are not judged on our beliefs or religious practice, but on our actions to our fellow human beings, feeding the hungry and thirsty, caring for the homeless and the stranger, the needy and the sick, the outcast and prisoners. Nor do we distinguish between those deserving of it, for in each is the presence of Christ, and all are made in the Image of God. The judgment is stark. When we do it, we are commended, when we fail condemned. There is not a tally, nor is there comparison. There is not a number which means we have succeeded. It never ends. The smallest act of kindness means we have served God. Those times when we've failed to respond, because we are tired, or too busy, or hungry, or preoccupied, are God's judgment on us.

The question is raised, 'Does this mean that people are separated, and a few go to heaven and the rest of us go to hell? I hope not. These are parables to illustrate the Gospel. I believe the truth is we are all sheep and goats. We do and we fail to do. But it is all a response to the Grace of God. The parable is not about the end of time, but about now. How we respond to the Gospel, which is of God's love for us in Jesus, His living and dying and rising, His forgiving and healing, to which love we respond as His children, seeking to live out that Gospel in our caring, and so seeking His Kingdom, where all need is satisfied. So, there is hope for our world, and for its people, and for us.

"SOUL SPACE" is a new Sunday evening gathering for quiet and reflective worship lasting about forty minutes. We will share simple prayers, readings, poetry, quietness and reflective music. We meet on Zoom at 6.30pm. For Zoom details please contact Rev. Chris Collins.

Opportunities for worship and prayer around the Circuit
If you need help accessing information for on-line worship, please contact Revd Christopher Collins:

Midweek opportunities

Circuit Morning Prayer

Available on the Circuit Facebook page at 10.00am each morning Monday - Saturday.

Brewood. Evening prayer on a Tuesday and Friday at 7.45pm, online or by phone. Details from Helen Share.

Codsall. Evening prayer on a Tuesday and Friday at 7.45pm, online or by phone. Details from Helen Share.

Coven. Evening prayer on a Tuesday and Friday at 7.45pm, online or by phone. Details from Helen Share.

Cranmer. Cranmer is open for private prayer on Tuesdays from 10am - 12noon.

Worship on Sunday 22 November 2020

Beckminster. Sunday Service on Zoom at 10.30am. Zoom link available on request from Sue Lorimer or Revd Paul Nzacahayo.

Bilston. A service is available via audio conferencing at 11.00am. Details available from Revd William Davis.

Bradley. Not open for worship. Folk are invited to join other acts of worship around the Circuit.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Response: Your Kingdom come, Your will be done

Lord's Prayer

The Blessing

ANNOUNCEMENT - Rev. Chris Collins. I am pleased to announce that (subject to the Conference which meets in July 2021) I have accepted the invitation of the South Worcestershire Circuit to take up the role of Superintendent Minister from 1 September 2021. The Circuit covers the area including Malvern, Worcester, Droitwich and Evesham. Alongside being Superintendent, I will have pastoral charge for churches in Evesham, Broadway and Willersey. We expect to move during August 2021.

Inevitably, this news is tinged with the sadness of saying goodbye to the Wolverhampton Circuit. Until then, there is still much work to do in Wolverhampton as we journey on bearing witness to Christ in our city and communities. I would like to encourage you continue to pray for us and for the Circuit.

ZOOM PRAYER MEETINGS are still taking place on a Wednesday morning at 9.00am and all are welcome to join. For further details please contact Sue.

CHURCH OFFICE. Please check the calendar on the front of the service sheet each week to see when the Church Office is open. The days when I am not in I will be working from home so please contact me on my home number on those days. Sue

Exploring the Climate Crisis in the Prophets is an ongoing course. Please contact Revd. Chris for details.

INK CARTRIDGES. Rev. Peggy has a set of HP 951/950XL colour ink cartridges to give away. Please contact Peggy if you can use them or know of anyone who can.

ADVENT CIRCUIT SERVICE. Begin the journey of Advent together as a Circuit by joining our Circuit Advent service next Sunday, 29 November 2020 at 6.00pm. For zoom details please contact Sue.

StF 256 When I needed a neighbour (*All Verses*)

When I needed a neighbour, were you there,
were you there?

When I needed a neighbour were you there?

***And the creed and the colour and the name
won't matter, were you there?***

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there,
were you there?

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?

***And the creed and the colour and the name
won't matter, were you there?***

I was cold, I was naked, were you there,
were you there?

I was cold, I was naked, were you there?

***And the creed and the colour and the name
won't matter, were you there?***

When I needed a shelter, were you there,
were you there?

When I needed a shelter, were you there?

***And the creed and the colour and the name
won't matter, were you there?***

When I needed a healer, were you there,
were you there?

When I needed a healer, were you there?

***And the creed and the colour and the name
won't matter, were you there?***

Wherever you travel, I'll be there, I'll be there,
Wherever you travel I'll be there.

***And the creed and the colour and the name
won't matter, I'll be there.***

Sydney Carter (1915-2004)