



Ainsdale Methodist Church

Weekly Notices

Sunday Worship

Minister: Rev Patrick Evans

Tel: 07813 211501

Email: patrick.evans@methodist.org.uk

4th December 2022

10.45am Service led by Rev Patrick Evans - Communion

6pm - Carols Around The Tree

11th December - 10.45am Service led by Tabz - Parade

6.30pm - Circuit Service at Liverpool Road Church

Mission Statement

To share locally and globally in the whole Church's purpose of the worship of God and the care of people.

Lectionary Readings 4th December 2022

Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm 72.1-7,18-19; Romans 15.4-13; Matthew 3.1-12

Prayer

God of all holiness, your promises stand unshaken through all generations and you lift up all who are burdened and brought low: renew our hope in you, as we wait for the coming in glory of Jesus Christ, our Judge and our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.



Flowers

Our flowers this week have been kindly donated by Richard Atkins in memory of Evelyn.



Mid-week Prayers

Wednesdays at 10am. All welcome.



Church Notices

If you have any items you want including in the notices for the next week, please let Lucy Lloyd know by Tuesday on 01704 536648 or lucy@southportmethodist.org.uk.

Envelopes

The Offertory Envelopes for 2023 are now available for collection from the church porch.



Thank you

On behalf of the late Margaret Proctor to Rev Patrick Evans and to all our Church family and friends, Hilary, Gordon, Jean, Malcolm and Margaret's families would like to thank you all for your prayers and the love we all felt from you all.

God bless.

Hilary & Gordon



Sale of Cards

Many of you will remember David Halstead who was minister here in the 1980s. He has produced a range of greetings cards, some with photographs and some with prints of his own paintings, to sell in aid of the Methodist relief and development charity All We Can. These are available now in the left transept in church.

Ainsdale Lunch & Leisure

Mondays

10am-11am - Fit 4 Life Class
12 noon - Lunch

Tuesdays

10am-11am - Ukulele Class
12 noon - Lunch
1pm-3pm - Music for All
2pm-3.30pm - Tai Chi

Wednesdays

12 noon - Lunch
1pm-3pm - Games Afternoon (Indoor
Bowling, Table Tennis)

Thursdays

9.45am-10.45am - Gentle Gym Class 1
10.50am -11.50am - Gentle Gym
Class 2
10am-12 noon - Art Class
12 noon - Lunch

Fridays

10am-12noon - Needlecraft Class
11am-12pm - Forever Fit Class
12 noon - Lunch
12.45pm-1.45pm - Singing for All

Chapel Café is open Monday,
Wednesday & Friday - 10am-2pm

For any lunch bookings please call the
ALL Office.
01704 574838

Preaching Plan Changes

Please note the service on 15th
January will be the annual Covenant
Service (with communion) and will
be held in the chapel. The service
on the 1st January will not be a
communion service and will be held
in the lounge.

Octave

presents

A Christmas Celebration

With music and carols to bring some
Yuletide cheer!

At **Ainsdale Methodist Church**
Liverpool Road PR8 3NQ

Saturday 10th December 2022 at 7:30pm
Tickets £6.50 incl refreshments

Available from

Sue Hughes Tel:01704 576 482 Mob:07798 707 231

and

Ainsdale Lunch and Leisure



Web www.octavechoir.co.uk

Octave Choir



Dear Friends

“Less than half of population is Christian” read a headline following the 2021 Census data release. The trajectory of decline from 2011 to 2021 matches that of the previous decade, with a similar increase in those professing no religion.

Surprised nor downhearted with this news? No. Church attendance has always been a minority of the population, whilst the professing of Christianity has often been bound up with national identity. The changes are all part of the ebb and flow of life. Are people any less spiritual than they have been in prior years? No, although less religious, understandably given the negative connotations associated with organised religion.

So what are we to do to do? Simply follow the way of Jesus. One person who did this was John the Baptist. His quirky character and unconventional life style are described to us.

John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. (Matthew Ch 5 vs 4)

We are given the picture of a person who did not conform to the norms of society in the way he lived, although the message he brought to the masses of that place and time were refreshing to them, whilst to the religious authorities he was seen as a threat to their power. John had a mission.

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’” (Matthew Ch 5 vs 3)

Our nation may also feel like a wilderness. Recently I was with the Schools Worker Trust at an assembly during Anti-Bullying Week. What they delivered was simple, profound and awesome, and I know that because of the children's reaction. There was no mention of church attendance, rather a straight path was made for the good news of the gospel to be heard.

Let's keep it simple, doing what we can, where we can, when we can. Let God worry about church attendance (and I imagine he's not at all worried).

God bless you in your witness

Patrick

