

# 5th Movember 2023

9am Circuit Communion Service at PPW
10.45am Memorial Service including Communion led by Rev Ann
Hall

12th November - 10.45am CTiA Service on the Green - 6.30pm Circuit NPNP Service at Liverpool Road

#### **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 5th November 2023

Micah 3.5-12; Psalm 43; 1 Thessalonians 2.9-13; Matthew 23.1-12

## Prayer

All-embracing God, your care for us surpasses even a mother's tender love. Through your word and sacrament renew our trust in your providence, that we may abandon all anxiety and seek first your kingdom. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# Foundation Safeguarding Fraining

Location: Formby Methodist Church

Date: Tuesday 28th November

Time: 9.30am

To book into the Foundation training please book in with Jack Watson, CSO with your name, role, church email and phone number, at the email or phone number below.

Safeguarding@southportmethodist.org.uk or 07444 101 130

## Ecumenical Prayer Meeting

7.30am Tuesdays in November at Lakeside Church.

## Mid-week Prayers

Wednesdays at 10am. All welcome.

### Church Motices

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



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Ainsdale Lunch and Leisure

# WELCOME TO OUR WARM WINTER PICTURE HOUSE!

Free Film Fridays with hot drinks and snacks

# 10 November Victoria & Abdul



St John's C of E Church, Liverpool Road, Ainsdale Film Show 2pm Doors Open 1.45pm

### Christmas Fair

Saturday 25th November 11am-2pm at Leyland Road Church Hall Cakes, Chocolates, Plants, Toys, Gifts, Books, Christmas Stall etc Bacon/Sausage Barms, Soup & Refreshments Available

#### **Dear Friends**

I happened to be listening to part of the Coronavirus Public
Inquiry this week when Dr Halpern was giving evidence. He led
the Behavioural Insights Team to consider if we, the general
public, would adhere to the government rules regarding Covid regulations.
One of his comments was that we are much more likely to take our lead
from what those around us (friends, family, neighbours, colleagues etc) are
doing rather than relying on written instructions. He reflected that the vast
majority of people complied and positively we followed each others lead.
Ironically, former Deputy Cabinet Secretary Helen MacNamara had given
evidence just before Dr Halpern and stated there wasn't a day in number 10
when the rules had been followed! We have heard the accusation that
those at the centre of government felt above the law, that in some way they
were special.

The set reading for this Sunday is Matthew Ch 23 vs 1-13, and in the NIV it's headed "A Warning Against Hypocrisy". Jesus teaches the crowds and his disciples saying

The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach.

I think in his time and place Jesus was head of the Behavioural Insights Team! He understood that people looked far more at what those around them did rather than what they said. Ideally the two should correlate, although we know that far too often they do not. That unfortunately is the case for those around us and for ourselves. Former Local Preacher Ken Hooton told the story of someone who didn't go to church because it was full of hypocrites. Ken's response was that it was because he was a hypocrite that he went to Church; for forgiveness and to learn once again to be humble.

This weeks passage ends with Jesus saying

For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

God bless

**Patrick** 

