

# 14th Tuly 2024

10.45am Joint AAW Service with AVC led by Nigel Mawdsley6.30pm Circuit Service at Liverpool Road Church

**21st July -** 11am Circuit Service at PPW (Marie-Anne's leaving Service)
No Service here

#### **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 14th July 2024

2 Samuel 6:1-5,12b-19; Psalm 24; Ephesians 1.3-14; Mark 6.14-29

#### Prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and peace, you call your children to live together as one family. Give us grace to learn your ways and to do your will, that we may bring justice and peace to all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### Bible Study

The next session will be in the Lounge on Monday, 15 July, 7-8.30pm, when we will be looking at Acts chapter 8.

Everyone is welcome.



#### Howers

Our flowers this week have been kindly donated by Anne Evans in memory of her husband Bill's Birthday.

#### 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.



#### Dear Friends

Given the cool and rainy weather it is hard to believe we are in the peak holiday season, although in the next week or so the schools will break up. Holidays can take different forms, it may be heading off to a holiday cottage, a hotel or a youth hostel. You may be travelling to stay with friends or you may be offering hospitality to others in your home. Alternatively you may be having a staycation.

As I write this I've just returned from visiting the hospital. You will notice the similarity in many of the words above; hotel, holiday, hospital, hostel, and there are more such as hospice. Hospitality, hospital and associated words have the same root. It is about a place and time for healing, wellbeing and wholeness. We remember also that the word holiday comes from Holy Day.

So all of these words are important for our wellbeing in body, mind and spirit. The gift of hospitality is an important one. You will readily be able to bring to mind exceptional hospitality, and likewise poor service that doesn't tally with the word hospitality.

In the bible we have many examples of hospitality. Immediately we may think of the innkeeper in the nativity story. Another story that has an innkeeper is the Good Samaritan.

The next day he [the Samaritan] took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' (Luke Ch 10 vs 35)

The innkeeper could have refused to receive the man; well if the priest and Levite steered clear of him, would you want the reputation of your establishment tainted by offering him hospitality? He may have to pay out expenses and only have the word of the Samaritan that he would return to reimburse him...that's pretty risky. The innkeeper is critical in bringing healing and wholeness to the man. When we give and receive hospitality, we are in God given healing sphere. May our holidays be Holy days.

God bless

**Patrick**