



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

Where all are welcome – all the time

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Sunday 16th February 2020

Welcome to worship with us – whether this is the first time you have entered our church, or if you are a long-standing member of our congregation. We seek to offer friendship and opportunities for learning more of God's will in this place and in this generation.

Refreshments are usually served in the hall after Sunday services – do stay for a chat over a cuppa and a biscuit.

Sun 16th Feb

10.45 MORNING WORSHIP

Valu Bullen

Bible readings: Deuteronomy 30: 15-20 (page 178)

1 Corinthians 3: 1-9 (page 158)

Mathew 5: 21-37 (page 4)

19.00 IONA SERVICE

at St Luke's

Prayer topic: for our ecumenical partnership

Wed 19th Feb

10.00 "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 Strength and balance exercise class

Thu 20th Feb

10.00-12.00 "First Friends" baby and toddler group

Sun 23rd Feb

10.45 MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Rev Alison Walker

18.30 UNITED EVENING WORSHIP

Rev Colin Smith

The **Methodist** Church



We are a
FAIRTRADE
church

Welcome to Castle Street Methodist Church!

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please make yourself known to one of the stewards and pick up a welcome leaflet. All people of this church are part of the ministry, led by the Revd Alison Walker who may be contacted electronically via the church website or by telephone on (01223) 872 862.

Our church magazine **Castle View** contains more details of events taking place each month – please pick up a copy of the latest issue.

There is a **Prayer Request** book at the back of the church, which is used during services and at prayer meetings – but remember it is on display for anyone in the church to read, so please respect the privacy of those concerned and avoid including names and other personal details unless specifically requested.

“God in Love Unites Us”: Marriage and Relationships Report – feedback wanted

The February *Castle View* has a short article about the Marriage and Relationships report which was presented to the Methodist Conference in July last year and was the subject of the study evening at Castle Street a couple of Wednesdays ago. Feedback on the report is sought by the District Synod, and will be collated at church level. Printed copies of the feedback form are available from the stewards, and should be returned to Chris Rayson by this coming Wednesday (19th February) or as soon after as possible. The form is also available electronically: please ask Chris (e-mail: cjr43 at cantab dot net) if you'd like a copy, and then either return it to him by Wednesday to be incorporated in the collective feedback from Castle Street Church, or, if preferred, directly to the Assistant Synod Secretary, Marilyn Watsham (e-mail: m dot watsham at btinternet dot com) by Friday 28th February (which is also the deadline for Castle Street's collective submission).

We may still have some printed copies of the report available (ask a steward), but the report and other related resources are also available online – visit <https://tinyurl.com/GodInLoveUnitesUs>. There is also a study booklet, produced by the Cumbria District, handed out to those at the study evening.

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### **Saturday evening Travel Talk with Supper at St Luke's – 29th February**

The next Travel Talk with Supper at St Luke's, on Saturday 29th February at 7pm, will see Paul and Sylvia Custerson will take us on a tour of Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands. Tickets cost £12, including a hot two-course meal and soft drinks (you may take your own alcoholic drinks), and are now available, from Brian Carter (at Castle Street) or Margaret Cooper (at St Luke's).

## **Sleep-out in aid of Homelessness Charities at St Giles' Church – this weekend**

Over the last couple of years the Cambridge Convoy Refugee Action Group (CamCRAG) has hosted an annual sleep-out to raise awareness and funds for refugees and homeless people both here in Cambridge and in Calais. The Cambridge Churches Homelessness Project has received significant donations from these events, and CamCRAG has been a wonderful supporter of CCHP.

This year's is the third of these sleep-outs, and it took place last night – with volunteers being sponsored to sleep rough for the night, either inside the church, outside in a tent, or outside under a tarpaulin. Of course, given the weather yesterday and overnight, those sleeping (or attempting to sleep) outside certainly deserve to be sponsored... and information about how to make a donation can be found on the Eventbrite page at <https://qrqo.page.link/AhQob>.

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"Making Sense of Sabbath Rest" at St John's, Waterbeach

Two more evenings as part of the "Making Sense" series in the Church Room at St John's, Waterbeach, presented by Paul and Sue Butler, on Sundays 16th February (tonight) and 1st March, starting at 7pm.

Sabbath Rest was fundamental to Jewish life and identity and we have much to learn from this culture of rest. The key text will be Jesus' invitation in Matthew 11: 28-30: "Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." A number of Old Testament texts will also be considered, to provide the context for Jesus' words. There will be generous opportunities for questions and conversations – plus the usual refreshments!

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## **Concert for Peace and Reconciliation – Friday 6th March at St Giles', at 1pm**

This lunchtime concert is to celebrate the twenty-first anniversary of the foundation of The Little Sisters of Joy (see [www.littlesistersofjoy.com](http://www.littlesistersofjoy.com)), started in 1999 as a religious community of prayer, peace and reconciliation, but, since 2004, a foundation which has been building bridges between Jews and Christians, Jews and Arabs, Muslims and Christians, and Roman Catholics, the Orthodox and Protestants.

In this concert, one of its co-founders, Gila Margolin, will sing with her guitar. The programme will include a variety of Jewish music, songs of the 1960s, and *World of Peace and Love* by local musician Cate Williams.

## **World Day of Prayer – Friday 6th March**

Preliminary notice that a service to mark this day will take at St George's Church at 2.15pm. Watch out for further information.

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“Breathing Space”

The next of these monthly Church at Castle prayer meetings will be at 5.30pm on Wednesday 4th March, at St Luke's Church.

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## **Mass Protest – a daily Eucharist in support of climate justice this week**

Extinction Rebellion has planned a week-long demonstration in Cambridge, starting today. In support of Christian Climate Action and Extinction Rebellion, a group of ordinands at Westcott House has organised a daily Eucharist at 1pm every day from Monday to Friday this week (17th to 21st February) at the protest site, which is the mini roundabout at the junction of Trumpington Road and Fen Causeway (beside The Leys School). The Eucharists will be simple and quite short, but will be, it is hoped, a visible sign of the church's engagement with the climate crisis. There will be someone different presiding each day, and the line-up includes Rowan Williams and a Baptist Minister.

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Lent study groups

Lent starts in just a few weeks' time, and the February *Castle View* gives details of a five-session study course based on the story of *Les Misérables*. It will take place fortnightly on Wednesday evenings, starting on 4th March and continuing after Easter. There are also details of a circuit Lent house group on Thursday mornings at 35 Millington Road, starting on 27th February, while there will also be a Tuesday morning study based on *The Greatest Showman*, at Haslingfield during March (more details to follow – or ask Alison).

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## **Morning rotas**

Once again, Chris is putting together the rotas for various Sunday mornings jobs – the Welcome Team, readers, and people to organise and serve tea and coffee after the service – for March, April and May. If you would like to help, please contact Chris (e-mail: cjr43 at cantab dot net), fill in the sign-up sheet, or sign up via the Doodle poll (the link has been e-mailed to previous helpers).