

Trinity Methodist Church

Rev. J. Howard-Norman ☎ 07809686867



“But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus”.

2 Timothy Ch.3 v 14 & 15

SUNDAY 19th OCTOBER 2025

10.00 am **Rev. J. Howard-Norman – Sacrament**

Readings:-

Jeremiah Ch. 31 v 27-34

2 Timothy Ch. 3 v 14 – Ch.4 v 5

Luke Ch. 18 v 1-8

Prayer Diary:- Door Stewards, Keep Fit, Badminton, House Group and Group A.

SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY 26th October 2025

10am – Mr. D. Elliott

Daily Prayer at 9:00am every day (except Sunday): This is now on Microsoft Teams. Just download Teams and you can go straight on to it or use this link

<https://teams.live.com/join/9414857191536>

EcoShop

The EcoShop is **open on Tuesdays from 10am to 1pm** and we would love you to come along to try us out. You will be able to buy 10 items for £4. Please bring your own bag if you can.

There are 2 bins in the cafe area for donations (nothing perishable please) to be sold in the shop.

We look forward to seeing you at the Eco Shop – please support us.

Thanks to everyone for their support of the EcoShop. This week we would ask for donations of corned beef? If it helps it's about £2 a tin at Farmfoods and Aldi - £3.50 most other places.

We use at least 12 cans each week!

Packs of 36 weetabix or supermarket's own brand would be welcome too.

We need (empty) 6 pack egg boxes too, please. Cash donations would also be very welcome.

Donations of **bird seed** for the garden would be greatly appreciated

PASTORAL MEETING

This will be held on 12th November at 10.30am

TRINITY RAMBLERS AUTUMN FAIR

This will be held on Saturday 1st November from 2–4pm. Tickets now available from Jean or members of the Rambling Group. Tickets £2 each for drink and mince pie.

TRINITY LADIES CIRCLE

invite you to a return visit of the Stromboli Ukelele Band. They will play a variety of well-known songs including some Christmas tunes. Please come along to Trinity Methodist Church on 17th November at 2pm. Enjoy a warm drink and light refreshments.

There will be a free-will collection for Zoe's Place.

Welcome: Welcome to today's worship at home, we begin with a call to worship: *We come to hear God's inspired Word, We come with open hearts to hear its teaching, We come with humble hearts to hear its instruction, We come with minds willing to hear its challenge. We Come.*

Lord's Prayer

StF 103: God is love, let heaven adore him

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SqqBu1VVHqM&list=RDSqqBu1VVHqM&start_radio=1)

Message: The gospel reading appointed for today is **Luke 18:1-8**. The traditional interpretation of this parable is that we should be seen in the role of the widow and pray with the persistence that she showed when she continually petitioned the judge for justice. God should be seen in the role of the Judge, but more merciful – more quick to act – than the one in the story. 'So what's your problem John?' I hear you ask. A reading that assures us that God will grant the justice we seek is surely comforting. Well, my problem is..it just doesn't seem to work that way! How many prayers were said during that long day of 9/11 and yet the buildings still fell in ashes? How many prayers were said the night Grenfell tower burnt? How many prayers have been said in Gaza and Israel over the last, long two years? And there is a question of morality in this too. In a moving book called "Between living and dying" written by Ruth Scott during the period of intensive cancer treatment she was given – cancer treatment that ultimately proved ineffective - she writes: "I was grateful for all the people, known and unknown to me, that I knew were praying for me, and I was uplifted by the positive energy that I think prayer creates. But I cannot accept an image of a God who heals me because people pray for that, while leaving millions of others to suffer." But there is something else we can take from this reading. "In that city" – said Jesus – "there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice'" Once again Jesus turns the normal upside down. The idea that a widow would continually pester a judge in this way was ridiculous. Widows were powerless, voiceless people in Jewish society. Judges, on the other hand were powerful, often corrupt or insensitive. The idea that a powerless widow would continually pester a powerful judge in this way was preposterous. The idea that the judge would pay her any attention at all was even more preposterous! But the widow's stubborn persistence won and justice was granted.

- This parable invites us to ask who are the powerless and the powerful in our society? ... and who do (or should) we stand alongside or stand against?
- This parable encourages the powerless to persist in their fight for justice.
- This parable invites us to ask ourselves a question. What injustices are we passionate enough about to struggle against and to persist in struggling against even if our voices are ignored?

This parable invites us to ask ourselves what we, as followers of Christ, are called to get angry about?.....*For Love inspires the anger that curses poverty, preaches life's enrichment, seeks equality.*

We'll sing those words now.

StF 253: Love inspired the anger

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qlfzn-6jDnY&list=RDQlfzn-6jDnY&start_radio=1)

Prayer of Intercession: Lord God, just as the widow persisted, we persist in our prayers of intercession. *Hear our cries for justice, mercy and peace.*

We pray for all involved in our justice system, for police officers, judges, lawyers and all who uphold the law.

We pray for all who work in our prisons and for all those serving prison sentences and for the victims struggling with the consequence of crime. *Hear our cries for justice, mercy and peace.*

We pray for the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and all places scarred by war and conflict. We pray for aid workers everywhere and for safe passage for lorries and workers to reach those in need. *Hear our cries for justice, mercy and peace.*

We pray for the Middle East, that the tenuous peace talks will continue to progress, bringing a brighter, fairer and prosperous future for all the people who live in and around the place of Christ's birth *Hear our cries for justice, mercy and peace.*

We pray for all who preach your word, Lord. For all Christian leaders in our churches. You call us to pray, to work and not give up. We pray for stubborn persistence *Hear our cries for justice, mercy and peace. Amen.*

StF 713: Show me how to stand for justice

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8CIU66oFMQ&list=RDl8CIU66oFMQ&start_radio=1)

Blessing: May the peace of God enfold us, the love of God uphold us and the wisdom of God direct us. Amen

Community Games Cafe



Café Space, Middlesbrough
Methodist Hub,
Borough Road

Wednesday
22nd October
6:30-8:30pm

(but come and go - come for as long or as short a time as you like.)

Join us for a wide variety of
board games and card games
Come and play an old classic or learn something new.

FREE!!!!

Games and refreshments provided

Bring a friend or come on your own
Everyone welcome - all ages
(under 18s must be accompanied by an adult)

The **Methodist** Church 