



# Irthlingborough Methodist Church

A warm welcome is extended to all

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## **Special notices:**

Good Morning and I hope you are all staying well. Welcome to our Easter edition. It will be odd not being together over the next few days, but Rev'd Lesley, Rev'd Kim and the team are working hard to produce resources for us to use at home.

## **Staying in touch:**

Our FaceBook page continues to reach out to those in our community. A huge thank you to everyone involved in keeping this so active at a time of great need.

The church phone is available to leave a message if you need to have a chat and one of our pastoral leaders will get back to you (don't forget to leave a number!). The phone is set up for remote access to the messages. The number is at the top of this newsletter.

I shall be back in the 'office' on Tuesday so please do submit any news, photos etc for inclusion. Part of the Easter Sunday worship materials is a colouring activity – you could send me a picture of your finished creation!

## **Worship and Prayer:**

The service that the circuit prepared for us to use today was circulated last week, but is also available on the church website. We now have resources for Good Friday and Easter Sunday. These will also be available on the website and will be circulated with this newsletter.

We continue to use the prayers for Irthlingborough that Kim prepared for us on Wednesday afternoons.

I must admit to being a bit flummoxed as to what to put in this newsletter today. We are at Maundy Thursday with Good Friday and Easter Saturday to get through before we reach the glory of Easter Day itself. With life feeling very uncertain, plans cancelled and postponed for this special weekend, it is hard to feel like celebrating. However, the one thing we can be sure of is that Christ died on the cross and rose again in glory so that we might have life in all its fullness. It may be a quieter life than we are used to, but it is a time of reflection and, for me anyway, greater study of the bible and thinking about where I am on my faith journey.

All that is to be celebrated. So, I shall be colouring in my picture of the cross and putting it up in the window for others to see. I shall be eating the Easter egg that is sitting in the cupboard awaiting my attention. And as I do so, I shall be thinking of all my family and friends and wishing them joy and peace this Easter.

I have been singing again – pity the neighbours - and have come across more things from Singing the Faith that I am not overly familiar with. Number 296 has some beautiful words, the first verse reads:

Christ has risen while earth slumbers,  
Christ has risen where hope died,  
As he said and as he promised,  
As we doubted and denied.  
Let the moon embrace the blessing;  
Let the sun sustain the cheer;  
Let the world confirm the rumour.  
Christ is risen, God is here!

While our normal lives slumber, be in no doubt: Christ is risen and God is here!

### **News from our Church Family:**

Kathleen has been on one of her daily walks and has called in to check on the church building. All is well.

### **And Finally:**

Psalm 86: 12-13

I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart;  
I will glorify your name for ever.  
For great is your love towards me;  
You have delivered me from the depths of the grave.

Christ is Risen, He is Risen indeed. Allelulia.