

Dear friends,



The **Methodist Church**

'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.'

Readings: Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32
Hymns: These are the days of Elijah
Go labour on, spend and be spent (HP 794)

Worship@home | *In church!* Thurs 24th & Sun 27th Sept.
26th in Ordinary Season

BEST OF ALL IS GOD with US



We have 2 phone lines

Sunday service
01388 436815

and a daily reflection on
01388 436810

these complement what is on our [website](#)

+ [Rev John](#) on Facebook.

⊕ Worship will be **'hybrid'** in nature going forward, that is, some will be in the building, others on computer, some will listen on a phone line or to local radio at 11am on 105.9 BishopFM – see link – but we are all one in love and prayer. Our calling is to worship God, even with restrictions.

Worship at home – by phone, radio, [website](#), YouTube or Zoom services – is still the safest option.

If you are thinking of attending worship in one of our buildings, please read the [latest advice](#), and do not attend if showing any symptoms.

In Bishop Auckland it is intended to have a regular **Thursday morning** worship to be recorded and broadcast on radio and via website.

Zoom worship will also take place every week, hosted by different congregations and featuring different preachers. **This is open to everyone.**

Church or chapel	Date and time – in Sept./Oct.
Bishop Auckland	11am Sunday 11 th Oct. & Sunday 18 th Oct.
Bishop Auckland	9.30am – every Thursday
Auckland Park	10.30am Sun 4 th Oct. Harvest/HC & 25 th Oct.
South Church	3pm Sunday 27 th Harvest/HC & 18 th Oct.
The Valley	6pm Oct. 11 th Harvest with HC
Witton Park	6pm Sunday 27 th Harvest/HC & 4 th + 25 th Oct.
Zoom worship	6pm - every Sunday Contact here for link



Please do not attend other chapels without notifying a steward to check

Harvest will be very different this year – we urge you to support

- 1) [Woodhouse Close foodbank](#) (see [news items](#) 📺 🚲 ▶)
- 2) All We Can – ['change begins with a bicycle' campaign](#)

To know who is attending, and if there is space, and also to have details if 'track and trace' is ever needed – **booking is essential** – [see here](#), or phone the manse or a church steward for assistance.

Please share this page with one another and if possible, use the church [website](#) to keep up to date.

God bless you all, and if you need anything, or just need to chat, get in touch – pastoral visits are possible by request.

Vanessa and John

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Email: john.purdy@methodist.org.uk

Website: www.bishopmethodist.org.uk

Bishop Auckland & Shildon Circuit

- Charity number 1162844



News items:

Woodhouse Close

📺 [Food bank](#)

needs your support, could you donate this harvest?

[All We Can](#)

find out more and [donate](#)



The government has restricted social gatherings, but churches are still **open.**

Methodist Way of Life

See [video](#)

and let us know if you wish to form a small group

Meaningful Ageing

See [video](#)

course to be run for 8 weeks *proposed on Zoom* from Tue 6th Oct, 7-9pm *speak with Vanessa to book*

Latest Covid-19 guidance

As of **18 September 2020** it is strongly encouraged by the Government, by NHS Test and Trace and by the Methodist Church that Methodist buildings ensure they keep a record and display an official NHS QR code poster.

While not all our visitors will have smart phones, displaying an NHS QR Code poster will help those visitors with smart phones and who have downloaded the NHS COVID-19 app to simply scan the code when they enter our premises. If people scan the code, we do not need them to complete details on our own record which should ease the burden on Managing Trustees.

As we have limited places within our buildings because of social distancing guidelines, we recommend continuing to book in with a steward or through the website in the case of Bishop Auckland Methodist Church.



a QR code will be displayed at each chapel entrance for you to use

County Durham is an area of increased restrictions because of the rise in number of Covid-19 cases, so we recommend continued good practice to keep each other safe. If you show symptoms – stay at home. If you choose to attend the importance of **washing hands** often, including as we enter and leave church using the sanitiser provided, wearing a **face mask**, and maintaining **2 metre space** from other households at all times – are acts of love for our neighbours. The doors are open to provide extra ventilation as is recommended, so please put on an extra layer.



Please note a Methodist worship service is now broadcast on **105.9 BishopFM** radio at just after 11 o'clock each Sunday morning for those at home.



Every Sunday evening friends from across the circuit and beyond join together in worship from the comfort of their own homes, by computer (or by telephone – if you have no computer). So, what is it like? It is a friendly relaxed gathering, where we can see each other's faces, and join in worship for about one hour – with lots of singing, that we can't do in church buildings. Different people will lead prayers and read from the Bible and a preacher will lead everyone to think about God in a short message. It is also a friendly time to chat, share news, and relax – the social bit – which is discouraged when we meet together in buildings. So come along, and give it a go!