

Sale
Methodists
@ Trinity



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Minister: Rev Glayne Worgan

Dear Friends,

I was talking to a minister who works with MHA chaplains and heard of a MHA home of 90 residents. 38 died during the peak of the COVID outbreak. She talked of the courage and faith of the chaplain there who took many of the funeral services. When I hear stories like that I am so thankful that we have, on the whole, missed the brunt of the deaths associated with COVID. I know I moan about the reinforced restrictions for Greater Manchester, but they are there to prevent such casualties happening again on that scale. I am thankful for all the families who rallied round to protect those more vulnerable. I am thankful for all the delivery people who made sure groceries got to everyone.

So I'm sorry if I moan about Risk Assessments, and ask people who may be more vulnerable not to take on roles within the church during the ongoing pandemic – but I'd rather be filling in Risk Assessments than taking funerals!!

There is good news – God's love still surrounds us, His Holy Spirit guides and protects us, His Word still challenges us. John 14:18 has these words of Jesus 'I will not leave you orphaned. I am coming to you', which fill me with assurance.

And we want to be together to share that Good News. We have the Zoom service on Sunday at 10am – please consider phoning in to join with us – we have more people phoning in for Zoom. They assure me it is easy enough to do and it is so lovely to hear their voices, even if we can't see their faces. If you don't feel able to join the Zoom, please continue to use the Worship Sheets at home, knowing you are with us in Spirit.

Zoom Breakout Fellowship will be Weds 26th Aug and Weds 2nd Sept at 7pm, when we discuss our faith, ponder on the meaning of life, laugh a lot and encourage one another.

Our churches are gradually opening up over the next few weeks. Please pray for all involved in this process – the decision makers, the form fillers, the furniture movers, the stewards, the worship leaders, the congregations. We all need prayer support.

Trinity has Drop-In Prayer on Monday 11am -11:30am, then a short service at 11:30am. Sale Moor has Drop In Prayer on Wednesdays from 11am -12 noon. My thanks to everyone who makes this possible.

Get a new dress, polish your shoes or brush down your hat for SUNDAY 6th Sept!!!! Both Trinity and Sale Moor will be open for Worship AT CHURCH! Trinity will be holding their service at 11:30am. That gives us time to be at Zoom and enjoy the breakout groups first. Sale Moor has decided to meet at 2pm – that gives us time to eat lunch, come to worship, then spend time with family etc afterwards.

How will it work? Firstly, everyone is welcome to come back so long as you are free from COVID symptoms. If your health situation means that being in a room with other people is still inadvisable for you, please listen to your doctor's advice. You are still with us in Spirit, even if you can't be with us in person. You could contact me and ask for your name to be mentioned during the service. You are NOT forgotten!

When you arrive at church you may have to queue up if there are a few coming in at the same time. Just remember to keep 2 meters apart. A steward will welcome you, check that you are free from COVID so far as you know, and wearing a mask. As you enter the foyer you will be asked to sanitise your hands (or you can wash them in the disabled toilet if you prefer). You will go into the Worship area which may look a bit different. The chairs will be set out 2 meters apart. You can sit together with people from your own household. You can wave at each other and say Hello! But please remember to keep distanced.

The service will last about 30 minutes, which is enough when wearing a mask. We can say prayers together – the responses will either be printed out for you or on the screen. We will hear the Bible. We will reflect on what the reading means for us in this time. We will pray for people and situations. We will be together and in God's presence. No, we can't sing – but there will be music playing. After the service you will be asked to leave carefully, again taking care not to get too close to the person in front. There won't be any coffee, but once outside you can greet each other, again remembering to keep distanced.

If more people come than we have room for in the Worship Area we can overflow into the Activity Hall (Sale Moor) or the Stage (Trinity). It would be the loveliest problem you have ever given me!! When numbers become a problem, we will look at how to solve it – by having more than one service, with a booking system, but don't worry about that just yet.

Meanwhile, this Minister is having a week off! There won't be a newsletter from me next Thursday, but I will make sure that the Worship Sheets get to you in time for the Sunday service. Be good, have a lovely Bank Holiday and I'll see you in September.

2 Notices Can anyone find a home for a lovely piano? Albert Graham has one that needs relocating. And Jean Hinds from Sale Moor thanks everyone for the flowers on her 90th birthday

Love and prayers from Glayne