

11 DECEMBER 2022

Brooklands Church

NEWSLETTER



BROOKLANDS CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE, WENDOVER ROAD, M23 9FN.
REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1159881

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"Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert."

Isaiah 35:5-6.

It's getting close now! Can you feel it? It's so close it's hard to contain the joy that is felt as we anticipate the coming of Christ. Today is the third Sunday of Advent – the day we light the candle of joy!

What a great Sunday to be having a party, then! After church this morning we'll eat together and enjoy some Christmas fellowship and fun. If you have prepared some food for today please leave it on the tables in the back hall. Following the service we'll pick up some food before gathering in the sanctuary around tables. Be sure to sit in a group with a mix of ages as your table will be your team for the games.

We'll probably need some people to help us turn rooms around after the service. If you're able to stack chairs and put out tables then please get stuck in.

Next week we have many exciting things happening as we gather for worship. In the morning we'll be joined by the Manchester Gospel Choir who will be performing some pieces for us to take us into worship. This will be followed by the Kids' Church Nativity production. In the evening we'll gather again for a carol service at 6pm (enough time for you to enjoy the World Cup final in between ;-)).

It's been mentioned to me that next week's services are a real opportunity for us to invite others to church. As such, we still have a bunch of our Christmas postcards detailing the programme. Please do take some home with you and invite as many people as possible.

Peace,

Mick

Daily Readings and Prayers

| Date | Bible Reading | Pray For |
|-----------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Mon 12 Dec 2022 | Luke 2:41-52 | Sean and Sharron Harland |
| Tue 13 Dec 2022 | Luke 3:1-6 | Ron and Jenny Hearne |
| Wed 14 Dec 2022 | Luke 3:7-20 | Nathaniel Herbert |
| Thu 15 Dec 2022 | Luke 3:21-38 | Pete and Babs Hewitt |
| Fri 16 Dec 2022 | John 1:1-9 | Anna Holme |
| Sat 17 Dec 2022 | John 1:10-18 | David and Christine Hoolihan |
| Sun 18 Dec 2022 | John 1:19-28 | Pauline and Peter Howells |

This Week at Brooklands

| Date | Time | Event |
|--------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Sun 11th Dec | 10:30 am | Advent 3: Lucy Frost |
| Sun 11th Dec | 11:30 am | Family Christmas Party |
| Wed 14th Dec | 10:00 am | Toddle-In |
| Wed 14th Dec | 10:30 am | Prayer meeting on Zoom |
| Wed 14th Dec | 5:00 pm | FoodCycle free community meal |
| Thu 15th Dec | 11:00 am | Winter Warmer (Community Café) |
| Thu 15th Dec | 7:30 pm | Manchester Gospel Choir rehearsal |
| Sun 18th Dec | 10:30 am | Sunday Worship |
| Sun 18th Dec | 6:00 pm | Advent 4: Carol Service |

Prayer Points

- Pray for the work of the Church this Advent and Christmas season.
- We rejoice that Norma has returned home from hospital after 10 months. Pray for her as she readjusts to living at home again.
- Remember Anna Holme in your prayers. Anna is awaiting the results of a CT scan.
- We had been praying for Diane, a close friend of Babs Hewitt. Diane died this week after a battle with cancer. We pray for Diane's family and Babs in this time. We pray for Pete Hewitt too who will conduct the funeral service.
- Pray for Bill Graham who will undergo surgery to remove a cataract in the coming days.
- Pray for David and Christine Hoolihan's granddaughter, Lyla, who has been ill after receiving her flu vaccination.
- Continue to pray for Marie Vickers, family to David and Chris Hoolihan, who has cancer. Marie took unwell on holiday recently and was admitted to hospital. She is recovering at home now.
- Sue Ellis has been experiencing pain in her leg this week and would value prayer.
- Pray for Cameron Preece's dad who has been ill in hospital last week.
- Pray for Majid Saadouni who has had serious challenges around accommodation and accessing support as an asylum seeker.
- Pauline Howells is feeling better following an injection in her hip which seems to have eased the pain in her back. Continue to pray for healing.
- Pray for the family of Revd. Keith Tewksbury, brother in law to Marion Tewksbury. Keith passed away recently following a short battle with cancer.
- We pray for Peter Grady following a recent diagnosis of prostate cancer. Peter is due to have surgery in the coming days.

Prayer Points (page 2)

- Pray for Pastor Lucy as she continues with responsibilities at Brooklands and Salford churches.
- Pray for Joan, Faye's sister in law in Canada. Joan is recovering from a stroke.
- Pray for the family of John Beattie, Anne in particular, as the family gather this week to inter John's ashes. Pastor Mick will conduct a short ceremony.
- Continue to pray for Barbara Edwards, the sister of Jean Walker. Barbara is also recovering from a stroke.
- Pray for Gilbert and Amie and the children, and especially for Amie, as she receives medical attention. Amie had further scans this week and is awaiting results.
- Pray for Lauren, in her role as Associate Pastor for Children, Youth and Families.
- Pray for Ron, the brother of Sylvia Findlay who is undergoing treatment for his kidneys. He is being considered for dialysis but Sylvia's prayer is that such healing would take place that he would not need this. UPDATE: Ron has seen improvements in his health recently!
- Pray for Ron and Jenny Hearn, for healing and strength. Jenny is being assessed for a care package – pray for a clear way forward.
- Pray for those struggling with the Cost-of-Living Crisis. We pray that our Food Pantry will be a real support for those in need in our area. Pray for Gert, Charmaine and others who help to run this ministry.
- Pray for our local councillors - Sue Cooley, Glynn Evans and Julia Baker Smith. Pray also for our MP, Mike Kane.
- We continue to pray for the situation in Ukraine, and for protection for Christians who are being conscripted to join the armed forces.
- Pray for the work of the Church here in the community of Brooklands, as new faces continue to engage with us.

Please contact Mick, Lucy, Lauren or Mark if you have any specific prayer requests, or answers to prayer for us to share.

This Week's Sermon – Lucy Frost

A Time to Heal – Matthew 11:1-11

1 After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in the towns of Galilee.

2 When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples 3 to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

4 Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: 5 The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. 6 Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

7 As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? 8 If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. 9 Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 10 This is the one about whom it is written:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

11 Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

WINTER WARMER PACKS

Why not make a date to attend our Winter Warmer sessions from 11am to 2pm on Thursdays. You will receive a warm welcome, a warm drink, and a warm bowl of soup.

In addition to this, **Buzz Manchester Health & Wellbeing Service** and other local organisations have put together some Winter Warmer packs containing information about local services, a flask, some chocolate and knitwear. If you would like one of these, or if you know anyone who would benefit from a Winter Warmer pack, they will be available on Sunday morning.