



Billericay Methodist Church
At Queens Park and Western Road



Notices for 10th December 2023

A warm welcome to anyone who is visiting us today, or anyone who is here for the first time. We're delighted you've chosen to worship with us today. God invites us to worship as a community of Jesus. May you find the welcome of God here. Please do introduce yourself to us and join us for refreshment before (Friday's) or after (Sunday's) services.

SERVICES THIS WEEK

QUEENS PARK

Friday, 11:45 am Catherine Benbough

WESTERN ROAD

Sunday, 10:30 am Ian Brown – T P AAW

SET READINGS FOR THIS WEEKEND (Lectionary)

[Isaiah 40:1-11](#)

[Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13](#)

[2 Peter 3:8-15a](#)

[Mark 1:1-8](#)

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Wild God of the wastes, whose gospel begins with a cry and a summons: take us to a pathless place where we can start again to taste creation's gifts anew and await the Spirit's touch; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come.

Amen.

© Steven Shakespeare, Prayers for an Inclusive Church: Collects for Sundays Years A, B and C, for

METHODIST PRAYER CIRCLE (Day 10)

On this day are asked to pray for Christians and the Methodist Church in Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay. Methodist Bishops Medardo Vedia Gutiérrez (Bolivia), Jorge Merino Riffo (Chile), Alfredo Pilatuna (Ecuador), Cesar Antonio Llanco Zavaleta (Peru) and Methodist President Evelyn Wibmer (Uruguay).

Here in Britain, we are also asked to pray for the Channel Islands District and the District Chair Dawn Saunders.

Please visit the church website billericaymethodistchurch.org for further information.

Statement of Mission:

Billericay Methodist Church is called to encourage a living faith in God. Through the power of the Holy Spirit we proclaim the love of Jesus Christ in: worship and fellowship, evangelism and teaching, serving others and



Theme for the Year – A Methodist Way of Life:
Growing deeper in our faith and church community through: Worship, Learning and Caring, Service, and Evangelism.

Prayer

Pray for those you know who are in need, asking God to meet their every need. We especially remember Elizabeth F, Jean K, Barbara K and Margaret (Maggie) C.

Praying together at 10am - a time each day when you can know that others are praying with you.

Prayer Chain Please contact Geraldine H with any prayer chain requests that you have.



Weekly online prayer meetings: Every Thursday from 7:30pm to 8:00pm. If you have any questions, need the zoom link, trouble getting into the meeting, or ideas for community prayer and would like to lead prayer time, please send an email to moses.agyam@methodist.org.uk. Please see Notices email for zoom details.

Notices

Advent Course for all: The Gospel Of Mark: A Beginner's Guide To The Good News. Read Mark's Gospel together in a group, watch video reflection, ask questions, discuss, learn, or refresh your understanding of the Gospel of Mark. Join us at the Western Road Methodist for these friendly sessions on just before and during Advent on **Sundays from 9 a.m. – 10 a.m.** for six weeks.

10th Dec: "Fig Trees and Tenants: Mark 11-12"

17th Dec: "The Little Apocalypse: Mark 13"

24th Dec: "Judas Iscariot and the Naked Young Man: Mark 14-15"

Low Sunday Service - 31st December 10.30 am :

Please join us for a Celebration of our favourite hymns and songs at the last service of the year. We would welcome suggestions of your favourite hymn or worship song and a short note about why it is special to you. Please let Gill or Roger know your choices by 15th December. Thank you

Church centenary 2024. The invitations for this event are now ready. Please look in the Letter Racks in the vestibule at Western Road for yours. There is a box on the table in the vestibule for your replies. Looking forward to sharing time with you all that weekend. The Centenary Team.

Advent & Christmas Services



Sunday Advent Services at Western Road themes:

Hoping: What are we hoping for in life? Sunday 3 Dec, 10:30 am, Rev Moses Agyam

Waiting: What are we waiting for in life? Sunday 10 Dec, 10:30 am, Ian Brown

Fearing: What are we afraid of in life? Sunday, 17 Dec, 10:30 am, Tim Almond

Preparing: What are we preparing for in life? Sunday, 24 Dec 10:30 am, Rachel Gallehawk



Faith, Folk & Nativity: Light-Hearted Sing-Along Carols

Saturday, 16 December 3:00 – 4:30 pm, at Queens Park.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Thursday, 21 December, 8:00 – 9:00 pm at Western Road



PEACE ON EARTH: A CAROL SERVICE

Friday, 22 December, 11:15 am at Queens Park.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Saturday, 23 December, 4:00 – 5:00 pm at Western Road



CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE (with 'POSADA')

Sunday, 24 December, 6:30 pm at Western Road

ALL AGE CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

Monday, 25 December, 10:00 am at Western Road.



Notices

Christmas Charity Collections : We will be using this Christmas time giving to those in need as follows:

- **Coffee Pot at Queens Park** throughout December for **St Lukes Hospice**
- **Parade/Toy service** on the 12th December - loose collection at Western Road to **Changing Pathways** (Basildon Women's Refuge)
- **Christingle, Carol service and Christmas Day** at Western Road - loose collections to **Action for Children**

You can also donate to these charities by cheque payable to Billericay Methodist Church placed in an envelope and marked with the charity name, or online into the BMC account (contact me if you need the bank details). Many thanks to you all.
Lorraine.

Warm Space : A warm welcome awaits you at our weekly Coffee and Chat at Western Road, **every Thursday 9.15 am - 12.15 am**. Drop in at any time during the morning and enjoy a hot drink and cake. This coming Thursday, 7th December, we will be having a Coffee and Christmas Craft morning where all are invited to make something festive and enjoy coffee and mince pies. Look forward to seeing you,

Call for Second Advent candle to remain unlit for peace:

To remember all those who have died in the Israel/Palestine conflict, Methodist churches across the country are being called upon to leave their second Advent candle unlit this year.

The call not to light the candle, which represents peace, on the second Sunday in Advent (10 December) and on subsequent Sundays, follows the news that celebrations to mark Christmas in the Holy Land will be subdued this year. On Christmas Day churches are invited to take a photo of their Advent Ring with the second candle unlit and send it to office@mlojerusalem.org. The staff at the Methodist Liaison Office will forward pictures to local church communities in the Holy Land.

Toy Service Sunday 10 December: We are delighted once again to be supporting Changing Pathways (Woman's Refuge) for our annual toy service. Zoe Mackey will be joining us to give an overview of their work this year and to receive our gifts of which there is a list below from Zoe of the items they can accept . Your kind donations of any new toy item , new toiletries, gifts for mums, non-perishable food etc.. or if anyone does not know what to purchase we will happily accept gifts cards that we can put together and buy some bigger gifts for the older children thank you all for your generosity. Zoe

Church Christmas Card: As in previous years, there will be a Christmas Card for the Church Family to sign expressing their Christmas wishes to others rather than send individual cards. Donations will go to a chosen charity in lieu of cards if you would like to send wishes this way. *Pam C.*

Opportunities to worship together

Future Onsite Services





	Queens Park Friday 11:45am	Western Road Sunday 10:30 am
15 Dec	Jim Rose	
17 Dec		Tim Almond
21 Dec		Revd Moses Agyam Blue Christmas 8:00-9:00pm
22nd Dec	11:15am Revd Moses Agyam Carol Service	
23rd Dec		Revd Moses Agyam Christingle 4:00-5:00pm
24th Dec		10:30am Rachel Gallehawk 6:30pm Carols by Candlelight
25th Dec		10:00am Rev Moses Agyam

S Communion **P** Parade **T** Toy Service **AAW** All Age Worship **B** Baptism

Online Services Archive

The Church website has an [archive](#) of online services from April 2020 to November 2022 plus [all-age materials](#) in addition to links to other [worship resources](#).

Ministry Team	Website and Social Media
Minister: Revd. Moses Agyam 01277 623085 moses.agyam@methodist.org.uk (Please note the Minister's day off is Monday). Pastoral Secretary: Mrs Lyn Bowditch 01277 659530	web: billericaymethodistchurch.org  @BillericayMethodistChurch  @Methodistbcay
	Notices
	The next edition will be issued on Friday 15th December 2023 items for inclusion by 8pm Tuesday to notices@billericaymethodistchurch.org