



TEWKESBURY & APPERLEY METHODIST CHURCH NOTICES

Minister: The Revd Jayne Webb

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Tewkesbury Methodist Church: Registered Charity no. 11179000

"Lord of Peace, on this Palm Sunday, as we remember Jesus' peaceful entry, we pray for peace in our hearts, homes, and world. Inspire us to carry forward the message of justice and peace that Jesus brought to Jerusalem. Empower us to be instruments of Your peace, advocating for the marginalised and working towards justice for all of Your creation. Hosanna in the Highest!"

We send love and blessings to those amongst our church family and beyond who are suffering illness, loss or loneliness at this time. Our prayers are with you.

Love and warm greetings to all our friends who are unable to get to church – you are still very much part of our church family.

It is with sadness that we share the news that Viv Hallett died last weekend. We are unable to hold her Thanksgiving Service at our church due to the extensive work starting in the church in the next week, so Viv's family has asked us to let friends at our church know that this will be held at Sycamore Chapel at Northway at 1pm in Thursday 23rd April. All are welcome.

Sunday 29th March – Palm Sunday
Tewkesbury 10.30am – Revd John Kime
Tewkesbury Churches Together United Service in Tewkesbury Abbey
6.00pm – Wondrous Cross – a meditation based on 'The Seven last words of Christ' by Alan Bullard

Sunday 5th April – Easter Day
Tewkesbury 9.15am – Wild Green Breakfast Club (see notice)
10.30am – Revd Jayne Webb – Holy Communion
Apperley 11am – Deacon Sue Peat

THIS WEEK AT TEWKESBURY
IMPORTANT - The path to the rear Link doors of the Church will be **CLOSED** for both entry

and exit from Monday to Friday whilst building work is carried out at the rear of the buildings. It is anticipated this will be reopened by Good Friday April 3rd if not earlier. Access to the front of the Church and the single door into the Link can be gained via one of the nearby alleys into Barton Street and then in through the front gates.

Wednesday 1st April – No mid-week communion.

Maundy Thursday 2nd April –
7pm Holy Communion – Revd Jayne Webb

Good Friday 3rd April –

10am – Time of reflection - Revd Jayne Webb

Saturday 4th April –

10.30am – Coffee morning

Sunday 5th April – Easter Sunday

9.15am Please note that the Wild Green Breakfast Club will take place on Easter Sunday but will be held in the church due to the building work. We won't have bacon rolls but the usual cereals and toast etc plus hard boiled eggs and hot cross buns. Everyone is welcome to join us from 9.15am.

Due to the continued building work we will not be able to hold mid-week Holy Communion on 15th April. The next one should be 6th May but we will assess nearer the time if we can proceed.

Our Prayer group might not be meeting in person at present but will still be praying for those both in the church family and the community about whom they have been notified. Please write any special requests for prayer in the book in the vestibule, but please have the recipient's permission to do so.

BIBLE CLUB - please note that Saturday morning Bible Club will cease with effect from 7th March for the foreseeable future. Thank you to those who have attended in recent months. Jayne.

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UNVEILING OF THE BILL SHAKESPEARE PLAQUE – Saturday 11th April

We are hosting an event organised by Tewkesbury Historical Society on Saturday 11th April. Following the unveiling of a Tourist Plaque at Riverside House at 4pm there will be tea and cake served in our church at 4.30pm followed by a presentation by John Dixon (finishing about 6pm).

All are welcome to this event celebrating the life and achievements of a local hero.

BIBLE CLUB - please note that Saturday morning Bible Club will cease with effect from 7th March for the foreseeable future. Thank you to those who have attended in recent months. Jayne.

COFFEE ROTAS – Saturday and Sunday

We would appreciate your help in keeping the church open on a Saturday morning by serving coffee. Also if you can assist with serving coffee after our Sunday service, please sign the appropriate rota. Your support would be appreciated.

PASTORAL – please let me know of any of our church family who are unwell or are in need of some support. Our outreach worker, Jan, will be working in maintaining contact with all our church family. Jean Davies

LARGE PRINT – if you are unable to read the words on the screen and the large print hymn books are not suitable for you, please see one of the stewards so we can ensure large print copies are available.

NOTICES FOR APRIL will be prepared by Adrian Shelley – email adandgillshelley@gmail.com Telephone number 01684 297411. The deadline is 4.30pm on Thursday.

PALM SUNDAY

The events of Easter took place over a week, traditionally called Passion Week.

It began on Palm Sunday. After all His teaching and healing, Jesus had built a following.

On the Sunday before He was to die, Jesus and His followers arrived at Jerusalem. The city was crowded. Jewish people were arriving from to celebrate Passover. This commemorates how

they had escaped from slavery in Egypt nearly 1,500 year earlier.

Jesus rode into the city on a young donkey. He was greeted like a conquering hero. Cheering crowds waved palm branches in tribute. He was hailed as the Messiah who had come to re-establish a Jewish kingdom.

The next day they returned to Jerusalem. Jesus went to the temple, the epicentre of the Jewish faith, and confronted the money-changers and merchants who were ripping off the people. He overturned their tables and accused them of being thieves. The religious authorities were alarmed and feared how He was stirring up the crowds.

On the Tuesday, they challenged Jesus, questioning His authority. He answered by challenging and condemning their hypocrisy. Later that day Jesus spoke to His disciples about future times. He warned them about fake religious leaders; the coming destruction of Jerusalem; wars, earthquakes and famines; and how His followers would face persecution.

By midweek the Jewish religious leaders and elders were so angry with Jesus that they began plotting to arrest and kill Him. One of Jesus' disciples, Judas, went to the chief priests and agreed to betray Him to them.

Jesus and the 12 disciples gathered on the Thursday evening to celebrate the Passover meal. This is known as the Last Supper. During the evening, Jesus initiated a ritual still marked by Christians - Holy Communion - which commemorates His death. Jesus broke bread and shared it and a cup of wine with His disciples.

Judas then left to meet the other plotters. Jesus continued to teach the others and then went outside into an olive grove to pray. He even prayed for all future believers. He agonised over what was to come but chose the way of obedience. The Bible book, Luke, records Him praying, '*Father if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done*'. Minutes later Judas arrived with soldiers and the chief priests and Jesus was arrested.