

Oadby Trinity, Great Glen and Houghton

Methodist Churches

Minister: Rev Derek McLean

The **Methodist Church** 

28<sup>th</sup> July 2021

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

*Colossians 3:12 (NRSVA)*

Dear Friends,

The Church Council for Oadby Trinity met on Monday of this week. The decisions made are specific to just that one church, but I think that they are relevant to my readers at Glen, Houghton and Aigburth so I'm including you all in this newsletter circulation.

### **Covid restrictions**

The tone of the debate was cautious. Our commitment to Test & Trace, maximising ventilation, encouraging mask wearing, and social distancing remains in place. We have agreed that singing is acceptable provided a mask is being worn. The Minister and Stewards were given discretion for subsequent relaxation, but we expect to move slowly. We hope that will give people confidence to return to worshipping in-person.

We aren't serving coffee yet, but people will be encouraged to stay and chat if they wish and may bring their own flask of coffee or other drinks.

### **Online Communion**

There were some really thoughtful and helpful contributions to a long conversation. We remain committed to making Communion available in several different ways: there will be services at Aigburth, Home Communion available and Extended Communion taken to people who cannot attend.

We agreed that we should only introduce online Communion if there was a 2/3 majority in favour and we narrowly failed to achieve that, so we will not be implementing online Communion yet.

### **Same Sex Marriage**

We had a very respectful conversation about Same Sex Marriage. Questions were taken to ensure that the Methodist Conference decisions were understood. We noted that we'd not had any enquiries about booking such a ceremony but that any decision would make a public statement about our commitment to Inclusion.

We agreed that we would not proceed without a 2/3 majority. The vote was overwhelmingly in favour so we will move toward registering Oadby Trinity Methodist Church as a venue for Same Sex Marriage as soon as the legislation permits.

If you have any questions or concerns about any of these items please do get in touch. Questions around Worship, Communion and Marriage are Holy Ground.

God bless you all – and stay safe.

Rev Derek

## Funerals

Monday's Church Council was preceded by our General Church Meeting which noted that 18 of our Members (and many Adherents) have died since our last GCM in May 2019. We hold families and friends who mourn in our prayers and at this time we particularly remember:

- Derek Ridgewell
- June Aldridge
- Eileen Edmond
- Gill Beagley
- Joan Upton
- Margaret Rawson

## Sunday Worship

**1<sup>st</sup> August 8:30am** Communion in the Oadby Church led by Rev Derek

### **10:30am Morning Worship.**

The **Oadby & Glen churches are open every week** so that people can worship in person. A service will continue to be available online and is also projected into the MHA Aigburth lounge.

	Oadby	Glen	Houghton
1 <sup>st</sup> August	Ann Reddecliffe		
8 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Derek McLean (Holy Communion)	Gordon Webb (Holy Communion)	Peter Brookes (Holy Communion)
15 <sup>th</sup> Aug	James Blackhall	Richard Gill	Derek McLean
22 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	Oadby Worship Leaders	Andy Biggins	Audrey Baker
29 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Welcome service for Deacon Sharon Dilley and Revds. Israel Selvanayagam and Liam Dacre-Davis. Service at Christchurch, also available online		

It is the Oadby service available online where more than one preacher is shown.

**6 pm Evening Worship.** Circuit Services online each week.

August Preachers: 1/8 Daniel Yovan, 8/8 Paula Hunt (Claremont St Celebration), 15/8 Derek McLean 22/8 Debra Akue.

Please let me know if you would like to join online, and I can send you a link, and also talk you through setting this up. Email for information: [derek.mclean@methodist.org.uk](mailto:derek.mclean@methodist.org.uk)

Don't forget that it is possible to phone in, even if you haven't got a computer.

## Worship on Wednesday

**11:30am at Oadby**, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Weds meeting 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> August

**2:30pm at Houghton.** Weekly. Includes Holy Communion on 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> August.

**Saturday Prayer** Great Glen (10-11) and Oadby (10:15-10:45) are open each week for prayer.