

Prayers for the Community

For the people of: Coppice Way, Wood Ride, Ryecroft

For prayer: David, Heidi, Mark, Simon, Simon, Bunt

With prayers of thanks for Sally & David and answers to prayer.

From the Prayer Board: For Colin, Danny, Eva, and all who have asked for prayer for themselves and their families

In memoriam: June Tulloch, Peter Black, Ray Tipple, Thomas Wyatt

To keep our prayers up to date please let Janet or Martin know about people to list and keep listed in Prayers for the Community.

PRESSURES ON FAMILIES

'Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other ... And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.' COLOSSIANS 3:12-14 (ESV)

Sunday 15th March MOTHERING SUNDAY

Dear God, the compassionate care that we so appreciate in mothers reminds us of Your tender heart for us. Please encourage mothers, grandmothers, and the many other women who look after children. Give them daily strength, patience, and reminders of Your deep love for all of us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Lord, we pray for a cultural shift towards a stronger commitment to Your biblical design of marriage as the basis for family life, with so many proven benefits of well-being, good health, and higher achievements for individuals, children, and society as a whole. For Christ's sake. Amen.

Father, we bring to You troubled families where children are being removed through a court order and placed in care. Please help social workers and local councils to make wise decisions, and provide foster or adoptive homes where they can flourish. Touch them with Your healing love. Amen.

Lord of compassion, we pray for the 1.3 million people in the UK—and rising—identified as 'the sandwich generation', who are often overstretched caring for dependent elderly relatives as well as their children. Please provide resources that can ease the pressure through statutory assistance, and support from family, friends, and the community—including churches. By Your grace. Amen.

Saturday 21st March WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

Father, we pray for the 40,000 to 47,000 individuals with Down Syndrome in the UK to be given encouragement, medical care, and educational support to lead fulfilling lives. May families surround them with love, and be especially strengthened in the challenging times. In Jesus' name. Amen.

www.care.org.uk



Ascension Weekly

Sunday 15th March 2026

Mothering Sunday

8.30 a.m. Said Communion

10.00 a.m. Worship Service

Readings: Colossians 3.12-17, Luke 2.33-35

Mothering Sunday

I can smile now, even though I cringe, but I still remember childhood conversations with my brother and sisters about how unfair it seemed that there was a Mothering Sunday but no 'Children's Day'. Looking back, it's clear we had a bit to learn about thankfulness and about recognising all that we should have been appreciating.

Mothering Sunday is a time to celebrate mothers and recognise their love, care, and all they do for us. Of course, appreciation shouldn't be reserved for one day a year, but it's good to set aside a special moment to focus on mothers and the extraordinary love, protection, nurturing, and sacrifice they show. Patience certainly deserves a place on that list too! I remember my own mother demonstrating nothing more than a mother's gift for rolling her eyes when dealing with her ungrateful brood and their whinging about the lack of a 'Children's Day'.

Mothering Sunday also reminds us of the greater and perfect love that inspires all human love: God's love revealed in Jesus Christ. Just as a mother's love is patient, forgiving, and self-giving, so Christ loves us with unending grace and compassion. Whether we are grateful or not, His love gathers us in, nurtures us, and never lets us go.

Martin



This Week

Mothering Sunday 15th March

8.30am Said Communion

10.00am Worship Service

Tuesday 17th March

9.30 -10.30am Food Larder

Wednesday 18th March

1.30pm Tiddlers

3.30pm Home Group in church

Thursday 19th March

8.30am Morning Prayers

12 noon - 1.00pm Food Larder

7.30pm Home Group at Jill's

Sunday 22nd March

10.00am Family Communion

Please see the website for links to
online streaming:

www.ascensionchurch.co.uk

There are no birthdays recorded



Easter Services

Palm Sunday 29th March

10.00am Communion Service

Tuesday 31st March

7.30pm Stations of the Cross

Maundy Thursday 2nd April

7.30pm Communion Service
with Foot Washing

Good Friday 3rd April

10.00am Easter Messy Church
2.00pm An hour at the Cross
3.00pm until 4.00pm Open
Church for Quiet and Prayer

Easter Sunday 5th April

5.30am Easter Vigil Service
10.00 Easter Celebration
Communion Service

Easter Messy Church

Volunteers are needed please, to help with an Easter Messy Church for children and families, which will be on Good Friday (3rd April) from 10.00am to 11.30am.

Help will be needed from about 9.00am for setting up, until about 12.30, after hot cross buns and clearing up. Importantly as well, there will be a meeting at 2pm on Tuesday 31st March for a run through of what's planned. Please speak to Martin or Jill if you can help.

Prayer for Iran

God of Peace,

We hold the people of Iran in this time of deep distress.

Where there is fear – grant Your peace.

Where there is violence – bring Your protection.

Where hearts are hurting – pour out Your comfort.

Loving God, we pray especially for those mourning the loss of loved ones, for those who are injured, imprisoned, or afraid, and for those seeking justice, freedom, and dignity. Surround them with Your love.

We pray for leaders and those in authority –

grant wisdom, restraint, and compassion.

Turn the hearts of those with power toward healing, not harm; toward reconciliation and peace

In our prayers, we remember our sisters and brothers who worship with us in our churches here in Britain

We thank you, God, for the blessing they bring to our church communities.

God of mercy, we ask for Your Spirit to move in Iran – to bring peace, hope, and a future of justice.

May Your love be known by every person affected by these events. Amen.

(From the Methodist Church Resource Hub. © The Methodist Church)

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