

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, we come to you admitting our weakness and failure.
Thank you for giving us the chance to turn around and start afresh with you.
Indeed, Lord, you are the God of second chances and we know, in our lifetimes, you have been the God of third and fourth chances, forgiving and restoring us a countless number of times. We are profoundly grateful. We know that without you, we would have no hope and yet, because of your love, we remain your children – even if rather wayward children at times.
Lord, we choose to turn back to you.
Help us to start afresh: renewed and restored.

Lord, we think about the times this week when we have wandered away from you; and the times when we have determinedly gone in unwise and selfish directions. Yet you still desire to bring us back. We ponder those moments when we have found ourselves safely back with you. What was it that brought us there? A word of encouragement from a friend? A sign of love from our family? Verses from Scripture that challenged and enabled? Something beautiful that we saw or heard that reminded us of you? Lord, whatever or whoever you used to bring us back, we thank you. Help us to remember those joyful moments of reconciliation so that we are less inclined to wander away again.
Lord, we choose to turn back to you.
Help us to start afresh: renewed and restored.

Lord, as we think about the disasters that Jesus spoke about, we remember things we have heard on the news this week that have shocked or saddened us. We remember particularly.... the Middle East as the ceasefire has crumbled and more people are dying. We think of the progress of diplomacy between Russia, the USA and Ukraine. Lord, may your words of peace and love rule in these places. May conflict cease and goodness return.

We also pray for those places which are no longer in the headlines but are still seen and remembered by you...

We thank you for the aid agencies that work tirelessly to bring supplies, medicines and comfort. Lord, may your people be fed, clothed and given safety wherever they find themselves. These are big prayers, Lord, but you are a big God.

And we pray for the people or places that never make the news, where only you see the hurt and the pain. We know how much it grieves your heart of love. We pray for those who are trafficked or abused... those who suffer from addictions and long to be free... those who are in prison... or feeling desperately alone... . We long to see the world restored to the way in which you intended it. Lord, may your kingdom come.

Lord, we choose to turn back to you.
Help us to start afresh: renewed and restored.

Lord, we think of those who we have struggled to give a second chance to this week... perhaps a friend or colleague who let us down; someone in our class who was annoying; someone in a shop who was rude or someone who cut us up in traffic; a family member that was trying our patience. We pray for each of those people now, whether they are known to us or just an incident we remember... Give us the grace to forgive and the patience to accept situations that we cannot control.

And we think of all those who have given us second chances this week... We pray for them now with gratitude for their kindness and patience.

Lord, we choose to turn back to you.
Help us to start afresh: renewed and restored.

Lord, as we go forward into the new week, may we go from here restored and refreshed by having spent time with you. Send us out, filled with your love, to be peacemakers and forgivers. Help us to see you in the eyes of everyone we meet this week and to serve them as if it is you we are serving. Give us a new strength and determination to follow your way no matter how hard, challenging, or glorious it is!

Lord, we choose to turn back to you.
Help us to start afresh: renewed and restored.

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Rochford Methodist Church

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Church WiFi password is displayed in the building

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/rochfordmethodist

Sunday 23 March 2025

[Weekly Notices and Prayers](#) (v1.0)

Bible reading for the week

Isaiah 55:1

Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters;
and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost?

If you have any items that you would like to be added, or suggestions for inclusion, please advise [Mike Sims](#).



This Church has an inductive loop. Anyone attending Sunday services who has an appropriate hearing aid should switch to Channel T.

Sunday 23 March 2025

3rd Sunday in Lent

Services and Meetings this week

Sunday – 9.30am – Our service will be a local arrangement led by the Worship Leaders. The theme of this service will be “Repentance and second chances”.

Monday – 2.00 to 3.30pm - [Cake and Kindness](#). Pop in for a free cup of tea/coffee and a piece of homemade cake. It is open to all!

– **4.00 to 5.00pm** – [Monday Club](#). Ages 4-12. Runs every Monday in term time. Crafts, Lego, snacks, games, and it’s free! A responsible adult will need to stay at all times.

– **7.00 to 7.15pm** – [Rochford Prayer](#) via [Zoom](#). Meeting ID 768 0376 1257
Passcode: 8yTeDH.

Tuesday – 7.30pm – [Bible Study](#). You are welcome to join us on [Zoom](#). Meeting ID: 948 2779 0660. Passcode: 425539. We will be completing our Lent study together on Psalm 63:1-8 and Luke 13:1-9. This week’s theme is Soul rest: Nourished by patience and slowness and is from “[Soul Food](#)”.

Thursday - 7.30pm - [Table Tennis](#). Please let [Colin and Margaret](#) know if you’re planning to come as there are occasions when they do not meet, so it’s worth checking first.

Friday – 9.30 to 11.30am – [Happy Cup Breakfast Club](#). Runs every Friday in term time and is for parents/carers with children aged 0 to 5 years. £2 per family.

Forward Notices

Next Sunday – 10.30am – Our service will be a united service at Rayleigh. Please note that there will be no service at Rochford that week.

Action for Children Lent fundraising 'Count your Blessings'. Let's all count our blessings by taking part in this event. Please collect a Count Your Blessings leaflet from me and return with your donation no later than 27th April 2025. If you pay tax please consider Gift Aid and complete the declaration on the leaflet, and put it in an envelope with your donation. Thank you. Val

Other Information

Church income was £227.60, which comprises the collection and Standing Orders paid directly into the Church account, plus other donations received over the last week.

Community Outreach Pastor update – I had a lovely assembly at Holt Farm school this week, we looked at Easter traditions and how Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, not in a flash carriage or in a sports car! I will be speaking about Easter at Rochford Primary this week, please pray that it goes well and that I am able to communicate the Easter story well.

Our next games night is this coming Saturday, do join us for some board games from 7.00 - 9.30.

We enjoyed Lego club this week and were joined by a new family. Thanks to those who helped out. Thanks. Mike Webb

Collect – Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Elderly Friends - Please remember – Shirley Beadle, Sylvia Brigs, Pat Rubidge, Gwen Smith and Maureen Whalley.

Other Forward Notices

1 April - 2.00 to 4.00pm – [Memory Worship](#) at [Rayleigh Methodist Church](#). Memory Worship was created with the vision of finding a space where people with or without dementia (often carers), could approach God, worship and feel God's caring presence together. Worship can be a channel for recalling the past, creating feelings of comfort, familiarity and spiritual fulfilment. We all have continuing need to worship and experience a loving encounter with God.

5 April - 2.00 to 4.00pm – Easter Craft Afternoon at [United Methodist Church](#). Entry is free to all. If you would like to make a donation, we will be collecting Easter eggs for The Shoebury Ark. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

12 April – 10.00 to 1pm – [Jumble Sale](#) – [Wesley Methodist Church](#). In aid of Christian Hope International. FREE ENTRY. Selling Clothing | Accessories | Toys | Shoes | Bric-a-Brac | Books & more! BBQ AVAILABLE.

20 April – 6.30pm – Circuit Service at [Belfairs Methodist Church](#). Led by the ‘Worship Band’ and others from the circuit. Come and share with us in the joy of Christ’s Resurrection. We look forward to seeing you there.

19 May – 7.30pm - Testimony Service of Revd Agnes Sam & Revd Heather Simmons at [Rayleigh Methodist Church](#).

21 June – 10.00 to 2.00pm - Circuit Quiet Day - In the Stillness - Hadleigh Methodist Church. [Hadleigh Methodist Church](#).

Donations

If you would like to donate to the work of Rochford Methodist Church, you can do so from [here](#). If you want to buy something new, please remember to do so through [Easyfundraising](#).

To create a **Standing Order** for Rochford Methodist Church you will need the following details: A/c Name Rochford Methodist Church; A/c No 90766712; Sort Code 20 79 73. If you are a taxpayer, please could you contact Bruce Glendenning so that a simple form can be easily filled in. We can then reclaim tax back on the donations.

You can also donate to the Church by [PayPal Giving Fund](#)

Unsubscribe

If you no longer wish to receive these Notices, please let [Mike Sims](#) know, and your name will be removed from the mailing list.

