

### Prayers of Intercession

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. We pray for the places of your world that are experiencing great darkness now: where there is war, unrest, confusion, repression. Shine your light particularly upon Ukraine, the Middle East, Venezuela, Greenland.... we pray. Illumine the way forward for a safer, fairer, peaceful world.

L: Lord, in the same way that you chose to be with us,

**All: May we choose to take your message of love to our neighbours.**

Lord, we lift those areas of our local community that are struggling in darkness now... We pray for situations where there is unemployment, trauma, abusive relationships, hopelessness, hunger. Show us how we can bring your light into one of these places this week: as individuals, families or as a church congregation. Go before us to illumine our way so that we follow your lead rather than our own initiative. Give us eyes to see where you are working and the courage to follow.

L: Lord, in the same way that you chose to be with us,

**All: May we choose to take your message of love to our neighbours.**

Lord, we thank you for calling each of us to be your disciples. Lord whatever we are feeling, help us to remember that each of us is known by you, precious and deeply loved. And each of us has a calling to follow your lead. Open our eyes to see how we can serve you in the places you have put us: our schools, our workplaces, our homes and families. Thank you that you know our strengths and our weaknesses and still have a role for each of us to bring your kingdom closer. In the stillness now, show us one person or place that you particularly want us to share your love with this week.

L: Lord, in the same way that you chose to be with us,

**All: May we choose to take your message of love to our neighbours.**

Lord, may your light dawn on those we know who are struggling, whether with physical pain, anxiety, fear, depression or sadness. We particularly remember... Lord, increase their joy in miraculous ways this week. Touch them with your compassion and your tenderness. May they find you in new ways. Give us the grace to serve them, knowing that, in doing so, we are serving you.

L: Lord, in the same way that you chose to be with us,

**All: May we choose to take your message of love to our neighbours.**

Lord, we pray for those we know who have yet to respond to your call. Surprise them with your closeness this week. Help us not to miss the opportunities to lead them towards you: Give us a word, a moment, a chat over coffee... help us to be willing to step out of our routines and comfort zones to tell others about you. Make us interruptible, we pray.

And, in the quiet now, we thank you for those who led us to you. Thank you, Lord, for their witness.

L: Lord, in the same way that you chose to be with us,

**All: May we choose to take your message of love to our neighbours.**

Lord, as we go out from here may we be cleansed, refreshed and challenged by all that we have heard and done today. Send us out to be your light bearers. Enrich us with your word and go before us in your glory as it illumines our path. May we return next week filled with deeper insights of you that we can share with others.

**Amen**

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77 North Street, Rochford, Essex SS4 1AD

[Rev Agnes Sam](#)

01702 817365

[Pastor Mike Webb](#)

07714 916263

[www.rochfordmethodist.org.uk](http://www.rochfordmethodist.org.uk)

Church WiFi password is displayed in the building

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/rochfordmethodist](https://www.facebook.com/groups/rochfordmethodist)

**Sunday 25 January 2026**

## Weekly Notices and Prayers (v1.0)

Bible reading for the week

Isaiah 9: 2

The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.

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



HEARING LOOP INSTALLED

Switch hearing aid to T-coil

Sunday 25 January 2026

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Services and Meetings this week

**Sunday – 9.30am** – Our service will be led by Rev Pete Moorhouse.

**Monday – 4.00 – 5.00pm** – [Monday Club](#). Ages 4-12. 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 continuing our "Talking Jesus" course.

**Wednesday – 7.45pm - Wholeness and Wellbeing Service**. This is held via Zoom.  
Please contact the [Circuit Office](#), if you would like further details.

**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.

### Forward Notices

**Next Sunday – 9.30am** – Our service will be led by Rev Brenda Gutberlet. Holy Communion will be celebrated during this service.

**7 & 21 February – 6.00 to 8.00pm** – **Pizza, Faith and Questions** – [Christianity Explored](#)  
– This will be a continuation of the exploration of faith for people who are on the fringes of our church community, but would like to find out more. Rev Agnes and Pastor Mike will be running these evenings. If you would like to help on the evening (eg welcoming people, making teas etc) please let [Pastor Mike Webb](#) know.

### Other Information

**Church income** was £156.00, which comprises collections, Standing Orders paid directly into the Church account, plus other donations received over the last week.

**Community Outreach Pastor update** – Leading assemblies in local schools is important but not something that can be taken for granted. I am pleased that I am

able to continue to lead assemblies at Rochford Primary School this term. Next week I will be leading two assemblies at Rochford Primary school as well as one at Holt Farm School.

I look forward to our Christianity explored course that will start on Sat 7th Feb. If you would like to help out, or even better if you are able to bring a friend along, please do let me know. Thanks, Mike Webb

**Collect** - Loving God, through your Son you have called us to repent of our sin, to believe the good news, and to celebrate the coming of your kingdom. Grant that we may hear the call to discipleship and gladly proclaim the gospel to a waiting world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Weekly Monday Prayer meeting at 7.00pm** – You will be very welcome to join us, for just 15 minutes, at our regular prayer meeting on [Zoom](#). This meeting is the powerhouse of all that is going on at our church. We seek God's guidance, blessing and empowering for all that we do in our fellowship.

Please don't feel that you have to pray "out loud" in this meeting as there is no compunction or expectation that everyone will do so. Quiet prayers are equally valuable and we believe the Holy Spirit prompts us and uses each one to further God's kingdom. We start each meeting with a short reflection/story, followed by a time of free prayer, for anyone to contribute. We always finish after 15 minutes, with a shared blessing, so this is not extended unduly (and folk can join and leave as they please).

**Becoming a Member of the Methodist Church** – If you would like to know more about what it means to become a member of the Methodist church, there are answers to many frequently asked questions, [here](#). If you would like to investigate further, please approach [Rev Agnes](#), and she will be very pleased to explain more.

**Our Elderly Friends** - Please remember – Shirley, Sylvia, Pat, Gwen and Maureen.

### Other Events

**28 January – 7.45pm - Wholeness and Wellbeing Service**. This is held via [Zoom](#). Meeting ID: 940 4490 9150 Passcode: 321673.

**6 February – 7.15pm (for 8.00pm start) – Radio 4 - Any Questions**. [Highlands Methodist Church](#). Join us and put your questions in person to panellists from politics, media and beyond.

A panel of 4 will answer a selection of questions from the audience, hosted by Alex Forsyth. Highlands Church is a disabled friendly venue but with very limited parking.

Doors will open at 6.30 pm for refreshments and **you need to be seated by 7.15**.  
Recording starts at 8pm. Entry to the event is free on a first come, first served basis, by ticket only. There are no pre-allocated seats. You can book a place at [Eventbrite](#).

**15 February – 3.00pm - Organ Concert with David Stanley and Special Guests.**

[Benfleet Methodist Church](#). Supporting The Music Man Project to perform their Broadway Dream. Tickets £10 or at the door. For tickets call 07402868667.  
Refreshments available

**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](#)

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