

## Prayers of Intercession

Lord, as you sat by the well and asked for a drink you broke some of the taboos of society. You led your disciples in a new way of living. So we pray for the leaders of the nations, particularly the leader of our country...

And Lord, we pray particularly for the Middle East, where war is raging...

We pray for those who have lost loved ones...

We pray for all those who have had their homes destroyed...

Lord, give our leaders wisdom. May they be people of integrity and people who lead with humility and justice.

Reveal yourself to them, Lord, so that they may follow where YOU lead. Speak peace into their hearts and minds,

Lord, and thus bring a swift end to the conflict, we pray.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

The following prayers use this response:

Lord as we get to know you better,

**Reveal more of who you are.**

Lord Jesus, we thank you for coming to live and breathe and work among us. You didn't stay aloof, you came to be the incarnate God, to get your hands dirty for us and with us. Thank you that you experienced all aspects of human life so that we can be assured that you understand us and everything that we have to face. Thank you that you meet us in different ways, revealing different aspects of your character. As we get to know you better, grant us the opportunity to see more of how you move among us now by your Spirit. Help us to see where heaven touches earth as you breathe your new life into so many situations. Help us to hear your whisper as you prompt us to serve you in the people and places around us. Open our eyes to see where you are working and nudge us to follow your lead.

Lord as we get to know you better,

**Reveal more of who you are.**

Lord, we pray for all those who are enquiring about you; those who have heard or seen something and want to know more. Help our church to be a place of welcome, where enquirers are free to ask all the questions they need. We pray for anyone who is preparing for baptism or confirmation or attending a Lent group for the first time. We pray for children in our local schools, that they may find staff who can help them with any questions they have about you. Give us the courage to invite our friends and families to join us in worship. We pray for friends and family members who once knew you but now have wandered away. Help us to gently bring them back to you. And we pray for all those who may enter our church unsure of why they have come. May they find peace and a true encounter with you.

Lord as we get to know you better,

**Reveal more of who you are.**

Lord, as we think of the woman at the well, we think of those in our communities who may be shunned by those around them, perhaps because of their race, their gender, their accent, their past. We think of times when we have felt out of place or unwelcome, unsure of ourselves and uncomfortable. Thank you for those who helped us settle: perhaps with a kind word, a listening ear, a non-judgemental attitude.

We name out loud or in our hearts anyone we know who feels unwelcome in our community... We rejoice, Lord, that you welcome everybody, whoever they are and whatever they have done. Show us how to be an inclusive community here in our church. And send us out to serve those who are on the margins for whatever reason.

Lord as we get to know you better,

**Reveal more of who you are.**

Lord, we thank you for Lent where we are encouraged to get to know you better. Give us the determination to find one or two ways to connect with you more deeply: perhaps by reading, or by downloading an app, by giving something up or giving some of our time or money. May Lent be a time of blessing as we discover more about you. Lead us forward towards Easter with a new desire to serve you and learn from you so that we can rejoice all the more in your resurrection.

Lord as we get to know you better,

**Reveal more of who you are and bring us your peace and joy.**

**Amen**

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# Rochford Methodist Church

77 North Street, Rochford, Essex SS4 1AD

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Church WiFi password is displayed in the building

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

## Sunday 8 March 2026

## Weekly Notices and Prayers (v1.0)

Bible reading for the week

### John 4: 13-14

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

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 8 March 2026

Third Sunday in Lent

### Services and Meetings this week

**Sunday – 9.30am** – Our service will be led by Rev Agnes and Holy Communion will be celebrated during this service.

**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 continue our Lent Bible studies and the resources are [available](#). "Let go of scarcity, embrace abundance" - Readings: John 4 v.5-42 & Exodus 17 v.1-7.

**Wednesday - 8.00pm** – **House Group**. We will be meeting at the home of Judy Garner. If you would like to attend, please speak to a Steward for 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.

**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 – 10.00am** – Our service will be led by Rev Agnes and will be an All Age worship service. As usual for this service, refreshments will be available from 09:30.

**22 March – 10.30am** – We will be holding our **Annual Church Meeting** following the morning service. All are welcome to attend this meeting to learn more about the life/activities of our church during the past year. Every member and friend of the church brings a unique perspective. Your presence ensures that our decisions truly reflect the heart of our congregation.

**Saturday 4 April - 10.00 - 12.00noon** - [Easter Trail & Macmillan Coffee Morning](#). Complete the Easter trail around Rochford to claim an Easter egg prize!

### Other Information

**Church income** was £362.75, which comprises collections, Standing Orders paid directly into the Church account, plus other donations received over the last week.

**Community Outreach Pastor update** – This week I led two assemblies at Rochford Primary School and next week I will be leading one at Holt Farm.

We had fun at Lego club this week, next week we will be making Mother's day cards.

We are hosting an Easter trail and coffee morning on Sat 4th April, 10.00 - 12.00. Please do come along and help out if you can. Sign-up sheets can be found at the back of the church. 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, Sylvia, Pat, Gwen and Maureen.

### Other Events

**14 March – 2 to 4pm** - **Easter Craft Afternoon**. UMC Great Wakering. Free Entry - Donations to Shoebury Ark.

**28 March – 10.00am to 1.00pm** – **Making worship truly inclusive for all**. Rayleigh Methodist Church are holding a session, led by Hannah Ashton, who is a member of Shoeburyness & Thorpe Bay Baptist Church and a professional specialist working in the NHS.

Last November, Hannah ran an awareness raising session on neurodiversity. She is now going to follow that up with a session on making worship truly inclusive for all. This will involve a presentation and sharing of good practice with many practical ideas that we can then implement in our churches. Refreshments will be served and all will be made very welcome. Past experience confirms that Hannah will be both informative and very interesting. Do aim to come along.

**15 March – 5pm - Mothering Sunday Afternoon Tea.** Highland Methodist Church. Children can attend for free with their adults (£5.00) making this a very affordable family event. Tickets are available from this [link](#), or Jean Edmonds on 01702 801517.

**2 April – 6.30pm - Maundy Thursday Meal and Tenebrae Service.** Menu: Egg Salad & Matzos, Lamb (or white fish), New potatoes & peas, Apple & sultana crumble with ice cream, Grape Juice. Please sign up via [BMCShelagh@outlook.com](mailto:BMCShelagh@outlook.com) or 07593 677636

**5 April – 6.30pm – Circuit Easter “PRAYER & PRAISE” Celebration.** 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.

### [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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