

Prayers of Intercession

God of freedom and of new beginnings, you called your people to ready themselves for change, a walk from drudgery and oppression to a land of new hope. Not an easy walk, but a walk with you.

We bring to you now the things that weigh us down, that burden your creation, trusting in the promise that your plans for us are good. We ready ourselves to hear your voice, to follow your call, to place our trust in you.

We pray for our world, your world, as we hear reports of war and conflict, natural disaster and human greed ravaging the land. We think of the continuing hostilities between America and Iran, Israel and Gaza, Russia and Ukraine and the civil war in Sudan. Strengthen and empower those working for peace and those bringing aid to innocent victims of oppression and violence.

We pray for the many people killed, injured and displaced by the glacial collapse and floods in Nepal, Tibet and China; for those affected by earthquakes and flash flooding in America; and for the disastrous effects of wildfires in Algeria, Indonesia and elsewhere.

Lord, break the chains of despair. **Lead your people into new hope.**

As parliament reconvenes under a new Prime Minister, we bring our prayers for our own country, asking that you bless all those in positions of power and leadership. Guide them into wise decisions and effective policies - fair and in the interests of all - not just the wealthy or influential. Where Pharaoh feared those of a different ethnicity, turning welcome into hostility, may we instead embrace the opportunity to cherish our neighbours, no matter how they may differ from us, sharing in the joy of knowing that all are your children and made in your image.

Lord, break the chains of poverty and intolerance. **Lead your people into new hope.**

Just as the Hebrew people prepared for upheaval, this is a time of transition for many experiencing major life changes. We think especially of children, young people and adults embarking on the next stage of their education or employment. We pray for those experiencing anxiety or other mental health difficulties brought about by change or fear of the unknown, and for those who support and mentor them, especially parents and grandparents and other carers. We pray for those relocating, retiring, or entering into new relationships.

Lord, break the chains of uncertainty. **Lead your people into new hope.**

Grant your love, strength and comfort to those whose life is not going smoothly. We think of those sick in mind, or body or spirit; or finding their independence or quality of life restricted in any way; those who are dealing with financial challenges such as unemployment or redundancy, homelessness or unsatisfactory accommodation, poverty or need; and those whose relationships are not running smoothly or who find themselves isolated and alone.

Lord, break the chains of insecurity. **Lead your people into new hope.**

In a moment of quiet, we bring to you the things that are particularly on our hearts today.

Lord, break the chains that bind us. **Lead your people into new hope.**

Amen

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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 6 September 2026

Weekly Notices and Prayers (v1.0)

Bible reading for the week

Matthew 18:20

"For where two or three gathered in my name, there am I with them."

If you have any items that you would like to be added, or suggestions for inclusion, please advise [Mike Sims](mailto:Mike.Sims@rochfordmethodist.org.uk).



HEARING LOOP INSTALLED

Switch hearing aid to T-coil

Sunday 6 September 2026

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Please note that Rev Agnes is now on maternity leave and any urgent matters should be raised with [Rev Pete Moorhouse](#). Rev Kwane Russell will provide cover from 7 September.

Services and Meetings this week

Saturday – 8.30am – Circuit Prayer Meeting on [Zoom](#). Hoping to see you then. All are welcome. Blessings Colin Turner.

Sunday – 9.30am – Rev Pete Moorhouse will be leading, and Holy Communion will be celebrated in this service. Our church policy is that all are welcome to participate and take the bread and (non-alcoholic) wine. There is no restriction on age or standing within the church. If you would rather not receive the bread/wine, that is fine too – simply keep your hands down so that the communion stewards will know not to offer this to you.

Please note that [JAM - Church 4 Children Club](#) will resume on 4 October.

– 4.00pm – Circuit Welcome Service for Pastor Mark Waghorn. This will be held at [Belfairs Methodist Church](#).

Monday – 4.00 to 5.00pm – Monday Club. Resumes on 14 September.

– 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. This is our first week back and Rev Kwane will be leading our study together.

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 on Fridays in term time and is for parents/carers with children aged 0 to 5 years. There is a suggested donation of £2 per family.

Forward Notices

Next Sunday – 9.30am – Our service will be a local arrangement led by the worship leaders.

19 September – 6.00 to 8.00pm – Christianity Explored. This will be the next session in our course of study together. The session will be discussing “The Cross”. If you haven't been along before and would like to find out more, please speak with [Mike Sims](#).

Other Information

Church income was £183.80, which comprises collections, Standing Orders paid directly into the Church account, plus other donations received over the last week.

Caring for our environment – Our call to love God and neighbour extends to how we care for the world around us. Environmental stewardship starts in our daily routines and church life. Simple habits—like switching to energy-efficient bulbs, conserving water, carpooling or walking to services, and supporting local biodiversity—make a real difference when done together.

By treading lightly on the earth, we honour creation and help preserve a healthy community for future generations.

Collect – O God, you bear your people ever on your heart and mind. Watch over us in your protecting love, that, strengthened by your grace and led by your Spirit, we may not miss your way for us but enter into your glory, made ready for all in Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Other Forward Notices

12 September – 7.30pm – The Show Choir – A concert in aid of church charities. [Thorpe Bay Methodist Church](#). Tickets are £10 (£8 concessions). Come and enjoy an evening of music, joy and community together.

12 September – 8.00pm – Folk concert - “[OUR ATLANTIC ROOTS](#)’ fuse together poetic lyrics and cinematic instrumentation, creatively presenting a blend of the cultures they are individually from, by merging genres characterized by their country and folk roots”.

[Highlands Methodist Church](#). Tickets: £5.00 per head, available from: [We Got Tickets](#). Profits will go to the charity [Aspirations in Southend](#).

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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