



Welcome to Market Drayton Methodist Church

Sunday 10th December 2023

MORNING SERVICE 10.30AM

PREACHER

Paul Bishop

Today's Stewards

Pete Savill
Alan & Elizabeth Herd

mdmc.org.uk

circuitadmin@mdmc.org.uk

[@marketdraytonmethodist](https://www.facebook.com/marketdraytonmethodist)

Market Drayton Methodist

Circuit Office Answerphone
01630 655957

MINISTER

Rev Mark Lawrence

Room Bookings;
bookings@mdmc.org.uk

REGULAR WORSHIP

Sundays in Church
10.30AM

PRAYER

Thursdays in church
6.30-7AM

Thursdays on Zoom
7-7.30PM

Meeting ID: 918 5917 6065
Passcode: 438347

We are really pleased to welcome you today!

- * If it is your first time with us today, please do make yourself known to one of the church stewards – they will be wearing badges!
- * Children are invited to Junior Church this morning. They will join the adults in church for the first part of the service.
- * A creche is available in the lounge with experienced helpers.
- * If you would like prayer after the service, please take a seat on the front row and a member of the prayer team will come to you.
- * Please join us for refreshments in the hall following the service if you are able.

The week ahead

Sunday 10th December	Morning Service (with Junior Church)	10.30am	MDMC
Monday	Ukulele Group	4-4.30pm	Hall
	Explosion (5 years old – school year 3)	6 - 7pm	Hall
	Fireworks (years 7+)	7.30–8.45pm	Hall
Tuesday	A Choired Taste (Community Choir)		
Wednesday	CAP Christmas Lunch	11.30 onwards	Hall
	Junior School Christmas Performance	Afternoon	MDMC
Thursday	Early Morning Prayer Meeting	6.30-7am	MDMC
	Toddlers	9.45-11.15am	Hall
	Infants School Christmas	Afternoon	MDMC
	Toddlers	1.15-2.45pm	Hall
	Fusion (years 4-6)	6 - 7.15pm	Hall
	Zoom Prayer Meeting (details below)	7-7.30pm	Online
	Ukulele Group	7.30-8pm	Hall
Friday	Christmas Outreach at The Zone, Fairfields	5pm	The Zone
Saturday			
Sunday 17th December	Nativity Service (Family Service)	10.30am	MDMC
	Junior Fellowship	4.30-6pm	Hall
	TTAAH (Youth Fellowship) (Yr 8+)	7-8.30pm	41 Hampton Dr

#niteblessing

May the morning's light dapple your soul with peace and grace. May the shadows of night and despair be driven back by the presence of Christ and his promises of life and mercy. Wait for the morning, and with it a fresh start and a new dawn. Hope is on its way
Malcolm Duncan

Life Groups are an important way of deepening relationships with God and each other, and inviting people to meet Jesus. If you are interested in joining a life group, please speak to one of the leadership.

Items for the notice sheet to be sent by end of Thursday to Al Savill, notices@mdmc.org.uk: or 07966295413.

If you are able to save paper & receive this weekly publication via email, please let Al know.

Please take any non-perishable food, hygiene or cleaning items to the Parish Rooms Tues or Fridays 9-10.30am or drop off at supermarkets, or in the green bucket in the church foyer.



<https://marketdrayton.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Notices

MINCE PIE REQUEST: We are doing a carols and mince pie outreach event at The Zone, Fairfields Estate, on Friday 15th Dec, 5pm. If anyone can provide a few mince pies (or fairy cakes as an alternative), that would be much appreciated. Please pass to Helen Perry or contact her on 07972720686 to arrange collection, thanks. All are welcome to come and support.

NATIVITY SERVICE: Please come and join us next Sunday for our Junior Church Nativity. See our younger members of the church family re tell the Christmas story at 10.30am.

SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS: Coffee volunteers required for Sunday 31st December. Please speak to Al Savill if you can help.

Advent Devotional

“And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.” Luke 2:7

No room for them. No vacancy. No place. Words that still seem to hang close, even today.

In a world that seeks to crowd Jesus out, where busyness abounds, and hearts are stirred to focus on other things, it can be hard sometimes to choose to keep Him first. It's all too easy to get caught up in the whole hurried dash of the holidays, and to give our attention to what seems more urgent. Our focus gets blurred; and the most important gets pushed aside.

It takes an active and daily choice to put Christ first, especially in a culture that says you're too busy to focus there. Or that life is too full. And there's no more room.

May God help us to choose wisely, what voices we listen to, and where we give our attention today.

He is the One who brings true meaning to Christmas.

He is the One who brings real peace in this all-too-often hectic season.

He is the only One worthy of our time and attention as we slow down the maddening rush around our lives.

We can know all of this in our heads, but may He help us to really believe it in our hearts...and choose to live it out this season.

Renewed.

Refreshed.

Making room for Him, first.

Dear God. Help us to keep our focus first on Christ this season. Please forgive us for giving too much time and attention on other things. Help us to reflect again, on what Christmas is really all about. Thank you that you came to give new life, peace, hope, and joy. Thank you that your power is made perfect in our weakness. Help us to remember that the gift of Christ, Immanuel, is our greatest treasure, not just at Christmas, but for the whole year through. Fill us with your joy and the peace of your Spirit. Direct our hearts and minds towards you. Thank you for your reminder that both in seasons of celebration and in seasons of brokenness, you're still with us. For you never leave us. Thank you for your daily powerful Presence in our lives, that we can be assured your heart is towards us, your eyes are over us, and your ears are open to our prayers. Thank you that you surround us with favor as with a shield, and we are safe in your care. We choose to press in close to you today...and keep you first in our hearts and lives. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

CHRISTMAS



10th DEC | 10.30am | MDMC
Morning Worship

15th DEC | 5pm | The Zone
Christmas

17th DEC | 10.30am | MDMC
Nativity

21st DEC | 6.30pm
Celidh Carols | Hinstock Memorial Hall

23rd DEC | 7pm | MDMC
Youth Choir Reunion
Christmas Concert

24th DEC | 10.30am | MDMC
Christmas Eve Carol Service

25th DEC | 10am | MDMC
Christmas Day Family Service

Sunday 17th December

10.30am
Preacher **Roger Baker**
Worship Leader **Mark Savill**
Reader **Nativity**

Church Stewards **Steve Richardson**
Amy Porter
Welcome stewards **Rosemary Renouf**
Chris Davies

Organ **Al Savill**
Piano **Jacob Savill**
PA **Robin Perry**
Visuals **Kat Talbot**

Creche **Ros Cooper**
Children & youth **Nativity**
Nativity
Coffee **Kat Talbot & Joan Turnbull**