



GODALMING UNITED CHURCH
(Methodist & United Reformed)

SERVICE FOR SUNDAY JANUARY 27th 2019 and notices for the coming week

From the Old Testament we read this morning from the Book of Nehemiah which records Nehemiah's work in rebuilding Jerusalem. Nehemiah was Governor of Persian Judea, under the rule of Ataxerxes of Persia in 5 BC, and was cupbearer to the King (it was his duty to taste the King's wine to ensure it was not poisoned). Learning that the remnant of Jews in Judah were in distress and that the walls of Jerusalem were broken down he asked the King for permission to return and rebuild the city. Ataxerxes sent Nehemiah to Judah as Governor with a mission to rebuild, letters explaining his support for the venture and provision for timber from the King's forests. Once there Nehemiah rebuilt the walls within 52 days despite the opposition of Judah's enemies on all sides. He then took measures to repopulate the city and purify the Jewish community and to enforce the cancellation of debt.

Nehemiah's work delivered earlier prophecies of Daniel and he stands as a testament to faithfulness and perseverance. He lived far away from his home yet he never gave up hope that someday he would return to it. He spent much of his life in exile in a pagan land yet he never wavered in his faith and trust in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He was a prayer warrior putting everything before the Lord in prayer, interceding on behalf of his people and he was rewarded for his diligence and perseverance. He was a practical man, an organiser and leader, a man of courage and determination with deep spiritual resources to stand on who cared so much for his people that he never gave up hope of their restoration, not only to their homeland but to the God who had made a covenant with them that Nehemiah believed would last for ever.

Alan

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord Jesus, open the ears and eyes of our hearts, so that we may hear and understand your word and do your will. We are pilgrims here on earth, and you give us work to do for the kingdom of heaven and we need the guidance into the task you have for us day by day. Amen.

9.00-10.15am eMerge (Fairtrade Sunday breakfast)

Today's stewards are

Vestry Steward Nancy Wilks

Duty Steward Alison Briscoe

(stewards are the people to ask, if you need help before, during or after a service)

Our CLOSED LOOP SYSTEM requires hearing aids to be switched to the telephone or T programme. Recordings of our services are available through the church website, or a CD copy can be provided on request – please ask a Steward.

The Church operates a system of covenanted, planned giving (details of which may be obtained from Nicola Garriock).

There is a children's area available at the rear of the Church which parents and their young children may use during the service.

10.30am MORNING WORSHIP

Led by Rev Claire Hargreaves

Organ: Mark Hargreaves

Hosts: Mary and Robin Bellwood

Sound System: Richard August

Projection steward: Julie Rowling

Holocaust Memorial Day

Welcome and Notices

Call to worship – theme "torn from home"

Today is Holocaust Memorial Day when we are asked to remember the six million Jews who lost their lives under the Nazi regime of World War 2. The Council of Christians and Jews encourages Christian communities, churches and individuals to observe this day remembering also victims of subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

The theme for this morning's service is "torn from home". We are invited to consider what does home mean in a world where there is more forced migration now than since the Second World War? What does it mean for our churches to be home to everyone who comes in?

HYMN (StF) 82 O Lord, my God,

Prayers of praise

“The meaning of home church and family”

Prayer of confession

HYMN (StF) 498 God of all power, and truth, and grace

READING

Nehemiah 8. V.1-3, 5-6, 8-10 (p.492) read by Nancy Wilks

Talk torn from home – can you ever go back?

HYMN (StF) 625 Deep in the darkness

(Tune Spean StF 227)

READING

Luke 4. V.14-21(p.1030) read by Julie Rowling

Talk God is our home

Collection of Offering (*congregation please stand*)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

HYMN (StF) 481 The Lord’s my shepherd

Prayers of Intercession – Wendy Bicknell

HYMN (StF) 465 Guide me O thou great Jehovah

Blessing

Everyone is welcome to join us for coffee or tea or a drink
of squash in the River Room after the service.

The flowers today have been given by Shirley Williams
remembering her husband, Len.

Traidcraft and Mission stalls will be in the hall after the service this morning.

The February issue of SPAN is available today.

Today 2.00pm Pantomime rehearsal

The next Lunch Fellowship is on Wednesday 13th February,
12.15 for 12.30pm at the Jack Phillips, Godalming.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK UP TO SUNDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2019

Mon 28th

Tues 29th 5.00pm Brownies (*Alison tel: 422841*)

Wed 30th 10.00am Godaltots (*Jacky tel:423768*)

Thurs 31st 4.30pm Rainbows (*Julie tel: 428701*)

5.45pm Cubs (*cubs@guc.org.uk*)

7.30pm Scouts (*scouts@guc.org.uk*)

February

Fri 1st 10.30am–2.00pm Church open for private prayer

12 – 1.30pm Lunches

6.00pm Music Kids - (*Barbara tel: 421268*)

Sunday February 3rd

9.00am Holy Communion – led by Rev John Goatley

9.00 – 10.15am Fairtrade Sunday Breakfast

10.30am Morning Worship – led by Rev Paul Hulme

ADVANCE NOTICES

Mon 4th 7.30pm Monday Evening group (Chancel Room)

Tues 5th 2.45pm Ladies Fellowship – Creating Stained Glass Designs
with Rachel Mulligan

Sat 9th 3.30pm & 6.30pm Performances of Pinocchio

Sun 10th 1.00pm & 4.00pm Performances of Pinocchio

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHURCH PLEASE CONTACT:

Minister Rev Paul Hulme 01483 414 709

Church Secretary Sylvia 01483 423 261

Pastoral Assistant Eileen 01483 420 459

Senior Steward Alan 01483 860 683

Lettings Jennifer 01483 420 025

Web site address www.guc.org.uk