

May 1st

Psalms: 139 (MP), 149 (EP)

Cath Kempley: We pray for the homeless here and all around the world, including all displaced people and refugees. Already vulnerable and in need, they are now put in a terrible position by coronavirus. We pray that they will find ways to protect themselves and that communities will work together to protect these vulnerable people.

Location/Organisation: For local businesses

Lectionary Readings: Ephesians 1: 3—10; John 14: 1—14



May 2nd

Psalms: 108 (MP), 27 (EP)

Archbishop Justin: Father, we do thank you for Archbishop Justin, and his leadership of so many of us your people through these troubled times. We ask for your blessing, protection and anointing on him, that you fill him with your Spirit of grace, wisdom and strength that he may continue lead, encourage and inspire us and draw us together through the power of your love.

Location/Organisation: Banwell Men's breakfast

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 29: 1—9; Luke 2: 21—40

Sunday May 3rd

4th Sunday of Easter

David & Beth Ashton-Hilton: Father, we thank You for the blessings You have showered upon us during this time of isolation. We thank You for the peace and the quiet that surrounds us and we pray for those who live in such turmoil that they cannot enjoy that peace and quiet. We thank You that this time has highlighted our need for each other and for all those people that are unselfishly looking after others. We pray for them to remain healthy and committed to this ministry for as long as it is needed. Help us to remember how much a note or card or phone call might mean to someone living alone and separated from those they love during these weeks. Let us not forget these things when restrictions are eased and help us to continue to care for each other far into the future. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For the Methodist local Preachers.

Lectionary Readings: Acts 2: 42—end; John 10: 1—10

May 4th

Psalms: 103 (MP), 1124 (EP)

Hazel Bassingham: Lord, we thank you for the many people who are working hard to keep our lives running as smoothly as possible at this time: not only the medics, carers and emergency services but also the shop, supermarket workers, delivery drivers, the postal workers, the refuse collectors, public transport workers, long distance lorry drivers often driving for a long period without access to their normal rest stops, radio and tv broadcasters and the many more still going out each day. We pray for their wellbeing, and also for the wellbeing of those whose income has been cut and are at risk of being overwhelmed by anxiety. We pray that the realisation of how little control we actually have over this type of happening may make us think more deeply about what truly matters in life, what we need and can be content with without overtaxing our world's resources.

Location/Organisation: For the doctors surgeries

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 32: 1—14; Luke 2: 41—end

May 5th

Psalms: 139 (MP), 116 (EP)

Romany Poppitt-Price: Our dear heavenly Father, we pray for your continued help and support in these most difficult of times. There has been much good that has come out of these troubled months against the covid19 virus. Our villages have pulled together and have offered help to those in need much as You said he who helps a stranger helps me. All faiths have rallied together. The goodness in peoples hearts reflects on your teachings to love thy neighbour as ourselves what ever religion they are. We look forward to the day when we can return home to church & be with one other again. Jesus spent 40days & 40 nights alone in the desert we can follow his example, stay home and be safe It is a good use of time now to read our bibles and contemplate on our blessings. Our lord knows our pains and he will always hear your prayers we just need to look for the answers he gives. Hold onto your faith it is the one thing we have in common and it nourishes our souls.

Location/Organisation: For those living in Castle Hill, Chesterfield Close, Church Street

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 32: 15—34; Luke 3: 1—14



May 6th

Psalms: 135 (MP), 47 (EP)

The NHS: Lord, we thank you so much for all the dedication and commitment of our NHS staff, We ask for your love, protection and peace to surround each and everyone of them both in their work and away from it. May they continue to have the strength and unity to bring us through these troubled times, and even beyond the national display of thanksgiving on Thursday evenings, may each and every one personally feel valued, appreciated and loved.

Location/Organisation: For the Banwell admin hub

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 33; Luke 3: 15—22

May 7th

Psalms: 118 (MP), 85 (EP)

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus: Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Location/Organisation: The Joint PCC meetings

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 34: 1—10, 27—end; Luke 4: 1—13

May 8th

Psalms: 33 (MP), 36 (EP)



VE Day: This prayer was used for the 70th anniversary. O Almighty God, grant, we beseech thee, that we who here do honour to the memory of those who have died in the service of their country and of the Crown, may be so inspired by the spirit of their love and fortitude that, forgetting all selfish and unworthy motives, we may live only to thy glory and to the service of mankind through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For those living in Chestnut Close, Coronation Road, Cooks Lane

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 35: 20—36; 7 Luke 4: 14—30

May 9th

Psalms: 34 (MP), 84 (EP)

Lynda Fell: In this time of uncertainty please can we spare a thought for the lonely, and anyone suffering with mental health issues. Please remember that Jesus is especially fond of each and everyone of us. We can trust in the Lord our God who will carry us when needed or walk along the road with us. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For the CAMEO group.

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 40: 17—end; Luke 4: 31—37

Sunday May 10th

5th Sunday of Easter

Nicky Bradshaw: We give thanks for our family and friends and ask Lord that you will be with them all at this time. We thank you for all those who are working to keep us safe and ask that you may bless them with physical and emotional strength in the coming months. Please Lord, help us as a family to support each other as we continue to adjust to a different way of life and work. We also give thanks for the amazing sense of community here in Congresbury and beyond. May this be something that continues to grow and flourish long after these strange time are over.

Location/Organisation: For Alcoholics Anonymous

Lectionary Readings: Acts 7: 55—end; John 14: 1—14

May 11th

Psalms: 145 (MP), 105 (EP)

Government: Oh Lord you know the cry of our hearts. You set an example of how to lead by keeping your eyes firmly fixed on the will of your Father in heaven. We pray now that you would open the eyes of the our leaders, and all leaders of countries around the world, that they may 'see' you, and lead us accordingly to your will so that spiritually, mentally and physically we will all heal. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For monthly Sunday lunch (Congresbury) Soup Lunch (Banwell)

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 9: 15—end, 10: 33—end; Luke 4: 38—end

May 12th

Psalms: 19 (MP), 97 (EP)

Margaret Hamilton: I am writing this just after Easter when we have been experiencing again the wonderful fact that Jesus takes the darkest and direst event and transforms it beyond our comprehension (and I pray that this will be true for all those thousands of people round the world who have lost their loved ones in the most extreme of circumstances isolated and alone in scary surroundings.) We pray for all those for whom isolation in their homes brings trauma and even danger. Above all we thank you for the outpouring of love and compassion not only in our NHS, and those around the world, but in our communities and neighbourhoods.

Location/Organisation: For those living in Eastermead Lane, Emery Gate, East Street

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 11: 1—33; Luke 5: 1—11



May 13th

Psalms: 30 (MP), 99 (EP)

Foodbank: Lord, In these strange and challenging times, where people can be made anxious by the departure from normality, we give you thanks for the ongoing generosity of others in donations to the Weston foodbank and to St Andrew's school local stocks of supplies. Donations have risen to Weston foodbank, and it is very heartening to know the efforts made by many to donate, to collect the donations, and to ensure it is all delivered where the need is greatest. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For the Worship leaders .

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 13; Luke 5: 12—26

May 14th

Psalms: 16 (MP), 80 (EP)

Jean & Jim Shawcross: We pray to our heavenly father for all the peoples of the world, that they will soon be free from the coronavirus outbreak and keep well. Especially the homeless, the sick and disabled. We pray that they will get all the help and support they need at this difficult time. We pray that the world's leaders will work together to find solutions to our problems for the common good, to look after our lovely planet. We give thanks to everyone who has come to our aid, so enabling us to 'stay at home'. Thank you all so much.

Location/Organisation: For people trafficking to be thwarted.

Lectionary Readings: Acts 1: 15—end; John 15: 9—17

May 15th

Psalms: 138 (MP), 66 (EP)

Care Homes: we pray for all those who are in Care Homes at this time who cannot have their loved ones by their side. We pray for their relatives who are unable to visit. Please surround all people and families suffering in this way with your love and comfort. We also pray for the safety and wellbeing of all the staff who are looking after them.

Location/Organisation: For the Church musicians

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 14: 5—25; Luke 6: 1—11

May 16th

Psalms: 146 (MP), 118 (EP)



Take 5: The church doors are always open on Fridays to many, who do not come through them otherwise, when we welcome them to Take 5. It is sad that the church is shut up and locked just now; that we cannot extend the hand of friendship from our church family out to the community. We pray for your blessing on the families who are part of Take 5 project and look forward to welcoming them back. Help us return with renewed vigour to this work. Help us reflect your love in our dealings with the families who come to take part and maybe through our love allow a glimpse of you and why we are there. Breathe on us Breath of God and fill us with Life anew.

Location/Organisation: For those in debt

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 14: 26—end; Luke 6: 12—26

Sunday May 17th

6th Sunday of Easter

A Prayer from the Methodist Prayer Book:

Protecting God, when we fail, you quietly pick us up; when we fear, you gently hold on to us; when the future looks bleak, you nudge us onwards, until at last we find ourselves, in the place you would have us be. Thank you Lord. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For the groups meeting in the Methodist village halls.

Lectionary Readings: Acts 17: 22—31; John 14: 15—21

May 18th

Psalms: 65 (MP), 121 (EP)

Never Alone: by Alyx Carter

In times as uncertain as these, It's essential for us to be sure,
That Jesus will always be with us, If we reach out and open the door

For just as the disciples became, We are now in need of his care,
But for Jesus to truly be with us, We have to believe he'll be there.

Our world is being told to isolate, Which can allow loneliness to begin,
We need a reminder, we are never alone, Because all of us can let Jesus in.

Naturally you'll begin to feel lonely, You may feel that all hope is lost,
Just know that Jesus still loves you, Turn around and look back to the cross.

Location/Organisation: For the food bank scheme

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 16: 1—35; Luke 6: 27—38

May 19th

Psalms: 89: 1—18 (MP), 89: 19—end (EP)

Caz: (Happy Birthday!) Please pray for the well being and mental health of all young people. Pray for those whose time at home isn't as safe as it could be. Pray for those who struggle to cope with being at home. Pray that God will walk with them and us on this journey and that he will surround us with his love and peace.

Location/Organisation: For those elected to Diocesan & General Synods

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 16: 36—end; Luke 6: 39—end

May 20th

Psalms: 132 (MP), 15 (EP)

Rev Meg Slings: Our Father, We come before you today.
Lord we know you love the world. We bring your world. We remember all those today who are suffering fear and struggling with illness. They may be far away and we do not know them personally but you do. We bring before you those that are sorrowful and sad. Come Lord Jesus, come to this place. We continue to remember those we carry within our hearts. We ask for your Healing. Your Peace for them all at this time. Thank you for loving the world. Thank you for loving all that you created. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For the work of Somewhere To Go

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 17: 1—11; Luke 7: 1—10



May 21st

Psalms: 110 (MP), 8 (EP)

Ascension Day: Risen Christ, you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven: help us to seek and serve you, that we may join you at the Father's side, where you reign with the Spirit in glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For our Zambian link Churches

Lectionary Readings: Acts 1: 1—11; Luke 24: 44—end

May 22nd

Psalms: 81 (MP), 145 (EP)

Stella Wilson: We pray Lord for all people having a tough time right now, whatever their circumstances. We offer up prayers for all medical staff and key workers and we look forward to the future with love and hope. We thank God for all the kindness big and small, given and received, and we say God Bless and thank you Captain Tom.

Location/Organisation: For our Anglican Lay Readers

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 20: 1—13; Luke 7: 11—17

May 23rd

Psalms: 47 (MP), 85 (EP)

The Farming Community: Lord we pray at this time for all farmers and thank them for continuing to provide food for us whilst times are so different. We pray for good weather so that the animals and crops can continue to flourish. May the farmers and staff be protected by you lord in order to carry out their important work. Thank you. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For the Methodist Circuit

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 21: 4—9; Luke 7: 18—35

Sunday May 24th

7th Sunday of Easter

Matt: Today is the anniversary when we celebrate the work and faithfulness of John and Charles Wesley who helped found the Methodist Church and its wonderful contribution to the wider Church at a time when the English Church had lost sight of the ordinary man and woman and focused more on status, church tradition and intellect rather than grace, social care and song. We give thanks today for all that the Methodist tradition has brought to us and throughout the world. We pray for our brothers and sisters in our two Methodist Churches in Banwell and Congresbury and for their minister Meg, for their Lay Worker Lois, and for their local preachers Eric, Grace and Ken. And we also pray Lord for a similar sense of revival and renewal as the Wesley's first inspired during these days that your Church will be inspired to a new sense of 'normal' as we emerge from this time and when we are able to gather together again. Lord, may you use this time to birth new hope, new creativity, and new priorities within us as we look to the future and to the celebration of the coming of your Spirit. Amen

Location/Organisation: For Justice for Zimbabwe

Lectionary Readings: Acts 1: 6—14; John 17: 1—11

May 25th

Psalms: 93 (MP), 18 (EP)

Ken, Yvonne and Maddy Beard: Thank you Lord for your gift of a wonderful family to help and support us and also for the gift of a lovely garden to sit in, which Ken so enjoys. We pray for those who haven't either a family or a garden and ask that you be family for them at this difficult time. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For children in the traveller community to settle into local schools easily

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 22: 1—35; Luke 7: 36—end

May 26th

Psalms: 99 (MP), 68 (EP)

Pastoral Care: Lord Jesus in this difficult time we thank you for all the pastoral care workers who care and pray for your sheep. Give them wisdom to find those lost and hurting at this time. More than ever we need you Lord. In your loving name we pray. Amen

Location/Organisation: For the Methodist weekly Bible Study

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 22: 36—23: 12; Luke 8: 1—15

May 27th

Psalms: 29 (MP), 46 (EP)



Coffee Mornings in Banwell & Congresbury: Thank You Lord for the fellowship and friendship of meeting at our coffee mornings. Although we cannot be together at the moment, we can cherish the friendships we have made and the love we have shared until we can meet again. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For true justice in our legal system

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 23: 13—end; Luke 8: 16—25

May 28th

Psalms: 24 (MP), 139 (EP)

Refugees: Let us pray for all those who cannot take shelter from coronavirus in relative safety—particularly for refugees and all those who have been forced from their homes. Lord, lift our eyes and open our hearts to those who suffer beyond our imagination. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For the Congresbury Singers

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 24; Luke 8: 26—39



May 29th

Psalms: 28 (MP), 147 (EP)

Love Congresbury: Dear Lord, thank You for sharing Your love and generosity within our communities and for the many acts of kindness that we have seen during these difficult times. Despite the turmoil of the world around us, our faith and hope in You is steadfast and will sustain us. Please bless everyone in our communities and we pray that we come safely through this time of illness. Amen.

Location/Organisation: For Banwell Fish Scheme

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 27: 12—end; Luke 8: 40—end

May 30th

Psalms: 43 (MP), 48 (EP)

Schools: We pray for our schools at this time of anxiety for all the young people who have had to leave before the end of the school year. We pray for calmness and hope. So much disappointment as rites of passage have been missed – school camp, the buzz of exams, balls, proper farewells and closure etc. Please grant peace of mind to them. Help them know they are not alone. The world understands their dilemma and you walk with them. We put before you the staff who have had to let the children go before time – before they have completed their duty of care. May they be comforted in the knowledge that they have planted the seeds for upward growth. For the teachers and other staff who continue to work to support young people still in school, we ask for strength and health that they may not be overcome by the responsibility they have to bear. And we ask for wisdom and judgement to be granted to Headteachers and governors and those others responsible for the continued operation of schools. Help them create an oasis of calm in these challenging times. We ask for your blessed protection on our school communities. At the same time please pour blessings on the families who are struggling to cope; on the parents having to nurture and reassure with no end in sight; those facing financial difficulties or mental health issues exacerbated by staying at home. We lay all this before you, Lord, because we know you are in this situation.

Location/Organisation: For serious efforts to slow down climate change

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 32: 1—27; Luke 9: 1—17

May 31st

Pentecost



Pentecost: Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Location/Organisation: Safety for those using the M5

Lectionary Readings: Acts 2: 1—21; John 20: 19—23