

1-Feb	We give thanks to God for our Circuit lay workers – Chris, Sharon, Erica and Cathy – and for all who volunteer their time and gifts in the local churches, the Circuit and District. May God continue to work God’s Kingdom purposes in their ministries.	8-Feb	JPIT tell us approx 6 million people in the UK have fallen behind on bills due to Covid. We pray for the work of JPIT and other agencies who speak up for those who are hardest hit in times of recession. (http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/reset-the-debt/)	15-Feb	Let us pray for the work of MHA, the ‘Live at Home’ schemes, especially those in this circuit, and for all who have to make difficult decisions about where they live.
2-Feb	As lockdown continues, we pray today for family and friends. Who do you miss? What especially do you miss about them? Ask God to bless them. Maybe you can thank them for being who they are too.	9-Feb	As furlough continues for some, and others watch businesses reach crisis point, let us hold our nation before God. When we don’t know what to pray, remember the Spirit interprets our silence as prayer.	16-Feb	As we approach Lent, have a look around you ... as you make time and space for God in this season, how might you want to ‘declutter’ physically, mentally, spiritually? Offer your thoughts to God, maybe praying ‘With God’s help, I will ...’
3-Feb	We again remember all those who work directly and indirectly within the NHS. We pray for resilience, courage, strength and stamina in such testing days.	10-Feb	We pray for key workers who keep services running – postal workers, refuse collectors, council workers, shop keepers. Is there a way you can express thanks?	17-Feb	<i>Ash Wednesday: 2 Cor 5:20b-6:10 For our sake [God] made [Christ] to be with sin who knew no sin, so that we might become the righteous of God. As you begin your Lent journey, how would you like to deepen your relationship with God? What might you need to do? Ask Christ to help you keep your commitment</i>
4-Feb	We pray for local councillors and MPs, that their decision making may be shaped by grace, compassion, and an unselfish willingness to serve for the good of all.	11-Feb	As the Covid vaccine roll out continues, we pray wisdom for all involved in this research and all who help administer the programme. We pray patience for those still waiting to hear about their vaccine.	18-Feb	We remember those who continue to support the most vulnerable through local food banks, and those who need to use them, especially to support families.
5-Feb	In these difficult times of shifting Covid law and guidance, we pray for the police. As they hold these new tensions alongside the unchanging demands of fighting crime, we pray wisdom and diplomacy.	12-Feb	We thank God today for all who work in education, for those who have continued to provide lessons both online and in schools, and all who work behind the scenes to facilitate this learning.	19-Feb	We remember those who are walking in the valley of the shadow of death, for themselves and with loved ones. May they know the presence of Christ, bringing God’s peace which passes understanding.
6-Feb	As we remember all who will lead worship tomorrow, we pray especially for Janet as she is received as a fully accredited local preacher at tomorrow’s Circuit Zoom service. We remember those in training, especially Hattie and Paul.	13-Feb	We pray for families home schooling, for those who must do this while juggling other work and commitments and for all who struggle because of lack of resources including appropriate technology.	20-Feb	At this time when Covid complicates the journey of grief, we pray for funeral directors, for city registrars and all those who offer ministry to those who grieve.
7-Feb	<i>Isaiah 40:21-31 The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary. Take some time to ponder this verse. What does it mean to you to know that God does not faint or grow weary? Bring your prayers to this same God.</i>	14-Feb	<i>2 Kings 2:1-12 Elijah said to Elisha, ‘Tell me what I may do for you ...’ ‘Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.’ Elisha sees God at work in Elijah. If Jesus were to say, ‘Tell me what I may do for you...’ how will you respond, so that others may see God at work in you?</i>	21-Feb	<i>Psalm 25:1-10 ‘O my God, in you I trust ... Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.’ What does it mean to you to put your trust in God? Where might you especially need to trust God this week? Pray this psalm as your prayer.</i>
				LENT 1	

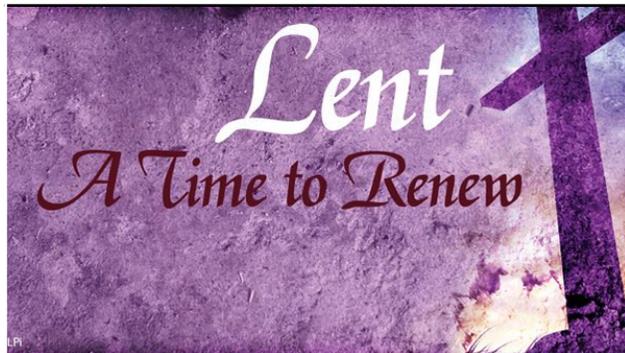
22-Feb Being connected to the Church family has been a lifeline for many during lockdown. As we pray for our church pastoral teams, may we each ask God how we might play our part in pastoral care for all.

23-Feb Lockdown has been particularly difficult for those with underlying health concerns and conditions. We pray God's blessings as they continue to self-isolate and await vaccinations. If that is you, may you know yourself held in prayer.

24-Feb Please pray today for your Church minister and their family, giving thanks that they have continued to offer ministry throughout lockdown. We pray for work-life balance, for energy, inspiration and discernment as they continue to minister.

25-Feb We pray for the Government – for Boris Johnson, his cabinet and the opposition. Holy God we dare to pray for a fairer distribution of the country's wealth and a compassion that seeks the good of all.

26-Feb If you could offer yourself wise advice for such a time as this, what would it be? Offer that prayer-fully to yourself, and hear God's affirmation that you are God's beloved, God's chosen. As you give thanks rest in that assurance today.



27-Feb We pray for Rev Kerry Tankard, our District Chair, for the President, Rev Richard Teal & Vice President of Conference, Carolyn Lawrence, and for all who work in the District and Connexional teams.

28-Feb *Psalm 22:23-31 'Future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.'* We are those future generations even as we must be telling other future generations about the Lord.

LENT
2 What has Jesus done in your life for which you want to give thanks today? This is your testimony - your story in God's story!



You may find some helpful resources for your Lent journey in this publication from Archbishop Justin Welby.

Type **#LiveLent-2021** into an internet search.

Keep your eyes open for Lent resources from the Methodist Church too, including our **Circuit Lent groups**.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/livelent-2021-church-resources-gods-story-our-story>



Prayer Diary

February 2021

Praying with the Methodist Churches and communities of Leeds South & West Circuit

