

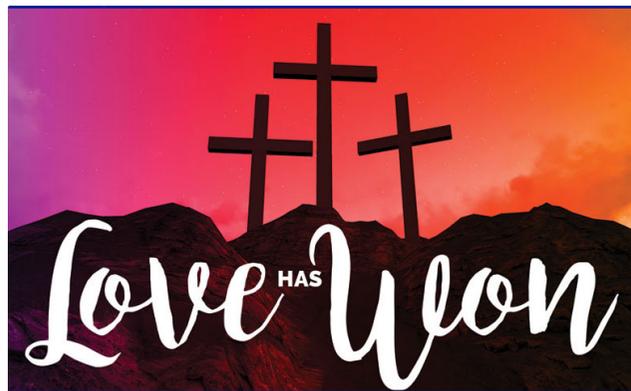
1-May	John 21:15-17 'He said to him the third time, ... do you love me?' Read these verses slowly, putting your own name in instead of Simon. Notice how you respond. Offer this as a prayer. Now read v19b ... how will you 'follow' Jesus today?	8-May	John 10:22-30 'My sheep hear my voice.' How we recognise a 'voice' we cannot actually hear is part of the mystery and majesty of Jesus. Pray that you may 'hear' and recognised God's guiding 'voice' in worship and in your devotions this week.	15-May	John 13:34-35 'A new commandment I give you, that you love one another ... by this everyone will know you are my disciples.' One of the greatest 'turn-offs' from Christianity is believers criticising other Christians. How well are you doing in 'loving one another'? Ask God for grace to love those you find it harder to love.
2-May	On this bank holiday, we pray for all who have to work. We ask God's blessing of joy and stamina for the work. How might you show appreciation for such workers? If this is you, know yourself held in prayer!	9-May	We pray today for young people who will be sitting SATs and/or preparing for other exams in coming weeks. Lord, we ask that they will find joy in learning and be able to demonstrate the best of themselves even in the stress of the exam season.	16-May	We pray today for those especially fearful of the rising cost of living and those who are managing debt. Lord, help us to find ways in which we can show generous love
3-May	We pray for the safeguarding officers in our District, our Circuit (Sharon, Cathy and Erica) and our local churches – praying for God's wisdom, and for courage when the role is especially challenging.	10-May	Pray for your Church leadership team and property and finance stewards. Lord, as we continue to face hard choices, help each church to discern your voice, trusting you for the decisions we too must make.	17-May	We pray today for the key workers behind the scenes of the NHS– the admin staff, porters, cleaners, caterer – continuing to work in challenging contexts. As we pray for respect and appreciation in their work, so too we pray for stamina for the work.
4-May	We remember today those known to us who are struggling with health, especially those who have Covid. As we pray for their healing and wholeness, Lord, show us one kind deed we can do to encourage one of those for whom we pray today.	11-May	We pray for all who work in the media, that they may be witnesses of truth. Holy God, grant them a desire for integrity and give us the discernment of your Spirit as we read and listen to news reports.	18-May	Pray today for yourself. Where would you like to trust God more? Know God's peace? Know God's gift of love? Ask and you will receive!
5-May	We pray for our Government and all who will be standing for local election today. We pray for discernment and wisdom as we exercise the freedom we have to vote.	12-May	We pray for parents, carers and young children who attend groups run by and/or meeting at our churches. May they know a welcome that speaks of God's welcome.	19-May	We pray for the Circuit Leadership Team as they meet and continue to discern God's ministry and mission for this circuit. We pray grace for difficult conversations and courage to be bold and faith-full.
6-May	A MWoL <u>WORSHIP</u> : We will pray daily. What helps you to pray? Maybe a book of prayers; a blank notebook for your own prayers; photos of people or places? Why not try one new prompt for prayer this week / month ... why not tell a friend or your minister how you've got on!	13-May	A MWoL <u>LEARNING & CARING</u> : We will learn more about our faith. How and what are you learning at the moment? Maybe find a friend, and over a coffee, share your learning together!	20-May	MWoL <u>SERVICE</u> : We will care for creation and all God's gifts. Give thanks for the ways in which you are able to care for God's creation. Pray for those whose work is to produce and promote green energy
7-May	We pray today for all who help to clean our church buildings; we may not always notice them but we notice their work.	14-May	We pray today for the Ministers in this circuit. May they know God's wisdom to discern priorities for ministry, seeking to honour God in work, rest and play.	21-May	Pray for your neighbour(s) – in your work place, on your street, wherever you find yourself today. Why not tell them you are praying for them?

22-May ALDERSGATE SUNDAY **John 14:23-29** *'But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, . Will teach you everything...'* Methodism has always had a strong commitment to learning. How will you be attentive to your learning by the power of the Holy Spirit today?

23-May We remember those in care homes and all who work to offer care in the community, also remembering Live at Home schemes. We pray for positive relationships and trust between staff and clients.

24-May WESLEY DAY – Pray StF 610, 'Best of All' hymn for yourself. Here are verses 2&3:
*Best of all is God is with us,
 life goes on and needs are met,
 God is strongest in our weakness.
 Love renews, will not forget.*
*Best of all is God is with us,
 hearts are challenged, strangely warmed,
 faith is deepened, courage strengthened,
 grace received and hope reformed.*

25-May We pray today for those who work for the Emergency Services, giving thanks for what is often a sacrificial ministry. We ask that they may have safe and peace-giving outlets when managing the impact of trauma.



26-May **Luke 23:44-53** Ascension Day and 'Thy Kingdom Come' prayer initiative. Since TKC started in 2016, 172 countries have taken part, praying for 5 friends or family to come to God. Commit to praying for 5 friends or family, daily, until Pentecost.

27-May A MWoL **EVANGELISM**: *We will share our faith with others.* We often tell friends if we have seen a good film or read a good book. Tell a friend something 'good' about a recent church experience – you might even invite them to church with you.

28-May We pray for our local preachers and worship leaders across the circuit giving thanks for their commitment. We pray wisdom and inspiration for their ministry.

29-May **John 17:20-26** *'I ask not only on behalf of these [disciples] but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one...'* Unity doesn't mean we must all think the same. Pray for your church community, to be 'one' with Christ and each other.

30-May We pray today for Revd Kerry Tankard, our Chair of District, and all who hold office in Yorkshire West District, including Revd Melvyn Kelly and Revd David Goodall.

31-May We pray for the ministry and mission of Cliff College, especially their Cliff Fest starting tomorrow. May their teaching and witness be Spirit inspired, Christ focussed and life changing!

 We come to Him our Priest and Apostle
 Clothed in His glory and bearing His name
 Laying our lives with gladness before Him
 Filled with His Spirit, we worship the King *STF 327*
 CCLI 62220



Prayer Diary

May 2022

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

