

1- Nov	<u>Matthew 23:1-12</u> Jesus warns the crowd and his disciples against the hypocrisy of the Jewish leaders who said one thing and did another. How might our own 'religious behaviour' get in the way of putting faith into action? Ask God to help you align your actions to your faith as a witness to others this week.	8- Nov	<u>Matthew 25:1-13</u> Having spoken about his return in glory, Jesus urges his disciples to remain both ready and watchful. In the parable of the bridesmaids, the warning is stark – we are each responsible for our own spiritual condition. Pray to remain close to God as you begin a new week.	15- Nov	<u>Matthew 25:14-30</u> This familiar parable is an ever pertinent reminder that we are to use our time, gifts and skills for God's Kingdom. Ask yourself not 'how much do I have?' but 'how am I using what I have been given?' Now is not the time to 'play it safe' but to use well what God has given
2- Nov	At the beginning of a working week, we pray for those facing financial hardship due to Covid restrictions. Lord help us to be generous in whatever ways we can.	9- Nov	We pray for all who try to uphold the Law – those who work in the prison service and in law courts, for the police force who work directly in our communities and for those who work behind the scenes.	16- Nov	Pray today for your local church. Dare to ask God how you can best use your gifts and skills to further God's Kingdom in and through you. Dare to ask for courage when you need to do things differently.
3- Nov	We pray for the people of the United States of America as they vote on their future president. Lord, please help the people to walk with compassion for others and wisdom for their nation.	10- Nov	We pray for Cathy's and Erica's ministry in the Circuit Office, especially where Covid restrictions have increased their work load. May they know energy in their work and rest in their leisure!	17- Nov	As we continue to feel the impact of a 2nd Covid spike, we pray again for all who work in the NHS, on the patient frontline and those behind the scenes. We pray protection, courage and wisdom.
4- Nov	We pray for Circuit ministers. Holy God, as they minister both within and without the church community, grant them energy to fulfil your calling in them, and help them find time and space to 'come apart a while' <small>Mark 6:31</small> and to rest in you.	11- Nov	On this Armistice Day, we remember all who have made the ultimate sacrifice for others. As we remember those who serve in our armed forces today, let us also pray for those whose careers are cut short from life changing injuries.	18- Nov	Today we remember the MHA Live at Home schemes, especially those based within this Circuit. Lord, please work your good purposes in and through all who manage and all who attend their sessions.
5- Nov	Recognising the new restrictions of the tiered lockdown, pray for someone who's company you miss. Can you phone them?	12- Nov	As we edge nearer to winter, we're aware that Covid restrictions are likely to take a greater toll than they did in the spring. Pray for yourself today – to know the peace of Christ in your heart and home.	19- Nov	We pray for the Circuit Leadership team as they continue prayerfully to offer their time, gifts and skills for God's work in this Circuit. Pray God's Spirit of wisdom and discernment in this ministry amongst us.
6- Nov	We pray for all who work in media. May they distinguish fiction from fact and report with sincerity rather than sensationalism. Help us to be wise as we read and listen to news.	13- Nov	We are saddened at the increasing demand for food banks and pray for all who need these food banks as a lifeline. Maybe you could buy something for your local food bank next time you shop?	20- Nov	Thank you Lord for all who continue to prepare and lead in-person worship, Zoom worship and the circuit resources we receive at home. Join us by Spirit whenever and wherever we worship you.
7- Nov	We pray for JPIT and Christian Aid working together to seek debt release for some of the world's poorest countries, that their money can be used for the Covid crisis http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/cancel-the-debt/	14- Nov	We pray for our monarchy - whether we support them or not, we give thanks when they use their position of influence to speak out for the environment.	21- Nov	Look around your home today ... give thanks for the shelter and safety it offers you. Pray for those who will have no home to shelter them tonight. We pray for all who work with the homeless too.

22-
Nov

Matthew 25:31-46 In this familiar parable we are again reminded that it is not what we have that matters but how we use what we have. In these difficult times of Covid restrictions, ask God to show you how to be generous with what you have in order to be Christ's 'hands and feet' for those in need.

23-
Nov

Today we give thanks for the treasurers in our local churches and in the Circuit. Lord thank you for their ministry of money and mathematics! We pray for this evening's Governance meeting that we might be wise stewards of the Circuit's resources.

24-
Nov

We give thanks for Revd Kerry Tankard, our District Chair, for all who work in the District team in the office, in the learning network and in administrative roles we might never know about.

25-
Nov

We pray for Rev Jo Lightowler, our superintendent, that she may experience more and more of the Spirit of God in her ministry and more and more of God's love in her family and support networks.



26-
Nov

Holy God, as grief is magnified by Covid restrictions, we pray for all who mourn, and who watch or wait for news of loved ones close to death. Send your Comforter to accompany all who walk through the valley of the shadow of death.

27-
Nov

For all who work in local and national Government continuing to look for ways to support the country and individuals, we pray wisdom, compassion and integrity in their decisions and their own behaviours.

28-
Nov

Pray for all who offer pastoral ministry, formally and informally, as we seek to watch over one another in love. Is there someone you could call today to let them know you are praying for them?

29-
Nov

Mark 13:24-37 As we begin our Advent journey remembering 'our God contracted to a span, incomprehensibly made man' so we are again reminded to keep watch. Ask God where you can be a visible, incarnate presence of Christ this week.

30-
Nov

We remember the young people in our nation who have made many sacrifices this year, not least in their education. May they find new, exciting and inspiring ways to learn. We pray for schools, colleges, universities and all who work in them. We pray wisdom and insight for all who work in our churches to support young people.

The Tuesday lunchtime Methodist prayer initiative can be found by typing <http://bit.ly/TuesdayMethodistPrayer> into an internet search. It can also be found on the Methodist Church website and Facebook pages.



Prayer Diary

Nov 2020

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

