

Prayers of Intercession

Loving God
we come to place into your hands
ourselves, our lives and our concerns for the world in which we live.

As our attention is divided and our world becomes increasingly rushed and noisy
and we feel the constant pressure to be doing
more and more with fewer and fewer resources,
we pray that we would find our still centre in you
and that our actions would be rooted and grounded in your abundance.
Come close to us O God
All: Hear our prayer.

As world leaders struggle to make and keep the peace
and the suffering caused by wars seems unending,
we pray that you would keep alive our hope in a better future
for all the peoples of the earth,
remembering particularly the efforts to build a just and lasting peace
in the Middle East and between Russia and Ukraine.
Come close to us O God
All: Hear our prayer.

As social media scatters our attention and fragments society
and shouting replaces conversation, listening and debate,
we pray that we would be disciplined in our use of technology
and that we would pay attention to others
and use our words to build up other people.
Come close to us O God
All: Hear our prayer.

As four areas of England move into drought following extreme heat
and wildlife and crops are under threat,
we pray for more careful stewardship of Earth's precious water resources
and for accountability where water is polluted by carelessness
or choices driven by greed.
Come close to us O God
All: Hear our prayer.

As our rights to peaceful protest become increasingly limited
and challenging the status quo comes at great cost,
we pray for wisdom to discern the actions to which you are calling us
and courage as we respond to issues that threaten life and stability on this planet.
Come close to us O God
All: Hear our prayer.

As so many people are rootless and lonely in our communities
and young and old seek a place to belong and to be heard
we pray that our churches would be places of hospitality,
where bread is broken and shared
and friend and stranger find a welcome home.
Come close to us O God
All: Hear our prayer.

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Church WiFi password is displayed in the building

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/rochfordmethodist

Sunday 20 July 2025

Weekly Notices and Prayers (v1.0)

Bible reading for the week

Psalm 34: 7-8

The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him,
and he delivers them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

If you have any items that you would like to be added, or suggestions for inclusion,
please advise [Mike Sims](#).



This Church has an inductive loop. Anyone attending Sunday services who has an appropriate hearing aid should switch to Channel T.

Sunday 20 July 2025

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Services and Meetings this week

Sunday – 9.30am – Our service will be led by the JAM Youth Team – “JAMming on the Third”. As per previous services on the 3rd Sunday, this will be very different to our usual act of worship, specifically aimed to help those who have limited/no previous experience of church.

Monday – 2 to 3.30pm - [Cake and Kindness](#). Pop in for a free cup of tea/coffee and a piece of homemade cake. It is open to all!

– **4.00 to 5.00pm** – [Monday Club](#). Now closed until September.

– **7.00 to 7.15pm** – **Rochford Prayer** via [Zoom](#). Meeting ID 768 0376 1257
Passcode: 8yTeDH.

Tuesday – 7.30pm – **Bible Study**. You are welcome to join us on [Zoom](#). Meeting ID: 948 2779 0660. Passcode: 425539. We are currently studying the “I am” statements of Jesus. As usual, this is shared with our friends from Rayleigh and Hockley.

Thursday – 7.30pm - **Table Tennis**. Please let [Colin and Margaret](#) know if you’re planning to come as there are occasions when they do not meet, so it’s worth checking first.

Friday – 9.30 to 11.30am – **Happy Cup Breakfast Club**. Now closed until September.

– **12.30 to 2.00pm** - **Creative Companions – Arts and Crafts**. Meet up for a chat and a fun afternoon of craft. Bring your own project and packed lunch. Light refreshments will be available. Free. No booking required. Just pop along.

Saturday – 11.00am to 3pm - **Open Day at Westerley** - We would love you all to join us for our open day. Card stall; Cake stalls; Tea’s coffees and cold drinks; Face painting; Guess the sweets; Guess the bear’s name; Guess the weight of the cake; Raffle; Lucky dip; Ploughman’s lunch; Jelly and ice cream; Strawberries and cream.

Forward Notices

Next Sunday – 9.30am – Our service will be led by Rev Agnes Sam and will include the celebration of Holy Communion.

4 August – Church Leadership Team (CLT) meeting. The CLT will be meeting via Zoom and if you have any points that you would like to be discussed, please let Rev Agnes, or one of the Stewards know. Please pray for us in this meeting as we are so dependent upon God’s blessing, and discerning His will for us.

10 August – Local Arrangement – Songs of Praise – Many thanks to those people who have volunteered to choose and share a favourite hymns/songs/bible passage or poems. There is room for more, so please contact [Mike Sims](#), if you are able to contribute to the service.

Other Information

Church income was £340.36, which comprises collections, Standing Orders paid directly into the Church account, plus other donations received over the last week.

Community Outreach Pastor update – Thanks to all who helped out at our summer party last weekend. We had 35 children attending with around 20 adults. They all enjoyed themselves and listened to a short talk on taste and see that the Lord is good.

We had our last Lego club of the term this week. Thanks to Joan for all her hard work at Lego club, from September she will be leaving Lego Club to focus on other things. We will need extra support at set up and set down at Lego Club, if you can help out, please do get in touch. Mike Webb

Collect – Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those things which last for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Elderly Friends - Please remember – Shirley Beadle, Sylvia Briggs, Pat Rubidge, Gwen Smith and Maureen Whalley.

Other Events

28 July – 7.30pm – Neurodiversity Awareness – A presentation by Hannah Ashton from Shoeburyness & Thorpe Bay Baptist Church. She has considerable experience and professional expertise in this field and we have been assured that this will be very informative. This is being held by our friends at [Rayleigh Methodist Church](#). In recent times we are being encouraged to be more understanding and value the natural variations in how people’s brains work – our different ways of thinking, learning and behaving. As an inclusive church we celebrate the rich diversity of God’s creation and aim to cater for each and every one of us. Rayleigh are hosting a presentation workshop led by Hannah Ashton, who has considerable understanding and professional expertise

in issues surrounding neurodiversity and autism.

To help with setting up, it would be helpful (but not essential) if you could let Keith Norman know by [phone](#) or [email](#), if you would like to attend.

1 August - 10.00am to 12noon - Book Sale & Coffee Morning - [Chalkwell Park Methodist Church](#). Join us for a chat and refreshment with books, jigsaws and gifts Plus homemade cakes.

2 August – 4.00 to 6.00pm - Loving Through a Broken Heart – Palestine and Israel in the Shadow of Gaza and Iran. The South Essex Methodist Circuit is hosting the event at Trinity Methodist Church, 481 Clay Hill Rd, Basildon SS16 4NN. This will be an illustrated talk with real stories and images from the West Bank and Israel. Led by Rev David Hardman. If you would like to attend, please [email](#).

17 August – 6pm – Sunday evening service at [St Peter's Chapel, Bradwell on Sea](#). There will be [series of summer Sunday evening services](#) over July and August, and our own District Chair, Rev David Chapman will be leading this particular one.

13 September - The Autumn Synod of the Bedfordshire, Essex & Hertfordshire District is taking place at [Belfairs Academy](#). The Circuit is hosting this meeting and we need **volunteers** to ensure the day runs smoothly. The roles will involve assisting in the car park, stewarding/ acting as a point of help to attendees & overseeing the serving of refreshments (you do not need to provide refreshments).

The main Synod meeting times are 10-3pm but volunteers are required outside of these hours. We have 3 main volunteer shifts: 9-12:30pm, 12:30-4pm, 9-4pm.

If you are able to volunteer on the 13th September, could you please [email](#) the office with the times you are available.

[Donations](#)

If you would like to donate to the work of Rochford Methodist Church, you can do so from [here](#). If you want to buy something new, please remember to do so through [Easyfundraising](#).

To create a **Standing Order** for Rochford Methodist Church you will need the following details: A/c Name Rochford Methodist Church; A/c No 90766712; Sort Code 20 79 73. If you are a taxpayer, please could you contact Bruce Glendenning so that a simple form can be easily filled in. We can then reclaim tax back on the donations.

You can also donate to the Church by [PayPal Giving Fund](#)

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If you no longer wish to receive these Notices, please let [Mike Sims](#) know, and your name will be removed from the mailing list.

