

Prayers of Intercession

God of all grace,
though we look to heaven to find you,
turn our eyes to the world in which we live.
Help us to see you at work around us
and to place all our anxieties for ourselves, our community and our world
into your loving hands.

Lord in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

God of all grace,
though we are often afraid as the first disciples were,
keep us close to you and constant in prayer.
Help us to remember that your word was given to comfort us in times of trial, risk, difficulty and violence
and to trust that you hold us in your wounded hands.
We pray for people who are persecuted for their faith
and for people whose faith leads them to speak out against injustice,
at great risk to themselves.

May we not be surprised when our faith is tested by life and its struggles
but trust you for the strength we need to survive.

You affirm the value of our lives on this earth:

keep us all firm in our desire to serve you, although it may cost us everything.

Lord in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

God of all grace,
though life can be hard and sometimes we cannot see the way ahead
teach us to trust you when darkness surrounds us.
We pray especially for anyone who today feels despairing or overwhelmed by life;
and for the sick and the lonely
that they will be comforted by your love that meets us where we are.
Root us in community and in friendship
and help us to restore and support each other when the going is tough.

Lord in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

God of all grace,
though our lives and our world are full of uncertainty
and suffering may come,
you will love us to the end.
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
and equip us to do the painstaking work of creating heaven on earth.
May we be faithful companions of Jesus in his work of transformation.

Lord in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

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Church WiFi password is displayed in the building

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/rochfordmethodist

Sunday 17 May 2026

Weekly Notices and Prayers (v1.0)

Bible reading for the week

Acts 1: 7-8

Jesus said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

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



HEARING LOOP INSTALLED
Switch hearing aid to T-coil

Sunday 17 May 2026

7th Sunday of Easter/ Ascension Sunday

Services and Meetings this week

Sunday – 10.00am – Our service will be led by Rev Agnes and during this service Heather's great nephew, Max Pullum, will be baptised. As this will also be our monthly All Age Worship service, please note the later starting time.

Monday – 4.00 – 5.00pm – Monday Club. Ages 4-12. Crafts, Lego, snacks, games, and it's free! A responsible adult will need to stay at all times.

– **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 studying Philipians.

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 for 0-5 year olds and their carers will be closed on Friday 22nd May and Friday 29th May. We re-open on Friday 5 June.

Forward Notices

Next Sunday – 9.30am – Our service will be led by Debra Spinks. This will be our Church Anniversary Sunday.

27 May – 8.00pm – Our **House Group** will be meeting at the home of Heather and Mike. You are very welcome to join us and if you need further information, please speak to them/another Steward.

4 July – Summer Party. Pastor Mike is starting to plan this and will be very grateful for volunteers to assist on the day. This event is aimed at reaching out to the families that we have links with, eg through JAM and Monday Club. We are seeking to welcome them all into the church family!

Other Information

Church income was £232.00, which comprises collections, Standing Orders paid directly into the Church account, plus other donations received over the last week.

Community Outreach Pastor update - "Self-compassion is talking to yourself the way you would talk to your best friend."

"The inner critic knows no boundaries and will destroy us."

"What's the bravest thing you've ever said? Help."

I attended an event at the The MegaCentre in Rayleigh this week led by Patrick Regan, author of Small Steps for Big Change. He was looking at being overwhelmed in modern life and these quotes made me think. Go to www.smallstepsforbigchange.co.uk to find out more!

I led three assemblies this week, looking at the parable of the prodigal son. We also held Lego club, where we enjoyed painting butterflies. Thanks, Mike Webb

Happy Cup Breakfast Club is the baby and toddler group run by this church for our local community. A warm welcome awaits every Friday in term time and we hope that each child and adult attending experiences the love of God through the conversations and the care and commitment shown. We provide young families with the opportunity to make new friends and develop a supportive network. It is great to see the young children learn and develop through play, stories and songs. Breakfast is available, both cooked and continental options, there's nothing like sharing food, to help bring people together. June is the National Month of Prayer for toddler groups and we would like to encourage you to pray regularly throughout June for Happy Cup, for all the volunteers and for all those who attend, just once or regularly. We pray for God's guidance for the future of the group. Thank you, Joan Brown.

Collect – Lord of Hosts, purify our hearts that the king of glory may come in, even your Son Jesus, our Redeemer; for he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Our Elderly Friends - Please remember – Shirley, Sylvia, Pat, Gwen and Maureen.

Other Events

21 May – 7.30 to 9.30pm – An evening with Adrian and Bridget Plass - Benfleet Methodist Church. There will be no cost for the evening, but booking is essential as

there is limited seating. To book please [email](#) your name, and anyone else coming with you.

23 May – 10.30am to 12.30pm – A Craft Fayre & Quiche/Pie Morning – [Canvey Methodist Church](#).

7 June – 4.00pm – Rev Steve Mayo's Testimony Service. [Rayleigh Methodist Church](#). Preacher will be Deacon Sarah McDowall. If you are free to come along, it will be lovely to see a good contingent from Rochford to celebrate Steve's transition into presbyteral ministry.

13 June – 3.30pm – Beetle Drive and Karaoke – [Hockley Methodist Church](#). Adults £5, Ages 5-16 £3, Group of up to 5 £15, Under 5s free. Price includes tea, coffee, squash and cake, or bring your own snacks/soft drinks. For tickets please [email](#) or call Gill 07518 027291.

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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