



St. Matthew's Church

the Parish of Edgeley & Cheadle Heath

belong + serve + tell + grow



The Revd. David Brewster ~ 07548 716 512

Dear St. Matthew's Family,

As I am sure you will have heard, the government have now given the go-ahead for churches to open for public worship. We took the decision to take a little time to think through how we might open in as safe a way as possible.

At the outset, I want to recognise that for some of you a return to worship in the St. Matthew's building is impossible or unthinkable. We understand. Just as in the past we have been **one church** joining to worship at two times, so now for the time being, we will continue to be one church joining to worship in two ways – on YouTube whenever we turn on our devices, or at 10:30am in person.

Worship in our building in the next phase of recovery will look different. Some things will have a familiar feel - other things will feel very strange. Below I've tried to describe some of the measures we are undertaking.

We will have said responses, bible readings, a sermon, intercessions, music, and a blessing. We will have a collection, but we will not be passing a plate – our large collection plate will be on a table as you enter church. Each child will be given an activity pack to use during the service where they are sitting with those with whom they came.

We will, for the time being, sit throughout the service so as not to encroach on each other's space. We won't be able to sing; or sit close

Search for St. Matthew's, Edgeley and find us on YouTube or Facebook.
The Revd. D Brewster, 66 Berlin Road, Edgeley, Stockport, Cheshire SK3 9QF
The Parish of Edgeley and Cheadle Heath ~ Registered Charity 511830



St. Matthew's Church

the Parish of Edgeley & Cheadle Heath

belong + serve + tell + grow



The Revd. David Brewster ~ 07548 716 512

to our friends (unless we are from the same household), and face masks will be optional.

We will maintain social distancing, so it may be that when you arrive you will have to queue until you are shown to a seat. If you need to use the toilet, there will be a socially distanced queue. When leaving (and throughout the service) we will be aware of those around us and maintain a safe distance. We will enter through the front door and leave through the side door.

I am sure for a while, as in much of our experience over the last four months, this will all feel very alien. If you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call.

Also enclosed with this letter is our *Luke's Gospel Challenge*. During the six weeks from Sunday 26th July to 6th September we are challenging the church family to read through the whole of Luke's Gospel. We are praying that by the working of God's Spirit, we might each meet with Jesus. Can I encourage you to give it a go and if you'd like join in the conversation on Facebook or by email?

That is all for now, but please let me know how we can continue to support you until we are all able to meet together once again.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David'.

Search for St. Matthew's, Edgeley and find us on YouTube or Facebook.
The Revd. D Brewster, 66 Berlin Road, Edgeley, Stockport, Cheshire SK3 9QF
The Parish of Edgeley and Cheadle Heath ~ Registered Charity 511830



St. Matthew's Church

the Parish of Edgeley & Cheadle Heath

belong + serve + tell + grow



The Revd. David Brewster ~ 07548 716 512

Take care and God bless.

Search for St. Matthew's, Edgeley and find us on YouTube or Facebook.
The Revd. D Brewster, 66 Berlin Road, Edgeley, Stockport, Cheshire SK3 9QF
The Parish of Edgeley and Cheadle Heath ~ Registered Charity 511830
