

We give thanks to all who lead our worship

		3rd Sept	10th Sept	17th Sept	24th Sept	1st Oct	8th Oct	15th Oct	22nd Oct	29th Oct	5th Nov	12th Nov	19th Nov	26th Nov
		22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time	31st Sunday in Ordinary Time	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sunday before Advent
Lectionary Year A 2023		Exodus 3:1-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28	Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 149 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20	Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm 114 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35	Exodus 16:2-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32	Exodus 20:1-4, 7 9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46	Exodus 32:1-14 Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4:1-9 Matthew 22:1-14	Exodus 33:12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22	Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Matthew 22:34-46	Joshua 3:7-17 Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Matthew 23:1-12	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 Psalm 78:1-7 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13	Judges 4:1-7 Psalm 123 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95:1-7a Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46
Carlton	10:30 am	Bell	Wilkinson	Jambawo HC	Hargreaves HF	Ewart	Oliver	Robinson	Brookes	Smith HC	Gill	10:20 am Gilbert RS	P Dickinson	Jambawo HC
Eaglescliffe Trinity	10:30 am	R Williams HC	Gill	Hargreaves	Bell	R Williams HC	A Howard-Norman	R Williams HF	Oliver	R Williams	Smith HC	Dodd RS	Robinson	Bemrose
Greens Lane	10.30 am 1.00 pm 6.00 pm	Gilbert - Wilkinson	R Williams - -	Oliver R Williams B J Howard-Norman	Jambawo HC - -	Bemrose - Dodd	R Williams HF/AA - -	Smith R Williams B R Williams HC	Wilkinson HC - -	Bell - -	Robinson - Jambawo	R Williams P - -	S Williams R Williams B O Dickinson	R Williams HC - -
North Billingham	10.00 am 12.15 pm	O Dickinson -	Jambawo HC -	Smith -	S Williams Jambawo B	Wilkinson -	Dodd HF -	Jambawo HC -	Gill Jambawo B	A Howard-Norman -	Oliver -	Hargreaves RS -	Jambawo HC -	P Dickinson -
Norton	10.30 am 12.15 pm	M Ramsden HC -	A Howard-Norman -	P Dickinson Jambawo B	Smith -	Jambawo HC -	Toplis HF/AA -	S Williams Jambawo B	J Howard-Norman -	Jambawo -	Jambawo HC -	Jambawo RS -	Wilkinson -	Hargreaves -
St Andrew's	10.30 am 1.00 pm	Ewart -	S Williams -	J Howard-Norman HC -	R Williams HF/P R Williams B	Robinson -	Gilbert -	Bell -	R Williams HC R Williams B	M Ramsden CA -	A Howard-Norman -	O Dickinson RS -	R Williams HC -	Wilkinson R Williams B
Thornaby	10.30 am 12.15 pm	Jambawo -	M Ramsden HF/AA M Ramsden B	Bemrose -	M Ramsden CA/HC -	S Ramsden -	O Dickinson -	A Howard-Norman -	M Ramsden HC/AA M Ramsden B	Ewart -	M Ramsden HC M Ramsden B	LA -	J Howard-Norman -	M Ramsden AA M Ramsden B
Yarm	9.00 am 10:30 am	S Ramsden HC S Ramsden AA	- P Dickinson	- M Ramsden HC	- Brookes	M Ramsden HC M Ramsden AA	- Bell	- M Ramsden/ Johnson HC/Y260	- Jambawo	- Bemrose	Jambawo HC O Dickinson AA	- M Ramsden RS	- M Ramsden/ Andrew Y260/HC	- LA
Yarm Road	2.30 pm	-	-	-	-	R Williams F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuesday services		5th Sept	12th Sept	19th Sept	26th Sept	3rd Oct	10th Oct	17th Oct	24th Oct	31st Oct	7th Nov	14th Nov	21st Nov	28th Nov
Norton	10.00 am	-	Jambawo HC	Gill	Wilkinson	Hargreaves	Jambawo HC	Bell	Dodd	Wilkinson HC	Dodd	Wilkinson	Jambawo	Bell
St Andrew's	10.45 am	R Williams	Dodd	Wilkinson	Dodd	R Williams	Wilkinson	Jambawo	Hargreaves	Dodd	R Williams	Dodd	Wilkinson	Dodd

AA:All Age worship B:Baptism CA:Church Anniversary F:Final Service HC:Holy Communion HF:Harvest Festival LA:Local Arrangement P:Parade RS:Remembrance Service Y260:Yarm 260th Anniversary Celebrations

Local Preachers

Colin Bell (2018)
Peter Bemrose (1995)
Colin Brookes (1993)
Alison Dale (2019)
Olwyn Dickinson (2002)
Peter Dickinson (1999)
Dr. Peter Dodd (2012)
Cath Ewart (1993)
Les Gilbert (1995)
Howard L Gill (1971)

Sheila Hargreaves (1995)
Alastair Howard Norman (2019)
Carolyn Oliver (1997)
A Keith Robinson (1971)
Jan Smith (1999)
Paul Toplis (1983)
Jim Wilkinson (2011)
Steve Williams (2013)
Marjorie Winter (2019)

Local Preacher on note

Jacky Booth

Visiting Preachers

Rev Johnson - Derbyshire North East Circuit

Preachers on longer on active service

Edwin Doidge
Marjorie Springett
Margaret Williams

Worship Leaders

Greens Lane Win Aston
Jacky Booth
Judy Morrison
Margaret Walton
Thornaby Les Kitching
Eileen Middleton
Judith Powell
Yarm Janet Howells

Planting precious seed on the motorway Matthew 13:1-9

Planting seeds on the motorway! It is madness! Utter madness! The NRSV Bible says path, but what the heck! The A19 makes the point clearer to me. Let's take a step back ... a big step... 2000 years long! With a coy smile (some would say cheeky), Jesus sets this conundrum before his disciples: "What do you make of this? A farmer planted seed. ..., some of it fell on the road, and birds ate it. Some fell in the gravel; ... Some fell in the weeds; ... Some fell on good earth ... (The Message Bible)

I can understand dropping seed on the gravel, or in the weeds or indeed the good earth. But I draw a line on the path, the road, the motorway. What kind of stupid is this? Never mind the birds picking it up for food! Watch out for the oil-guzzling, carbon-emitting, environment-destroying human-made perambulators scourging God's earth! Mr Sower, you have got this one wrong, sir! You are careless, reckless, and wasteful! Much of your seed is on the ground that holds little promise. Seed on the Road gets the gold medal for agricultural ignorance!

It is unsurprising that we begin this new Methodist Church year with echoes of the last quarter still ringing in our hearts. The parable of the Sower, from the last quarter is perfect to set us up for the beginning of the church year. The call is the same: whether you are a Worshiper, Local Preacher, Worship Leader, Class Leader, Community Evangelist, Outreach Practitioner, or Food Bank volunteer. Scattering seeds on the unyielding road is our calling. Jesus invests in disciples who look similarly unpromising. He spends time with tax collectors and sinners, with lepers, the demon-possessed, questionable characters, and all types of outcasts, men or women or children.

And yet he proclaims the good news of an abundant harvest for everyone. In God's Kingdom, everyone is a candidate for good soil, whether on the path, rocky ground, or among the thorns. Certainly, we navigate through all these soils and more during our lifetime. May you go on the motorway this quarter and scatter the seeds of hope and love. May you be the motorway and receive the seeds of grace and peace. The good news is that the Sower keeps planting generously, extravagantly, even in the least promising places. That, my brothers, and sisters, is our calling as we worship and seek God through this Preaching Plan!

With Love

Vincent

Health Warning: The various types of soil are not about a particular person or group, and one or one's community is not necessarily good soil.

STOCKTON METHODIST CIRCUIT 13/03

September - October - November 2023



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Rev Sarah Ramsden

SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS

Rev Margaret Fleming

Rev John Howard-Norman

Rev Eric Mason

Senior Circuit Steward

Mark Hall

Circuit Stewards

Peter Dodd Les Gilbert

Carolyn Noble Paul Toplis

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District Administrator

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Conference encourages every ordained Presbyterian to keep one day free from Circuit responsibilities. Please respect that day except of course for emergencies:

Rev Dr Vincent Jambawo - Friday

Rev Dr. Martin Ramsden - Friday

Rev Rachel Williams - Saturday