

2nd August 2021

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints
for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Psalm 84:1-2 (NRSVA)

Dear Friends,

Sunday 8th August is intended to be an important milestone in our return to our church buildings. There will be in-person Communion services in each of our three churches. You are being encouraged to attend in person if you can.

We are grateful for those who have enabled our buildings to be open so far, and we want to encourage them in their commitment by seeing a few more faces return.

We will continue to have Covid precautions in place in order to make it possible to do this safely.

We are not cutting anybody adrift. The Oadby service will continue to be broadcast into the Aigburth lounge, and also available to those of you joining from home, but we hope as many people will be physically present as possible. (If you aren't able to join us in person and want Communion brought to you, please let me know.)

This particular week, you will also be able to get a coffee after the Oadby service. It is the one Sunday when Zeph's is open, because we participate in the Motorfest – part of our commitment to being a church at the Heart of the Community.

Our Junior Church will not be resuming until September, but we will have resource packs available for any young children who are present and it will be good to welcome some of our families back.

Prayers please for Houghton and Glen as their Church Councils meet on Wednesday 4th and Monday 16th to decide on next steps toward relaxing Covid restrictions.

God bless you all – and stay safe.

Rev Derek

I am also looking for volunteers to help lead as well as people to worship in-person.

- On Wednesday 11th August (11:30am) it will be the first of our new midweek services in the Oadby Church.
- On Sunday 15th August (6pm) I will lead the Circuit Service from in the Glen church

Please support both of these if you can.

Prayers

- We pray for Artwell Mahembe and Talent Nindi who are preparing to be married at OTMC in September.
- We pray for Zenda and for Phoebe as their families prepare for their baptisms in September.

Thank you for the positive feedback on Ann Reddecliffe's sermon on Sunday. It will be reproduced in the next edition of Affinity, but do let me know if you would like a copy now.

Funerals

We hold families and friends who mourn in our prayers continuing to give thanks for the lives of Derek Ridgewell, June Aldridge, Eileen Edmond and Gill Beagley.

Joan Upton's funeral service will take place later this week, and Margaret Rawson's funeral service will take place next week.

Safeguarding

Please see the attached flyer about Safeguarding training. Please sign up if you need initial training or if it is more than four years since you did Foundation Training.

Sunday Worship

10:30am Morning Worship.

The **Oadby & Glen churches are open every week** so that people can worship in person. A service will continue to be available online and is also projected into the MHA Aigburth lounge.

	Oadby	Glen	Houghton
8 th Aug	Derek McLean (Holy Communion)	Gordon Webb (Holy Communion)	Peter Brookes (Holy Communion)
15 th Aug	James Blackhall	Richard Gill	Derek McLean
22 nd Aug	Oadby Worship Leaders	Andy Biggins	Audrey Baker
29 th Aug	Welcome service for Deacon Sharon Dilley and Revds. Israel Selvanayagam and Liam Dacre-Davis. Service at Christchurch, also available online		

It is the Oadby service available online where more than one preacher is shown.

6 pm Evening Worship. Circuit Services online each week.

August Preachers: 8/8 Paula Hunt (Claremont St Celebration), 15/8 Derek McLean 22/8 Debra Akue.

Please let me know if you would like to join either service online, I can send you a link, and also talk you through setting this up. Email for information: derek.mclean@methodist.org.uk
Don't forget that it is possible to phone in, even if you haven't got a computer.

Worship on Wednesday

11:30am at Oadby, on the 2nd & 4th Weds meeting 11th and 25th August

2:30pm at Houghton. Weekly. Includes Holy Communion on 4th, 11th and 25th August.

Saturday Prayer Great Glen (10-11) and Oadby (10:15-10:45) are open each week for prayer.