

Holyhead Road United Reformed Church

Sunday 5 July 2020



The church building remains closed for all activities – please see below.

Ministers: Revd Debbie Brown 024 7659 6433; brown_debbie@sky.com
Revd Bill Young 024 7671 7223; bill@morvern.com

Lectionary readings this week: Zechariah 9: 9-12; Psalm 145: 8-14; Romans 7: 15-25a;
Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

Communicating and Worshipping:

Please contact the ministers or Elders with any concerns or prayer requests.

A 'Podcast' service uploaded every Saturday by **Revd Bill Young** is available to listen to on the web-page: revdbill.uk/worship-material. The podcast link also allows for downloading a service transcript.

Revd Debbie Brown leads phone-in worship every Sunday morning at 11:15. You can join on any telephone by calling the number **0330 606 0403** and listening to the instructions. When you are asked for it, enter the following access code on your phone pad: **442786#**.

This Sunday's worship will include communion – please have a piece of bread and a drink ready!

A message from Debbie:

Dear Friends

Many of us are aware that some churches are slowly opening their doors for quiet prayer and/or short reflective services as we start to slowly ease out of lockdown. Before the churches in our group can open their doors to the community risk assessments need to be carried out and safety measures including social distancing need to be in place. The insurance company then needs to be happy with what we have done.

When we do go back into our buildings, I am hoping that we will continue to make use of the technology that has been so vital to us during this pandemic. We have explored and used many and varied ways of sharing worship and reaching out to people, and this has enabled us to be more inclusive in our approach. 'New reality, same Mission' means we cannot go back to how things used to be and we need to see what is possible in the future.

Let us explore together what it means to be 'Church Today,' to see how we can be an effective community of disciples who live out our faith each day and gather to worship in whatever way we can, encouraging other people along the way. For when we grow in our personal walk with Jesus Christ, we are then able to grow in our effectiveness as a people together on a mission. I pray we can continue to help advance God's kingdom in the world.

Affirmation of Faith

While the Church of England congregations regularly face the front of the church and say the Creed together, in the non-conformist tradition we tend to use hymns to express our faith. In

June, the podcast Services from the URC have been offering the following *Affirmation of Faith*, translated from the Reformed Church of France, and it is thought-provoking.

We believe in God.

Despite His silence and His secrets we believe that He lives.

Despite evil and suffering we believe that He made the world so that all would be happy in life.

Despite the limitations of our reason and the revolts of our hearts, we believe in God.

We believe in Jesus Christ.

Despite the centuries which separate us from the time when He came to earth, we believe in His word.

Despite our incomprehension and our doubt, we believe in His resurrection.

Despite his weakness and poverty, we believe in His reign.

We believe in the Holy Spirit.

Despite appearances we believe He guides the Church;

despite death we believe in eternal life;

despite ignorance and disbelief, we believe that the Kingdom of God is promised to all.

Amen.

God bless you all.

Love, Debbie

Following on from Debbie's message, the Elders would like to make clear that **no decisions have as yet been taken about when it might be possible to re-open the church building.**

Further information will be shared when available.

**Take my
yoke upon
you, and
learn from
me.... For
my yoke is
easy, and
my burden
is light –
Jesus**

