



Sunday 4th November

### KNOWING GOD'S LOVE

As we draw near to Remembrance Sunday, it is a time for reflection and remembering. Whether it is commemorating the Centenary of the First World War, where over 16 million people, from more 100 countries fought, suffered and died, leaving an indelible impact on so many lives and changing the history of our communities - or remembering the passing of a friend, neighbour or loved one - the experience of suffering and loss can affect us deeply and leave us with a deep sadness.

In the book of Lamentations, the writer is burdened by the suffering that surrounds him. However, in the midst of not understanding and despite the suffering, he declares words of hope and faith. He reminds us that God is faithful and His mercies come to us 'new every morning', day by day as we reach out to Him and find His sustaining presence.

We will experience suffering, tribulation, opposition and loss in our lives, but like the apostle Paul, we are reminded that nothing can separate us from the love of God, for God has shown His love for us in what Christ has done. He, who died for us so that our sin can be forgiven and we can be 'justified', brings us into right relationship to God. He who was raised from death now prays for us in our need. God is on our side. So, whatever we feel, whatever difficult experiences and grief we go through, nothing can separate us from His love.

Let us continue to remember this, for in this knowledge, we are better able to keep perspective and surrender to God's Lordship over our lives. We view suffering differently and accept God's compassion because we are upheld by the abundance of His steadfast love.

In the Sunday evening service, we will be remembering those who have died, taking time to reflect and give thanks for their lives. As we remember, and are reminded of our own mortality, can we say with the apostle Paul, "*Whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.*"

Rev. Bill Mullally

### CHURCH INFORMATION

#### Address

Elm Ridge Methodist Church  
Carmel Road South  
Darlington. DL3 8DJ

#### Minister

Rev. Solomon Joseph (Tel: 722961)

#### E-mail

office@elmridgethodist.co.uk

#### Church Administrator

Lindy Lewis (Tel: 282491)

#### Core office hours

Mon-Wed, Fri 9-4pm

Registered Charity Number: 1126826

CCL: 32479

#### Website

www.darlingtoncircuit.org.uk

MY GOD IS  
*Faithful*

Lamentations 3:22-23

We extend a very warm welcome to those of you who are worshipping with us at Elm Ridge today. The services today are led by:

**10am:** Together at Bondgate  
**6pm:** Rev. Bill Mullally - Remembrance Service

**Rotas for Sunday, 11th November**

**Preachers:**

10am: Simon Charters  
 6pm: Worship Together at Cockerton

**Vestry Stewards:**

10am: Mary Everitt / Susanne Davison

**Door Stewards:**

10am: Josanne Hall / Audrey Smith

**Organist:**

10am: Andrew Henderson

**Offering Counting:**

David Harris / Christine Kent

**Tea/Coffee:**

Ann Bartram / Julie Watson

**Church Diary**

	<b>Monday</b>		<b>Thursday</b>
10am	Coffee Drop-in	9am	Weight Watchers - Hall
11:30pm	Tiddlywinks	11:15am	Linda's Embroiderers - Library
3pm	Slimming World	2pm	Thursday Housegroup @ Camilla's
5:45pm	Beavers	6pm	Brownies
7pm	Cubs		
	<b>Tuesday</b>		<b>Friday</b>
9am	Slimming World	1pm	Staff Meeting - Quiet Room
9-5pm	Private Booking - Hall	1:30pm	Chair Aerobics - H. Room
10am	Prayer Meeting	4pm	Rainbows
1:30pm	Baby Massage - H. Room	5:30pm	Rainbows
2pm	Library Housegroup	7pm	Scouts
2:30pm	Banner Group - H. Room	7:15pm	Table Tennis - H. Room
6:15pm	Brownies		
7:30pm	Richardson Singers - Church		<b>Saturday</b>
7:30pm	Church Council Meeting - Library	9:30am	Embroiderers Guild - Hall
	<b>Wednesday</b>		<b>Sunday</b>
9:30am	Art Group	6:30pm	Rangers - Hall
2:30pm	Women's Fellowship - Hall		
5:45pm	Brownies		
6pm	PACT		
6:30pm	Worship Group - Church		
7:30pm	Guides		

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

This week's meeting will be about the Darlington and Stockton Railway and our own Tony Allen will be sharing what he has found out and will be telling us all about it.

**Prayer Line**

**Please pray:**

- For the members of the Elm Ridge Church Council as they meet on Tuesday to consider the practical running and spiritual future of our church;
- For Solomon our Minister, Lindy our Administrator and our team of Church Stewards;
- For those affected by the shooting at The Tree Of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. Pray that 'populist' rhetoric around the world will fail to result in an increase in anti-semitic sentiment and violent acts fuelled by it;
- For people known to us who are suffering from severe illness and their loved ones who intercede and may also care for them day by day;
- For people working in the care sector who may have their own problems and therefore ability to care for others diminished by low pay and over work.

**Continue to pray for:**

- The situation in the Middle East, especially in respect of the international community's relations with Saudi Arabia. Pray too about the war in Yemen in which Saudi Arabia is heavily involved. *Save The Children* state that 100 children per day are dying from starvation brought about by this war and predict that it will result in the worst famine in a century.

If you have a concern that you would like to share with others for prayer, please contact the Church Office, Sue Colley (356876), or one of the Stewards.



**Used Tea Lights:** We have a quantity of used tea lights which still have a lot of life left in them. If you could use some at home please feel free to take a few from the box on the corridor table.

**Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes:** There are leaflets and collection boxes about what is needed to complete the shoeboxes both in the Hall and on the table in the corridor. Please could you place any items (from the suggested list) in the box provided. Any contributions towards postage you would like to give, please give in to the Church Office. We are hoping to fill as many shoe boxes as we can. *Carol Henderson*

**Traidcraft:** If you would like to purchase your Christmas cards early - look on the Traidcraft table in the corridor. John has brought lots for you to buy.

Thank you to Keith and Sue Sleightholme for the Church flowers today