

Good Morning Church - 26th April 2026 - 4th of Easter

As we cool down from our hearts having been set on fire last week, we are gently warmed and comforted this week, by being reminded that The Lord is indeed our Shepherd.

The question on everyone's mind this week is, will we be singing the traditional Lord's my Shepherd to Crimond (StF 480) or the new Stuart Townsend version (StF 481).

The Crimond tune is named after the village of Crimond, and it's most commonly attributed to Jessie Seymour Irvine (1836–1887), the daughter of a Church of Scotland minister. For many years, the tune was mistakenly credited to David Grant, who likely harmonised or arranged it, but modern scholarship has largely restored Irvine as the true composer. The tune gained wide public recognition when it was sung at the wedding of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip in 1947, cementing its place in national consciousness. It's also frequently used at funerals and remembrance services—there's something about its serenity that holds both grief and hope together.

Stuart Townend's version of "*The Lord's My Shepherd*" is a really interesting case of a hymn being **both preserved and reinvented at the same time**. Townend didn't simply write a new melody for the old words. Instead, he:

- **Kept the opening line** of the traditional metrical psalm
- Then **paraphrased and expanded Psalm 23 in fresh language**
- Added a **repeated chorus** ("I will trust in You alone")

So it becomes something like a hybrid:

- part metrical psalm
- part modern worship song
- part personal declaration of faith

That chorus is key—it turns the psalm from something we *recite* into something we *respond to*. Townend himself said he noticed the psalm is full of movement (walking, leading, following), and wanted to express an **active, lived trust**, not just comfort.

Which one is your favourite?

Whichever one we sing, we are beautifully reminded that we are cared for, like a shepherd who is our gate and care keeper. He is the one we follow, because we know him, we recognise his voice and his call.

See [John 10:1-10](#)

With every blessing,

Phillip

Sunday Services - 4th of Easter

This Sunday, our services are:

Bromyard - 2:30pm: Mr Robert Hollis

Ledbury - 10:30am: Ms Lisa-Jayne Lewis - All Age Worship

St John's - 10:30am: Rev'd Phil Warrey (Stream Source)

[Lectionary readings](#)

The streaming this Sunday will be from St John's.

[Watch the live stream live on YouTube](#)

[Sunday Worship Page on the Circuit Website](#)

Please pray for our preachers and worship leaders as they prepare to lead worship.

Next Sunday – 3th May 2026 – 5th of Easter

Next Sunday, our services are:

Bromyard - 10:30am: Rev'd Ruth & Mr Neil Eldridge - Holy Communion

Ledbury - 10:30am: Rev'd Martyn Sanders

Ledbury - 2:30pm: Rev'd Phil Warrey - Relaxed

St John's - 10:30am: Rev'd Nigel Williams (Stream Source)

[Lectionary readings](#)

Action of the Week - England's favourite Palestinian

I'm preparing GMC on what is St George's day, I'm Welsh so it's not quite my tradition, but it does concern me that St George's flag has been somewhat misappropriated by the far right. Take a read, of what Amos Trust have to say about St George, and if you want to stand up to the far right, consider getting a T Shirt. Or buy one for a young friend.

****England's favourite Palestinian - *And we have the T-Shirt to prove it*****

Here's something they probably didn't teach you at school.

England's patron saint never set foot in England. St George was born in the Eastern Roman Empire to a Palestinian mother from Lydda – modern-day Lod, a Palestinian town now inside Israel. He died a martyr's death, standing up to the Roman Empire. His tomb is still there.

He never slew a dragon, never visited these shores and yet somehow, England claimed him as its own.

He was Palestinian. He always was.

We've made a T-shirt about it – and we think it might be our favourite thing we've ever produced.

Wear it with pride, wear it to start conversations, wear it because the truth matters.

[All profits go to our work in the West Bank and Gaza](#), and we ship worldwide with next day delivery available and easy returns and exchanges.

Oh, and the Tees are made from certified organic cotton, are GM free, printed in the UK with low waste technology and made in a renewable energy-powered factory. So they're good for Palestine and good for the planet.

Grab yours today!

[SHOP THE RANGE →](#)

Coming Up This Week

Monday 27th:

Ledbury - 10:30am - 1pm - Place of Welcome, 2pm Film Afternoon

Tuesday 28th:

St John's - 09:30am, CLT, 10am - Twins & Tots

Wednesday 29th:

Bromyard - 10am - 2pm - Place of Welcome

St John's - 12:15pm for 12:30pm - 2pm - Lunch Club

Ledbury - 2pm - Wellbeing Art Group

Christian Life Church - 7pm - Churches Together in Herefordshire AGM (133 Edgar Street, Hereford)

Thursday 30th:

St John's - 10am - Circuit Meeting

Bromyard - 4:30pm - Soul Space (for 9-12 year olds)

Friday 1st:

St Katherine's Hall Ledbury 10:30am - LEAF invites the community to join for tea/coffee and conversation on the future vision for St Katherine's.

Saturday 2nd:

Ledbury - 9am - Women's Breakfast Fellowship

St John's - 10am - 12pm - Place of Welcome

Sunday 3rd:

Services as listed above

The Vine at Home 4th of Easter

[The Vine at Home for Sunday 26th April 2026](#)

MAY InTouch

The May InTouch Magazine is ready, and should be available in your Church this week, and will be posted soon.

[May InTouch Magazine](#)

Ledbury Methodist Notices

[Ledbury Methodist Notices 22/4/26](#)

Methodist Connexional Weekly Newsletter

[Newsletter for 23/4/26](#)

Quiz Night - 6th June - 7pm

Quiz Night in aid of Hereford Help for Ukraine at St John's Hall. For more information see [here](#). Tickets available from Sarah Bowring at St John's.

Accompanist - could this be you? Can you help?

The Connexion is looking for people who might be willing to accompany vocational explorers and candidates for ministry.

An accompanist provides an ongoing relationship, conversation and reflection space, is alert to and sensitive to cultural differences and will seek to affirm the person throughout the processes whatever the outcome.

Could this be you? Or somebody you know?

There is more information on [this page](#) of the Methodist Church website.

If you'd like more information, please e-mail candidates@methodistchurch.org.uk

WhatsApp Groups

Each of our churches now have a WhatsApp group, if you'd like to join please ask and we will add you.

Vacancies

We have the following vacancies in our circuit and churches:-

Circuit Archivist - [Role Description](#) - [More Details](#)

If you would like to know more about any of these vacancies, please speak to Phil.

Circuit Admin & Ledbury Admin

Lynne will be generally working her 14 hours across Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings.

She can be contacted at admin@herefordshiremethodists.org.uk

Circuit Administrator - Herefordshire (South & East) Methodist Circuit

Tel 01432 356023

Church Administrator - Ledbury Methodist Church

Tel 01531 598007

Links

The links below are to websites or adobe cloud documents (all underlined in blue) A mouse click on the link will open the relevant documents for you or direct you to the websites referred to. These have all been checked and are safe links to click.

[Watch the live stream live on YouTube at 10:30am](#)

[Sunday Worship Page on the Circuit Website](#)

[Click to watch any of our services again, or refer your friends and families to our services](#)

[May InTouch Magazine](#)

[Preaching Plan](#)

[Our website](#)

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[Gallery - Ledbury Methodist Art Project](#)