

Good Morning Church - 23rd August 2026 - 21st in Ordinary Time

Good Morning Church

This Sunday we gather for worship on the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, with some fascinating readings that remind us that God often works through people and situations we might easily overlook.

In Exodus we meet Moses at the beginning of his story. His survival depends on the courage and compassion of a number of people – his mother, his sister, the Hebrew midwives and even Pharaoh's daughter. God's purposes are being worked out through people who might not have expected to be part of such a story.

Paul, in Romans, gives us another picture of God's people: one body, made up of many different parts and many different gifts. We don't all have to be the same, or do the same thing, to belong.

And in Matthew, Jesus asks his disciples a question which still comes to us today: "Who do you say that I am?" Peter gives his answer, and Jesus begins to show the disciples what it means to follow him.

Perhaps the thread running through the readings is that God calls ordinary people to be part of something much bigger than themselves.

"We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us." – Romans 12:6

So whatever gifts you bring – whether they are obvious or hidden, practical or creative, words or actions, caring or encouraging – there is a place for you in God's people.

We look forward to Sunday as we gather together – many different people, many different gifts, but one community in Christ.

Every blessing,

Phil

Sunday Services - 21st in Ordinary Time

This Sunday, our services are:

Bromyard - 2:30pm: Mrs Linda Williams

Ledbury - 10:30am: Rev'd Kath Baldwin - Safeguarding Sunday

St John's - 10:30am: Dr Gillian & Mr Stephen Chowns (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 – 30th August 2026 – 22nd in Ordinary Time

Next Sunday, our services are:

Bromyard - 10:30am: Mr Chris Ottershaw

Ledbury - 10:30am: Rev'd Nigel Williams (Stream Source)

St John's - 10:30am: Rev'd Paul Gill

[Lectionary readings](#)

Where is Phil?

Phil will be on annual leave from Saturday 22nd August to 1st September.

Action of the Week - Write to the Foreign Office in support of Palestinian health workers

Palestinian health workers provide essential care to their people against incredible odds but Israel cruelly targets them with arbitrary detention, violence and even killing.

[Write to the Foreign Office](#)

In June of this year, Israeli armed forces arrested Dr. Mazen al-Rantisi from his home in Ramallah and he remains in prison still. His lawyer has warned that his health is declining rapidly because of the deplorable conditions in prison, including torture and medical neglect at the hand of the Israeli prison guards.

Dr. Rantisi's decades-long legacy as a physician exemplifies the courageous service of Palestinian medical workers. Known as the 'doctor of the poor', he often waived fees for consultation and medicines for struggling families. Through his voluntary work with the Union of Health Work Committees, he provided medical care to thousands of Palestinians in need, especially in under-served areas of the West Bank that are especially vulnerable to settler attacks.

It is precisely that work that made him a target for Israel, joining the hundreds of other human rights defenders who have been targeted and imprisoned by Israel.

[Write to the Foreign Office](#)

Dr. Rantisi's story echoes that of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya, director of Kamal Adwan Hospital in the Gaza Strip, who was imprisoned by Israel in December 2024 and has been held in inhumane conditions since then. These doctors, and hundreds if not thousands more Palestinian health workers have been targeted by Israel precisely because of the vital work they do to support their people's health and survival in the face of apartheid and genocide.

Dr. Rantisi's daughter said about his arrest: "The targeting of people who serve the community is part of trying to weaken the community, and I think that the reason my father was arrested is precisely that he is one of the people who inspire hope in society and help it stay resilient." You can read more about his case including comments from his daughter [here](#).

One way we can pay tribute to the inspirational Palestinian health workers like Dr. Rantisi is to press the British government to end its own complicity in genocide and apartheid. Please write to the Foreign Office today.

[Write to the Foreign Office](#)

In solidarity,

Ryvka

Deputy Director, Palestine Solidarity Campaign

Coming Up This Week

Monday 24th:

Ledbury - 10:30am - 1pm - Place of Welcome

Tuesday 25th:

Wednesday 26th:

Bromyard - 10am - 2pm - Place of Welcome

Thursday 27th:

Ledbury: 10:30am - 12 noon - LEAF Stay and Play at St Michael's Church

Friday 28th:

St John's: 2:30pm - Bible Study

Saturday 29th:

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

Sunday 30th:

Services as listed above

The Vine at Home - Ordinary 21

[The Vine at Home for Sunday 23rd August 2026](#)

Ledbury Methodist Notices

[Ledbury Methodist Notices 12/8/26](#)

Methodist Connexional Weekly Newsletter

[Newsletter for 20/8/26](#)

Articles for in Touch

Please note that Sunday is the deadline for articles for inclusion in the September edition of In Touch. please send material by email to hfdscircuitnews@gmail.com Or by Post to 18 Southbank Close, HEREFORD HR1 2TQ

Join Us for Our Next World in My Parish Webinar - Wesley House, Cambridge

The Power of Diversity in the Church

Revd. Cleopas Sibanda

Online | 17 September 1900 UK time

*The Church was never intended to be a uniform body; it was always meant to be a united one. Throughout Scripture and Christian history, unity in Christ does not eliminate difference. Instead, it **redeems, reframes, and reorients it***. From the very beginning, God's design has embraced a rich tapestry of languages, cultures, gifts, and experiences. Diversity is not an obstacle to be managed but a **theological gift*** to be recognised, honoured, and integrated into the life of the Christian community.**

Join us online as we explore how embracing diversity can deepen our understanding of God's kingdom, strengthen Christian fellowship, and help the Church live more fully into its calling.



Date: 17 September at 1900



Location: Online via Zoom



Zoom Link: <https://theofed-cam-ac-uk.zoom.us/j/92454712249?pwd=tztC0JGu5alvfq0x8NSsjs7DTjeWV7.1>

Revd Cleopas Sibanda serves as Superintendent of the Birmingham Circuit. His ministry spans both the UK and Africa, including service as National Chaplain of the Zimbabwe Fellowship UK and as Bishop of the Methodist Bulawayo District in Zimbabwe.

Missional Use of Property Consultation

The 2026 Conference received a report on the [**** Missional Use of Property****](#) During the conference helpful feedback was received from Conference members. As this work continues those responsible for the work are keen to continuing to listen and learn from across the connexion. As part of this listening there will be three opportunities to attend an online consultation event in the autumn. These will be on Zoom at the following times:

- 16 November 2026, 2pm to 4pm

- 17 November 2026, 7pm to 9pm
- 26 November 2026, 2pm to 4pm

Attendance at these sessions can be booked through Eventbrite [here](#):

If you feel you have thoughts on this work, please do sign up for one of the consultation events.

Please also share these events with those in your circuit and churches who might be interested.

If you have any queries about this work or the consultation events please contact [Revd David Goodall](#), Director of Growing Churches.

CPD Volume 2 Available

CPD Volume 2 has now been uploaded to [this page of the Methodist Church website](#). Please do read the Editors' Notes at the beginning of the volume, which contain a helpful summary of the main changes introduced this year.

Herefordshire Interfaith Event - 17th October 2026

See the flyer [here](#) for details of this event.

WhatsApp Groups

Each of our churches 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 12 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](#)

[August 2026 InTouch](#)

[Preaching Plan](#)

[Our website](#)

[Sign Up for Methodist News](#)

[Joint Public Issues Team Newsletter](#)

[Gallery - Ledbury Methodist Art Project](#)