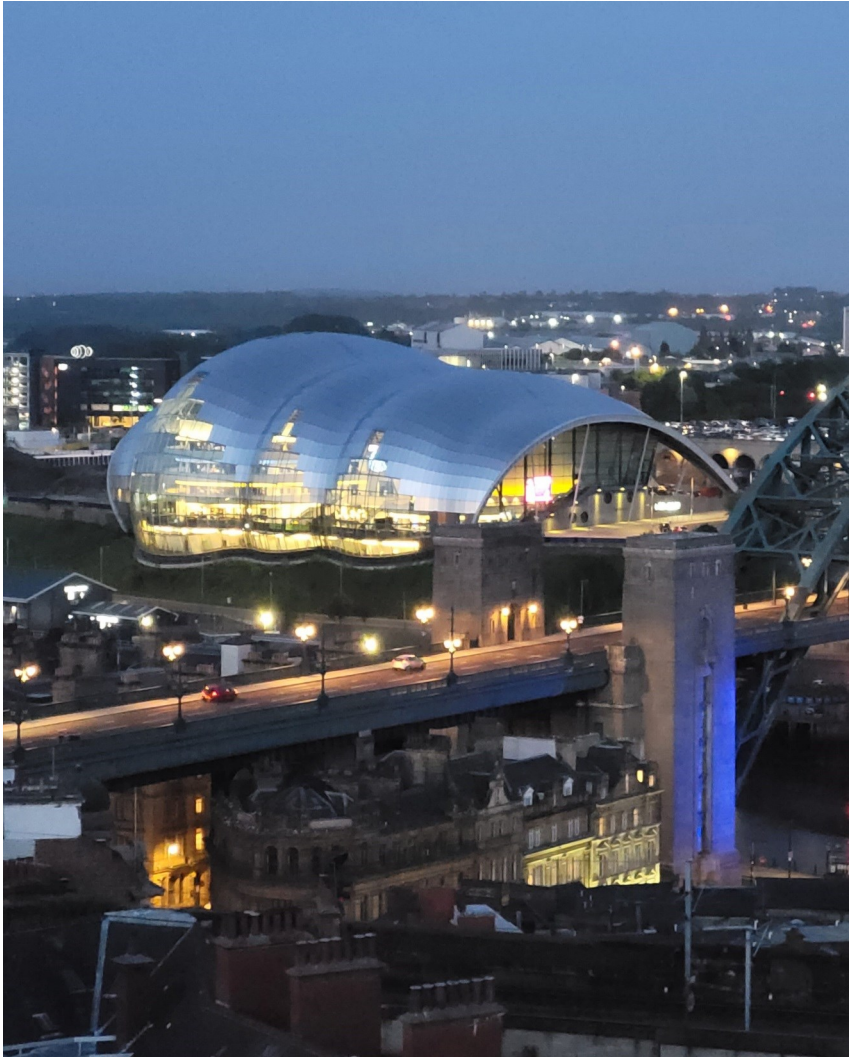




NEWSTAND

THE MAGAZINE OF ST. ANDREW'S URC



On reflection, is what we perceive the truth?

Volume 89 Issue 03 — March 2023

St. Andrew's United Reformed Church

Eastfield Avenue, Monkseaton, Whitley Bay, NE25 8LU

<http://standrewsmonkseatonurc.org.uk>



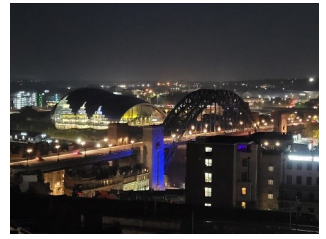
monkseatonurc

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Led by faith or by fallacy

When our ingrained perceptions stop us seeing the true love in the Bible



The cover image this week was taken from the top of the lantern tower of Newcastle Cathedral last year during "The Late Shows", when venues across the city were open during the evening, often giving a new way of seeing things. As the sun was setting, the mirrored roof of The Sage reflected the sky and skyline of Newcastle. But something wasn't quite right in what I was seeing. What were those brightly lit buildings I could see reflected? I certainly didn't recognise them, but nothing would convince me that it was anything but a reflection, so clear was the image I could see. That image became ingrained and nothing was going to change my mind.

Then, as the evening progressed, the daylight disappeared and so did the reflections, or at least some of them (as the photo above shows). The reflections I had perceived as buildings on the Newcastle side of the river suddenly changed into the lights of the interior of The Sage shining through the vast glass windows that are as much a part of the iconic building as the mirrored roof. The truth became clear as I, quite literally, "read" the building in a different light. I allowed this new interpretation to become the truth.

The same can be seen in our own lives and interpretation of scripture. Things that have happened to us personally, whether through our own experience of a specific situation, societal norms of the time, or through some other reasoning, which cause us to only ever accept that the Bible can be read in one way. A way in which we only see the negative words and phrases that reinforce what we believe, rather than looking at the wider scripture in a new light where there is one undeniable truth. That the underlying theme and how we are called to behave to **all** other people, whether family, friend, foe or foreigner is one of LOVE. No ifs, no buts, just unconditional love. To do anything else is not being faithful to God's word as brought alive through Christ's death on the cross.

Perhaps through this Lent period we can reflect on what we believe, have the strength of faith to let some of those things hang on the cross, allow ourselves and our relationships with others to be cleansed, and rise with a new faith in love for all as God intended.

Blessings and love,

Tim ✚

Activities Team update

More things to look forward to!



Film Club – Friday 10th March, 2 pm

This month's film is *Brian and Charles* (PG). The story follows Brian, a lonely inventor in rural Wales, who spends his days building quirky, unconventional contraptions that seldom work until he invents Charles, an artificially intelligent robot who learns English from a dictionary and has an obsession with cabbages. What follows is a humorous and entirely heart-warming story about loneliness, friendship, family, finding love, and letting go.

Poetry and Plonk Evening – Saturday 18th March, 7 pm

These evenings provide an opportunity either to take part or just listen to a wide variety of poems (everything from Spike Milligan to Shakespeare) while enjoying a glass of wine or soft drink. If you haven't been before and perhaps think poetry is not for you, why not come along and give it a try? Tickets are available at £5 (to include wine/soft drinks and nibbles).

Craft Fair – Saturday 1st April, 10 am – 2 pm

It's been a while since we held a Craft Fair so we look forward to welcoming local crafters back to St Andrew's. There will be a variety of stalls providing opportunities to buy Easter gifts plus St Andrew's refreshments of coffee, tea and light lunches, including St Andrew's homemade soups, will be available. Do come along if you can to browse and buy, have lunch and take the opportunity to meet up with old friends and perhaps make some new ones.

Dates for the Diary (looking well ahead!)

- **Art Exhibition –
Saturday 7th October**
- **Church Fair –
Saturday 18th November**

Ann Hammond

The order of the day

What are the next two numbers in this sequence and why: 5, 4, 10, 8, 15, 16, 20, 32, 25, 64, ?, ?

Midweek Prayers at 10

*Joining in our own way
to bring our concerns to God*



Opening Words

Into a dark world
a snowdrop comes,
a blessing
of hope and peace, carrying with it
a green heart,
symbol of God's renewing love.

Come to inhabit our darkness,
Lord Christ,
for dark and light
are alike to You.
May nature's white candles of hope
remind us of Your birth,
and lighten the journey
through Lent and beyond. **AMEN**

Prayer of Confession

As buds uncurl and flowers open their
faces to the sun, turn us to the light
and warmth of Your presence, that in
confidence we may confess our sin.

Silence

God of justice, peace and love,
we knock at Your gate
with our prayers:
we confess that our lives
and the life of the world
are broken apart
by our sin.

But Jesus said: *'Behold I stand at the
door and knock.'*

As we open the door to justice,
we ask to be forgiven.

As we open the door to peace,
we ask to be renewed.
As we open the door to love,
we ask to be made whole.

In a Prayer of Assurance

God gives us justice;
God fills us with peace;
God's steadfast love rests upon us.
Forgiven, saved, restored,
thanks be to God. **AMEN**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the Kingdom,
the power and the glory.
For ever and ever. **AMEN.**

Prayers of Concern

Loving God,
we hold before You what seems a
broken world, a world torn apart by
natural disasters and wars,
and nations in chaos.

We ask Your blessings on those who risk their lives to save others; the rescue workers and those who care for the injured. May they find Your love and strength, Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

We ask Your blessings on those who work for peace. For the people of Ukraine and Russia, We pray for an end to war; and we do not forget others across the world who are suffering oppression, the destruction of their homelands, and the displacement of people. May they find Your love and strength, Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, we hold before You those who are suffering from bereavement, ill health, anxiety and loneliness. Bless those who comfort and care for them. May they find Your love and strength, Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Loving God, help us to care for and to love all of Your children. Inspire us to speak out truth to power and healing to division. And may we be a blessing to all whom we encounter and humbly receive the blessing from those who encounter us.

Amen

Blessing

Lord, as we walk on the Lenten journey be with us, hold us, refresh, renew and restore us in your service.

May you know the presence of God our keeper, with us by day and by night, with us in our coming and going, with us all from this time on and forevermore.

Amen

Ann Sinclair

Inspiration from Donald Hilton Seasons & Celebrations

Northern Synod Prayer Diary

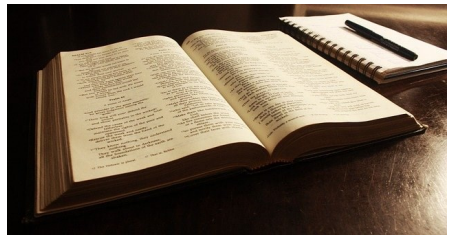
*Joining in our weekly prayers
with the wider URC*



5	Fairtrade Fortnight (27 th February – 12 th March)
12	Synod (18 th March); Moderator the Revd Dave Herbert; Clerk Mel Campbell; Treasurer Gordon Wanless
19	The Anglican Diocese of Durham; Bishop of Durham the Rt Revd Paul Butler; Bishop of Jarrow the Rt Revd Sarah Clark.
26	St Mark's, Amble; Revd Alison Mills.

Studying the Bible

In context and in history



Bible Study begins again on Friday 24th February 2023 via Zoom, 10.30-11.30am.

During the Lent period we will be studying:

Images of Grace, a journey from darkness to light at Easter by Amy Scott Robinson from the Bible Reading Fellowship.

Should you wish to join us at any point along the journey you will be very welcome.

Please contact Alison Mood: alison.mood@talktalk.net or Ann Sinclair: eannsinclair14@gmail.com for any further information and further details of the links.

Historical Bible Study Group continues to explore the fascinating world of the ancient civilizations which occupied the "Fertile Crescent" in Mesopotamia.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 27th March 2023, 2-3pm in the Minor Hall. If you wish to join us you will be very welcome.

For any further details please contact rhodalee@btinternet.com or eannsinclair14@gmail.com.

Christmas Charity donations via "The Big Card"

Thank you so much for your very welcome donations towards our Church Charities.

We are now able to add £262 to our funds and they will be given to our chosen charities this year.

Hopefully we will do something similar next year with equally good results. A belated Happy New Year to you all !!

Joan Blanchfield

Collection of Stamps and Coins

Just where do they go?



I have been asked several times lately what happens to the stamps and coins collected from the Church collection pot to be found in the passageway. Eventually all contributions raised end up in an annual cheque in favour of St. Oswald's Hospice, Gosforth. This year they received just short of £700, less than in the past due mainly to more use being made of electronic messaging now rather than Royal Mail and fewer people going abroad, not bringing back surplus foreign coin.

Recently, an event showing their appreciation to all fundraisers resulted in me being awarded with a certificate and a medal for last year's contribution. I have been involved in this form of fundraising for over 30 years now, to the benefit of St. Oswald's Hospice since it was opened

and previously the RVI Kidney Transplant Fund.

My thanks go to everybody who has helped and contributed in any way, from various churches in Monkseaton, North Shields, Wallsend or Gosforth and coin received from various house clearances following bereavement.

When I receive the stamps they need to be trimmed and sorted into various categories then sold to my dealers. It takes many stamps to fill just one carrier bag !! Coins need to be sorted into country categories then sold to various Dealers who I use. Even picture postcards have a value to raise funds!! All receipts are then collected into one annual cheque to St. Oswald's Hospice .

Thanks again to ALL my supporters and keep up the good work please.

Neil Cockburn

Newstand Subscriptions

A gentle reminder

Thank you very much to all those who paid their subs by the end of January. There is still some money outstanding, so if you have not already paid, I shall be most grateful if you will let your distributor (or myself if you normally pay me direct) have the £12 as soon as it's convenient.

Thank you.

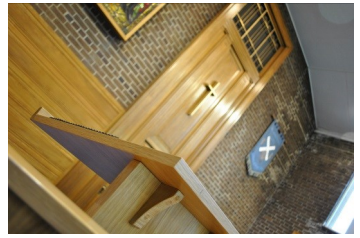
Carole Mallett

More than just 11am on Sundays

Other ways to worship

The two Monday Afternoon Services which we organised in September and January were not well supported, which was a shame, because prior to lockdown we were organising these services on a monthly basis, and they proved to be very popular. Lasting for around 30 minutes (of seasonal readings, hymns and prayers), and being followed by refreshments, they provided an opportunity for weekday worship and a chat with friends, together with tea or coffee and biscuits or cake. Designed initially for those people who were unable to attend worship on a Sunday morning, they have nevertheless always been open to EVERYONE! We hope to organise another of these events in the spring, so do please keep an eye on the Church Calendar in Newstand and make a note of the date, then come along if you possibly can.

On March 3rd, at 2 pm, the ecumenical service for the World Day of Prayer (formerly Women's World Day of Prayer) will take place at Monkseaton Methodist Church. This is always a pleasant and interesting



event, which involves representatives from several of the local churches (including St Andrew's), and offers another chance to worship with our friends from the other denominations.

This year's service has been prepared by the women of Taiwan, and will be followed by refreshments provided by the Methodists. Do please come along if you are able.

A further reminder that on the second Sunday of each month, our lively (but not obnoxious) 'Let's Sing' service takes place at 9.30 am, and this is followed at 10.15 am by the Prayer Group meeting. Both of these sessions are led by Mandy Watson, with assistance from the technological wizardry of Tim Cooke at the 'Let's Sing' service. Do please give serious consideration to giving either or both of these a try – we could do with a boost in numbers to justify the amount of time put in by Mandy and Tim - and you might find them really worthwhile activities. If you would like further information, please let me know.

Carole Mallett

April Newstand

The next edition of Newstand will be out on 26th March. Please have contributions to Tim by 20th March.



Come together...
In friendship and fellowship, to
discover more about where God
might be leading you....
from the comfort of your own home!

Stepwise is the discipleship development programme from the URC, giving you the opportunity to to deepen your faith and explore, through individual reflection and group discussion, what God might be calling you to – walking the way of Jesus alongside others.



For some of us though, joining in with in activities which involve us leaving our homes and travelling any distance can be difficult if not impossible.

I am looking to set up a Stepwise group which will take place completely online via Zoom and so, If you think you might like to participate in a Stepwise group but would struggle to get out and about to do so, I'd love to hear from you. I already have some interest, but it would be great to be able to meet as a bigger group!



All you would need to be able to join us is an internet connection, an email address and a device which can be used to access Zoom. This could be anything from a mobile phone to a laptop/computer. I'm more than happy to offer any support needed to help you take part!



*Think you might be interested?
Why not get in touch for a chat?*

You can get in touch with me either by email:
lucy.cooke@urc-northemsynod.org
or give me a call on 07752 385197

I will look forward to hearing from you!

Lucy Cooke
Learning & Development Officer

Plans for a new beginning

New for us and for Louise



StartupStockPhotos / Pixabay

I am pleased to tell you that arrangements are starting to be made for the Ordination and Induction of Louise Sanders as Minister at St Andrew's.

The afternoon of Saturday 29th July 2023 has been agreed, exact

time and more details will follow in due course.

This does mean that Louise's first service with us will be on Sunday 30th July at 11.00am.

Ray Hammond

Thank you from the Whistler School of Highland Dancing!

A huge thanks to everyone who provided raffle prizes and bought raffle tickets at the ceilidh.

We raised £184 for dancing school funds and had a brilliant night!

Laura Fleetham



Annual Church Meeting

Your church, your say
Sunday 19th March, ~12 noon



This is the meeting at which the various officers and Teams that run the church on a day to day basis are elected.

Details of the current Teams and their membership are posted up in the church vestibule on the notice board adjacent to the Flower Room door, along with all official lists, duty rotas etc.

Notices seeking nominations of people to serve as officers or on the Teams will be posted up shortly on the church notice board in the Reception Area and the Agenda and the Annual Report will be circulated by email or by your Elder nearer the day.

Ray Hammond
Church Secretary

St. Andrew's 100 Club

You have to be in it to win it!

The January draw took place on 29th January, when Catriona Fenwick drew the following numbers:



1)	No 5	Dorothy Wilson	£118. 50
2)	No 26	Jennifer Fleetham	£59. 25
3)	No 18	Valerie Thompson	£19. 75

With £197.50 going to Church Funds.

Kathleen Hopper

Speaking of numbers...

What three digit number with consecutive digits is 2 more than a square and 2 less than a cube?

A few more speakers

A summary of the 58 Society January talks



M.Accelerator / Unsplash

9th January 2023

Professor John Derry

The Merry Monarch – Charles 11

John gave us an interesting insight into the reign and life of Charles 11 the merry Monarch who was born in St James Palace in 1630 and died suddenly in 1685 at the age of 54. Charles 11 was twelve when the Civil War began and at 14, he was appointed nominal commander in chief in western England. He was forced into exile on the continent after the parliamentary victory and in 1649 he learnt of his father's execution.

In 1650 he returned to Scotland and after doing a deal with the Scots was proclaimed King. With the Scottish Army he invaded England but was defeated by Cromwell at the Battle of Worcester in 1651. He again escaped into exile and did not return to England after being invited back to reclaim the Throne.

In 1660 the House of Commons was equally divided between Royalist and Parliamentarians on religious grounds between Anglicans and Catholics. After promising religious lenience and

tolerance Charles 11 was invited back to England and proclaimed King. He pursued the policy of political and religious tolerance together with power sharing. He also promised lenience and would not exile past enemies nor confiscate their wealth. Although Charles 11 granted amnesty to nearly all of Cromwell's supporters 50 people were excluded and executed. Between 1665 and 1667 England was at war with the Dutch, which ended with a victory for the latter. Charles subsequently signed a secret treaty with the French in which the former undertook to convert to Catholicism and support the French against the Dutch, for which in return he would receive subsidies from France thereby enabling some limited room for manoeuvre with parliament.

In 1677 Charles married his niece Mary to the Protestant William of Orange which was to re-establish his own Protestant credentials. His marriage did not produce any children although he fathered a total of at least 10 illegitimate children with various mistresses. Knowledge of his negotiations with France together with his efforts to become an absolute ruler resulted in conflict with

parliament which he dissolved in 1681 after which he ruled alone.

Charles's reign saw the rise of colonisation and trade with India, the East Indies and America and the Passage of Navigation Acts which secured Britain's future as a sea power

During his reign the Great Plague of London occurred which at its peak resulted in 7000 deaths per week and also the Great Fire of London which resulted in the destruction of 13200 houses, 87 Churches including St Paul's Cathedral. Charles and his brother James joined and directed the firefighting effort.

Charles's leisure pursuits included the Theatre, Horse Racing, Science and especially the opposite sex, as he fathered a total of at least 10 illegitimate children hence being known as the Merry Monarch but his achievements during his reign indicates that he was a shrewd and astute operator.

On his deathbed Charles asked his brother James to look after his mistresses and expressed regret at his treatment of his wife. On the last evening of his life he was received into the Catholic Church in the presence of Father John Huddleston, though the extent to which he was fully conscious or committed, and with whom the idea originated, is unclear. He was buried in Westminster Abbey without any pomp.



Kvasir79 / CC BY 2.0 / Flickr

He obviously lived life to the full and John stated that he would choose Charles II as a companion for dinner over any other King or Queen.

23rd January 2023

Judith Coulson – St Mary's Island Conservation Society

The Wildlife of St Mary's Island

The members of the St Mary's Conservation Society gave us a very informative and interesting talk on the formation of the Society and how, with the help of all the volunteers, they have undertaken measures to protect the habitat for all the wildlife.

The Conservation Society was formed in 2014 to preserve certain areas of the Island from being affected by

visitors, who were totally uncontrolled, affecting the habitat and encroaching too near the seal population, nesting areas, and sea and migratory birds. The main aim of the Society is to Protect, Study and Conserve the wildlife and raise awareness of the various protected areas.

Since its inception in 1974 the Society membership has increased and a number of volunteers are regularly on site to inform the public of the protected areas and the best safe locations to go to visit to see the seals or birds without disturbing the environment. The main control used on the island is extensive signage which gives site information and where not to go, thereby protecting the habitat.

In 1992 the site was designated a Local Nature Reserve and saw the development of a "Wetlands Area".

The Island is home to both the common and grey seals, which can be seen basking on the rocks, but you still have to be careful as sometimes they wander around and bask on footpaths etc. Also it is not unusual to see visitors such as Bottle Nosed and White Dolphins in the sea around the Island. Seal pups are born in January and February so this is the best time to visit the Island if you would like to see pups in their white ermine type coat. After 3 or 4 weeks the pup seals are independent.



The variety of Birds visiting the Island in Winter can include Curlew, Oystercatcher, Sandpiper, Sanderling, Redshank, Dunlin, and Golden and Ringed Plover. In the summer period Shearwater, Skuas, Eiders and Fulmars can be seen.

Since its formation in 2014 both the seal and visiting bird populations have increased and additional bird types such as Goldcrests, American Plovers have been recorded.

The talk was thoroughly enjoyed and found informative by all at the meeting.

Upcoming talks

The talks in March are on the subjects of "A A Milne & Winnie the Pooh" on Monday 6th March and "Edwardian Light Musical Stage" on Monday 20th March, both starting at 7.30pm.

All are welcome to join.

Lament in Lent

Engaging with our suffering as Christ did with his



Congerdesign / Pixabay

We have now begun the period of Lent. Lent marks the period of time the church has preserved as a time of shared lament beginning on Ash Wednesday and represents Jesus' 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness at the very beginning of his ministry. (Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:13; and Luke 4:1-13).

While 'Lent' is not written of in Scripture, the period of shared lament is honoured in the Bible. Think back to our time with Revd. Dr. Carla Grosch Miller and her studies with us on the Book of Psalms. Up to 40% of the Psalms are laments and provide us with the opportunity to mourn or grieve and to name our laments to God in our reading and prayers. Lament means we engage with reality of the suffering and pain we face or could be dealing with. As Carla pointed out the lament psalms give the words we may struggle to find to question, feel angry, restless even vengeful or sometimes tortured with our thoughts and concerns.

Yet the Hebrew word for the Book of Psalms means Praises. Lament is part of praise and it is important that we have time to give these words of lament a voice either individually or corporately. Lament connects us as a church family and brings us together, strengthening us in troubled times.

Lent provides in this shared time a reminder of the time Jesus spent in the wilderness facing Satan and temptation. While being tested he was tired, alone, hungry and vulnerable, but Jesus did not give in. Jesus demonstrated the importance and significance of knowing and applying Scripture to stand up against temptation, a time for him to reaffirm God's plan for his ministry.

Lent is a time for us to reflect, to lament and to find hope of the promise of the divine hope that can help us to grow in faith.

Ann Sinclair

Kath and I would like to thank everyone at St. Andrew's for their amazing support and love when Kath was suddenly taken ill. We appreciated greatly the beautiful cards, handwritten letters, phone calls, and springtime flowers, all of which have helped her recovery thus far. The support of our congregation is always truly wonderful. Our very best wishes to all of you.

Kath and Chris Hales

From the Book of Remembrance

Remembering those who have gone before us

Baby Holborn

Stuart Mackay Adamson

Jenny Evelyn Merrick

Edna Thwaites

Ann Mitchell Young

James Alexander Murphy

Arthur Parr

Constance Mary Lisle

Jeanne Kynoch

Church Register

DEATHS

HINDMARCH Joan Margaret, aged 89 years,
on 11th January 2023.
Service at St Andrew's on 3rd
February, followed by committal
at Tynemouth, conducted by
Dr Ann Sinclair.

WALTON Jean, aged 88 years,
on 16th January 2023.
Service at St Andrew's
on 17th February, followed
by committal at Whitley Bay,
conducted by Dr Ann Sinclair.

REID Margaret Elizabeth, aged 88 years,
on 19th January, 2023.
Service and committal at
Newcastle West Road Crematorium
on 14th February.

To be a Christian without prayer
is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.

March Rotas

Spring has sprung. Hopefully your duties haven't been!



Elders: **Vestry** Carole Mallett
 Reception Catriona Fenwick
 Communion Jennifer Fleetham

Stewards: **Vestibule** Eddie Thompson
 Finance Beryl Thompson

Sunday 5th **Preacher** Val Taylor **Organ** Paul
 Readers: Iain Ord/ Joan Blanchfield
 Prayers of concern Barbara Burgess

Tuesday 7th Prayers Carole Mallett

Sunday 12th 9.30 Let's Sing & 10.15 Prayer Group: Mandy Watson
 11.00 Preachers Charles and Alison Jolly **Organ** Helen
 Readers: Val Taylor/ TBC
 Prayers of concern Val Taylor

Tuesday 14th Prayers Catriona Fenwick

Sunday 19th **Preacher** Alison Moodie **Organ** Paul
 Readers: Susan Clarke/ Paul Hartley
 Prayers of concern Ann Hammond

Tuesday 21st Prayers Sandra Pine

Sunday 26th **Preacher** Hannah Middleton **Organ** Alex
 Readers: Kathleen Hopper/ Catriona Fenwick
 Prayers of concern Una Ketteridge

Tuesday 28th Prayers Sue Ames

Space for a couple of questions

1. What do these words have in common: Light, High, Jacket, Last, Dogs?
2. Which is the odd one out: Argentina, Norway, Bolivia, Hungary, Philippines, Kenya?

Church Calendar for March / April

Sunday services are broadcast via YouTube for those not able to attend in person or just to watch again in your own time (search for "monkseatonurc").

Following Sunday morning worship, refreshments are served in the Main Hall.

Midweek Worship: Tuesday 10 am followed by Open Door Coffee Morning.

Open Door Coffee Morning: Thursday 10.30 am - Noon.

Thursday	2	Italian Class	10.00 am
Friday	3	Executive Team Meeting	10.00 am
		Lent Bible Study via Zoom	10.30 am
		World Day of Prayer at Monkseaton Methodist Church	2.00 pm
Saturday	4	58 Society Coffee Morning	10.00 am
Sunday	5	Communion Service; Mrs Valerie Taylor	11.00 am
Monday	6	Activities Team Meeting	2.00 pm
		58 Society – 'A A Milne & Winnie the Pooh'	7.30 pm
Tuesday	7	Finance Team Meeting	10.30 am
		Worship Group Meeting VIA ZOOM	7.30 pm
Thursday	9	Italian Class	10.00 am
		Elders' Meeting	7.30 pm
Friday	10	Lent Bible Study via Zoom	10.30 am
		Lent lunchtime service followed by soup & roll	12 noon
		Film Club – 'Brian & Charles'	2.00 pm
Sunday	12	'Let's Sing'	9.30 am
		Prayer Group	10.15 am
		Morning Worship; Mr Charles & Mrs Alison Jolly	11.00 am
Thursday	16	Italian class	10.00 am
Friday	17	Lent Bible Study via Zoom	10.30 am
		Lent lunchtime service followed by soup & roll	12 noon
Saturday	18	Poetry Evening	7.00 pm
Sunday	19	Morning Worship; Mrs Alison Moodie . CHURCH AGM FOLLOWS SERVICE	11.00 am
Monday	20	58 Society – 'Edwardian Light Musical Stage'	7.30 pm
Thursday	23	Italian class	10.00 am
Friday	24	Lent Bible Study via Zoom	10.30 am
		Lent lunchtime service followed by soup & roll	12 noon
Sunday	26	Morning Worship; Mrs Hannah Middleton	11.00 am
Monday	27	Biblical History class	2.00 pm
		58 Society end of session meal	7.00 for 7.30 pm
Friday	31	Lent Bible Study via Zoom	10.30 am
APRIL 2023			
Saturday	1	Craft Fair	10.00 am
Sunday	2	Communion Service; Revd Ted Marley	11.00 am

Pause in this moment

A place for
prayers,
thoughts
and poems

A prayer for International Women's Day, 3rd March 2023

On International Women's Day,
as we celebrate and give thanks for the
achievements of women,
we remember the women who have
played a part in our lives.
Those who have
nurtured us,
taught us,
inspired us,
loved us.

Forgive us when we have limited women
through inequality,
by stereotype,
by exclusion,
through lack of opportunity.

On International Women's Day,
as we acknowledge the challenges
women still face,
we pray that all women may know
equality
of healthcare,
of education,
of wealth,
of prospects.

We ask these things in the name of Jesus
in whom there is neither male nor female.
Amen

Revd Rosie Frew, 2020 (Amended)

