

Dear friends in Christ,

As we continue our journey through the season of Lent, with our eyes fixed on the exuberant rejoicing on Easter Sunday, I invite you into a rhythm of deep inward searching, listening and allowing God to renew the things in us that have 'fallen short of his glory'. As we pause to reflect, may we notice what might be stirring within us - our longings; our burdens; our questions and our hopes. May we be willing to embrace the time to let go of the things that drains life and make room for what restores, believing that God will meet us in those quiet and not so quiet moments.

Hopefully, this will enable us to enter into the celebration of Easter with the promise that in God new life is happening. We will experience the lengthening of days, new growth emerging, which are signs of renewal that God is already ahead of us, just as Jesus had gone ahead of disciples in Mark's account of the resurrection, "But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you" Mark16 v7. We may not yet see the full picture, but we can trust that God is preparing something good, something life-giving, something rooted in his grace that is inspiring and transformative.

As the Lenten season calls us to look inward, Easter invites us to look outward with and expectant hope. May our preparation for Lent be a time of deep listening and our observance of Easter and beyond be a time of awakening as we continue to discover the wonders of our discipleship in Christ. My prayer is that we walk with open hearts - willing to be shaped, willing to be surprised, willing to be renewed.

Revd Shirllyn Toppin



Bristol District
Upper Thames Circuit 7/23
Registered Charity No. 1134231
March to May 2026

<p>Dates for the Diary Circuit Meeting – Tuesday 17th March 2026 at 7.30 pm at Toothill Methodist Church</p> <p>Local Preachers Meeting Wednesday 22nd April 2026 at 7.30 pm at RWBMC</p> <p>CLT Meeting – Date 27th April, 2026 10 am in the Circuit Office.</p>

REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS
Highworth Methodist Church: Communion Services at 2 pm - 3 March, 7 April, & 5 May 2026

Shrivenham Methodist Church 6.30 pm evening fellowship bible study commencing Sunday 12th April, 2026

Shrivenham Methodist Church
CHURCH EVENTS
Lent Bible Study at 5 pm on Sunday 22 February, 1, 8th, 15th and 22nd March.

6th March at 2 pm World Day of Prayer
3rd April Good Friday Meditative service at 9.30 am.

From 15th April Alpha group meetings
Lent Bible Study at 2.30pm – 4.15pm on Monday 23 February, 2 March, 9 March 16 March, 23 March

Highworth Methodist Church

Royal Wootton Bassett
3rd April Good Friday Service at 12 Noon
Holy Week services at 7 pm Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday.

3rd April Good Friday Walk of Witness Commencing at 10 am

**CIRCUIT SERVICE – Maundy Thursday 2 April, 2026
at Royal Wootton Bassett
Methodist Church at 7 pm**

			MARCH 2026			APRIL 2026			MAY 2026					
Date	1st Lent 2	8th Lent 3	15th Mothers Day	22nd Lent 5	29th Palm Sunday	5th Easter Day	12th	19th	26th	3rd	10th	17th	24th Pentecost	31st Trinity Sunday
Lectionary Readings Year A	Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42	Exodus 2:1-10 Psalm 34:11-20 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 John 19:25-27	Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45	Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Matthew 21:1-11	Jeremiah 31:1-6 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 John 20:1-18 Acts 10:34-43	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35	Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10	Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 1 Peter 1:17-22 John 14:1-14	Acts 17:22-31 Psalm 66:8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21	Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 John 17:1-11:	Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23	Genesis 1:1-2, 4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20
Cricklade Stf HP SF 1&2	Mead	Simpson HC	Simpson	Dilly	Torchon	Fowler HC	D & A Pope	Simpson	OA	Taylor	Simpson HC	Simpson US St Sampons C Aid	Osman	Dilly
Highworth HP SF	OA	Musungo	Mead HC	Mead	Longhurst	Mead HC	German	Mead	Mullin	Cafe	Corkett	OA	Mead HC	Mullin
Purton HP MPA	10.30 R Dowling	Toppin HC	US St Marys	German	Toppin	M Dowling	Mead HC	OA	Toppin GCM	Mead HC	Toppin US C Aid	Musungo	OA	Longhurst
Royal Wootton Bassett HP Stf MPA	9.00	Toppin HC					Mead HC				Toppin HC			
Shrivenham SF CMP	10.30 OA	Mead HC	Bunce	Phoenix-Stone	Mead US 10am	Mead HC 9 am	Corkett	OA	Mead	Mullin	Musungo	Mead US C Aid	OA	Mead HC
Toothill SF	10.30 Toppin HC	OA	Corkett	Toppin	M Dowling AAW	German	Mullin	Grimwood HC	Phoenix-Stone AAW	Toppin GCM	OA	Bunce	Toppin HC	OA AAW

AAW All Age Worship
AIW All In Worship
B Baptism
COV Covenant

CI Café Inspire
CS Circuit Service
F Family Service
H Harvest

SS Stewards Service
HC Holy Communion
AGM Annual Church Meeting
OA Own Arrangement

P Parade
PP Prayer & Praise
N Nativity Service
V Village Service

C Carols
CA Church Anniversary
US United Service
SP Songs of Praise

C Aid Christian Aid Service
Y Youth Service
CH Christingle
GCM General Church Meeting