



**Letter from Revd Mike Claridge
Minister of The Cotteridge Church**

Welcome to my weekly eShot that complements the weekly Notice Sheet.

Please note that new items, or items I particularly want to draw your attention to, are highlighted in red

Please also visit my online resource site which is regularly updated with weekly material:

www.mjclaridge.co.uk

The resource site is also linked via the church website www.thecotteridgechurch.org.uk

**Roundabout Magazine for May and June
is now available!**

For a PDF click here: [Roundabout \(PDF\)](#)

To read on the website click here: [Roundabout \(Web\)](#)

As always a big thank you to Celia and team for producing the magazine. If you know someone who would appreciate a printed copy please let Dorothy Audley know.

Worship in Church - Sundays at 10.30am

Thank you, those that have attended for helping us to maintain a Covid-safe venue. Keeping a two metre distance isn't easy, but important. Likewise there's a temptation to gather in groups, but thank you for resisting.

This Sunday it is a service of Morning Worship led by myself

**Worship on Zoom - Wednesday at 7.30pm
This week (5th May) is on a Christian Aid theme
and will be led by Sue Spencer**

Join us on Zoom for half an hour of worship followed by a time to chat. The link is:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6735517282?pwd=emRrR3pqUUJYODd4dHBVYTVMZ0hqQT09>

The Meeting ID is: 673 551 7282

People can also join in **via ordinary landline** by calling **0131 460 1196** and follow the instructions they'll hear. Again the Meeting ID is : 673 551 7282

The previous two services are available on my resource site with links to hymns.

Online Birmingham District Worship has now ceased. But ...

The live worship organised by Birmingham District of The Methodist Church has now ceased. However if you visit the District website - the top link below - you will find links to live acts of worship from churches around the District.

District website: <https://birminghammethodist.org.uk>

District Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Birminghammethodistdistrict/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC65eOm7QtM4Wu1R6jTI7frw/featured>

[New Details: Church Finances](#)

Through the challenging times of the last year our members have supported us loyally through their regular monthly giving. Giving from the plate, room hire and coffee bar sales have been reduced to almost nothing but we have been so grateful that we have some reserves which have enabled us to continue to pay staff their proper wages (by topping up from the furlough scheme), and pay for new signage, screens and sanitizers in the building to enable us to reopen for worship and for C2U to meet. If you don't currently give regularly and would like to start or you would like to support us in some other way please contact me or Jane Stephens jane.stephens@thecotteridgechurch.org.uk

The Cotteridge Church Online Reflection on YouTube

A new reflection is available from 10.00am each Sunday via www.mjclaridge.co.uk (where a printed version is also available). Also available directly on YouTube via links below.

This week: Fifth Sunday of Easter Sunday 2nd May 2021

Jesus said, 'I am the vine'. We explore vines and vineyards, even in the UK! The reflection also uses a meditation from The Iona Community on The Vine. But what do Ronnie Barker and 'Porridge' have to do with it?
<https://youtu.be/yJRuKcFXAw>



Last week: Fourth Sunday of Easter Sunday 25th April 2021

Jesus said, 'I am the Good Shepherd'. We explore the importance of sheep and, in British history, wool. Sheep were precious commodities and shepherds sometimes lost their life protecting them. Jesus says he will do this for us, but his life will be taken up again.
<https://youtu.be/jCQEbtsMRpY>



Written versions are available on the resource site too.

One quick tip: The quality of the video may be poor if watched 'live' at 10am. If watched later it's better.

All of my reflections, with the exception of a couple of the early ones, are available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/user/mjclaridge>

Looking ahead to Pentecost Circuit Service, 23rd May at 6.00pm online

Global Church Celebration of Pentecost 2021

Birmingham Methodist Circuit Service

Sunday, 23rd May (6pm)

via Circuit's Facebook page

Preacher: Rev Ping Ting Chen

Theme: 'The power of the Holy Spirit'

[Could you be a Pastoral Link?](#)

We have some vacancies for people to help out as Pastoral Links. The role is to keep in touch, by phone or email, with a small group (allocated to you) of church members. If you are interested let Jane Stephens or myself know.

[The Cotteridge Church on Social Media:](#)

We use Facebook and Twitter extensively to let people know what is happening. Both Cotteridge Church social media sites are set for public view so you do NOT need to be "on Facebook" or "on Twitter" to view them.

The Cotteridge Church on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CotteridgeChurc>

The Cotteridge Church on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheCotteridgeChurch/>

[B30 Foodbank - Spring Newsletter](#)

The latest newsletter from B30 Foodbank is now available. Click below:
<https://www.mjclaridge.co.uk/download/foodbank-spring-2021.pdf>

[Newsletters from our three denominations and others](#)

New: The Methodist Church: Circuit Weekly Bulletin (28th April)

<https://mailchi.mp/3edaf074ea38/the-latest-news-from-birmingham-methodist-circuit-4880333?e=03387983e9>

The Church of England - Birmingham Monthly Bulletin: (7th April)

<https://mailchi.mp/0f5ea8abaf28/the-bulletin-november-4601102?e=7aeb305570>

New: United Reformed Church Monthly Bulletin: (May 2021)

<https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1QBL7-BCEA58C679D566537DP2PI2974D67E6111A615/cr.aspx>

New: United Reformed Church (West Mids Synod) Newsletter (May 2021)

<https://mailchi.mp/20214c03566e/march-2021-newsletter-5520349?e=45a324ae03>

The latest JPIT Newsletter (Joint Public Issues Team): (16th April)

<https://jointpublicissues-news.org.uk/1MV9-7BYAH-CFD03CE291C29CADS3ELSRA6954C3B6AEDBFAE/cr.aspx>

The latest Inclusive Church Newsletter (25th March)

<https://www.inclusive-church.org/civcrm?civiwp=CiviCRM&q=civcrm%2Fmailing%2Fview&reset=1&id=45>

[Information to pass on to those not online:](#)

The following information is important to communicate around and about to those that do not have internet access. Please forward as appropriate:

Please bring the following FREE phone lines from the C of E (left) and Methodist Church (right) to the attention of those not online. Also details of worship on TV and radio.



Worship on BBC Radio and BBC TV

The Fifth Sunday of Easter (2nd May 2021)

(times may vary from those shown)

BBC TV:

Sunday Morning Stories at **10.45am on BBC1**. The Revd Kate Bottley looks at how specially trained therapy dogs are helping schoolchildren with their reading, and the UK's first Muslim ballet school, which teaches the importance of looking after yourself.

Songs of Praise at **13.15 on BBC1** 'Northern Ireland's 100th'. - Claire McCollum marks the Partition of Ireland and formation of Northern Ireland 100 years ago, meeting Christians from across the denominations to discuss the past and their hopes for the future.

BBC Radio:

Bells on Sunday (Radio 4) Recorded bellringing at the start of the days programming. At 5.43am!

Sunday Worship (Radio 4) at **8.10am**. '100 years - Reflecting on the past - building a future together'. A Service led by the members of the Church Leaders' Group, Ireland, marking of the centenary of the partition of the island of Ireland and the formation of Northern Ireland.

The Daily Service (Radio 4, Digital and LW only). Every weekday at 9.45.

Choral Evensong (Radio 3) Recorded. Sundays at 3.00pm and Wednesday at 3.30pm (times vary)

BBC Local Radio:

An informal Act of Worship is embedded in a chat show usually between 8.00am and 8.30am. The theme varies every week. It is available on all BBC Local Radio Stations including BBC Radio WM.

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Finalised: Friday 30th April