



"Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ."

(1 Corinthians 12:12)

Purpose

We are a community of Christians who meet together to worship God. We hold a weekly service of worship on Sundays, with house groups and other meetings during the week. Our aim is to do this in a way that is meaningful, informal and friendly, discovering the relevance of faith in life today.

We aim to always:

- Be welcoming to all
- Be an extension of family and community to those in need, working collaboratively with the Pines School and wider community
- Embrace God's diverse children, being inclusive to all
- Respect and integrate Anglican and Methodist worship and traditions to promote unity and understanding of both denominations within our Christian faith
- Commit to providing opportunities for spiritual growth to ensure a deeper engagement with faith

Vision

To be a place of welcome where anybody, those of faith, no faith, returning to or exploring faith, can meet with God and learn more of God's love for all. To demonstrate the richness of God's creation through a variety of worship styles and services.

To extend our faith and action in faith beyond our Sunday services, by being a support for those within our Church and the wider community, putting into action Jesus' love and inclusivity for all in need.

Mission

- Value and support all members of our church to grow in faith
- Provide an inclusive and safe, welcoming space for all
- Respect and integrate both Anglican and Methodist traditions and values
- Actively engage in our community, living out Jesus' love and inclusivity
- Seek to grow the number of young families joining and remaining in our Church membership

An ecumenical partnership

As an ecumenical partnership between the Anglican and Methodist churches, we hold a responsibility to ensure our Church reflects both denominations in our services, our leadership and our outreach.

We recognise these Anglican and Methodist values:

The Church of England's vocation is and always has been to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ afresh in each generation to the people of England.

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

Our core value is to be a place of welcome for all, embracing them regardless of their denomination, where they are on their faith journey or who they are.

We embrace both Anglican and Methodist traditions and aim to have one Anglican communion and one Methodist communion service each month. We will have a mixture of ministers preaching on Sundays. We will consult both denominations about decisions and plans for the church.

We recognise that being an ecumenical partnership means more responsibility is placed on members of the congregation to ensure the smooth running of the church and its services. We have a Leadership consisting of various members of the congregation and are always seeking to add new members. This team is responsible for ensuring Anglican and Methodist values are upheld and both denominations are consulted at regular meetings.

We are part of inclusive church, a network of churches, groups and individuals uniting together around a shared vision: "We believe in inclusive Church - church which does not discriminate, on any level, on grounds of economic power, gender, mental health, physical ability, race or sexuality. We believe in a Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ."

Nurturing future generations

"God means the symbol of the world, God means life, God means love and peace" – "Jesus means the saviour of my life, he means love" one of our young people

We recognise the importance of nurturing the next generation of people of faith and the work we do with children and young people to support them to be curious about God's love and to grow in faith.

Our young people have asked that our Church be for them:

- A place where they can speak to God in peace
- A community, where friends in Christ can come together
- Educational, where they can learn about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit
- Somewhere everyone is welcome

Valuing all our church members:

Our church members tell us they value that our church is a place of friendship, the variety of preachers and service styles, and the mix of Methodism and Anglicism.

Our adult members asked that our Church continue to provide:

- A sense of community/belonging
- A warm welcome
- Faith in action beyond Sunday
- A commitment to remain an inclusive church
- Somewhere to worship with others, to learn and to reflect