Singing the Faith 745

For all the saints who from their labours rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be for ever blest: Alleluia, alleluia!

Last Sunday was 1st November – All Saints Day. Rev Kim took the opportunity to use the Bible readings for All Saints Day, rather than the Sunday lectionary and drew worship to a close by this hymn of thankfulness for all the saints. In Singing the Faith, 745 and 746 both begin with the same four words; although they belong to different centuries, both hymns are dedicated to Christians who have died and passed to a fuller life, rather than saints in the New Testament sense where all disciples of Jesus are called saints, before and after death.

William Walsham How who wrote the words was born at College Hill, Shrewsbury in 1823, just fourteen years after Charles Darwin was born at The Mount in Shrewsbury. How attended Shrewsbury School and Oxford University and was ordained in 1847. Two years later he married Frances Ann Douglas, they had five sons and a daughter. Anne supported William in his pastoral work throughout her life. He served as curate in Kidderminster and Shrewsbury before becoming the rector of Whittington for 28 years and Dean of Oswestry for part of that time. 'For all the saints' was written during that period. He was pleased to be appointed as suffragan bishop in London's East End instead of the prestigious Durham bishopric which he was offered but declined. Living amongst poor people he refused to use a private carriage and was affectionately known as 'Omnibus Bishop' or 'Poor Man's Bishop'. He was sometimes also styled 'Children's Bishop' because of his easy manner with young people. He later became the first Bishop of Wakefield; this was just after his wife died; he found that a hard move. In 1867 he died on holiday in Ireland and is buried at Whittington.

In Singing the Faith only one of How's hymns has survived, out of the many he wrote; a number of those were German chorales arranged as English hymns. The tune is Sine Nomine which Ralph Vaughan Williams wrote specially for these words. R.D



8th NOVEMBER 2026 — **Rev Sheila Macinally**

15th NOVEMBER 2026 — **Mr Stephen Dalton**

SERVICES COMMENCE AT 10.30 am

WEDNESDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2026

10 am to 12.00 **Baby & Toddler Group** – in church hall

2.30 pm – 4.00 pm "Cuppa & Chat" – in church hall

MINISTER	CHURCH WEBSITE
REV'D GEORGE HEINZ	www.churchstretton-methodistchurch.org.uk
Telephone: 07538480626	

WE ARE ASKED TO PRAY
FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE

Doreen C, Maureen C, Carole C,
John & Ann C, Simon C, Barbara & Paul C,
Christine & Gerry R.
Those who come to our Babies & Toddlers Group



INTER-FAITH WEEK 8th – 15th November

South Shropshire Inter-Faith Group will be hosting a Soup Lunch at
Craven Arms Methodist Church Hall
on Saturday 14th November at 12pm
Bread and Soup £5
All proceeds to a local charity. P.E.R

PRESERVES & A REQUEST

As the season changes, so must my recipes for jams etc. I will be bringing the new selection as usual on Communion weekends
There are new jams and more chutney flavours to choose from. I am also trialling mini pots. So, if you are unsure of a flavour, try a mini jar first.
There is now a plastic box in the kitchen ready to receive returned jars on weeks when I'm not there. I really do need my jars back when empty please, especially the smaller six-sided ones, which are expensive to buy.
Thank you so much for supporting this endeavour for church funds. I am always ready to hear feedback, even negative. 😄
Thank you**.** Linda

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Church Council meeting will be held on Monday 23rd November at 2pm in the Hall.
All members of our congregation are welcome to attend as observers.

Trish H

THANK YOU

Your generous donations on Sunday mornings and at Cuppa and Chat have contributed £1,348.00 to Church Funds this financial year.
Thank you all so much.

Sally W

"ENGAGING ISSUES"

Keeping Britain Safe – Risks, threats and how to manage them.
Former GCHQ intelligence officers **Rich Hunt** and **George Ellis** will argue from their combined experience in UK intelligence that misguided policy and miscalculation continue to present a grave risk to the UK's national security.
7.30 pm URC Tuesday 17th November.

WHITE POPPIES

These are on the table by the entrance. Please take one and wear it to help promote a culture of peace. For more info, take a leaflet or see the November Stretton Focus page 13

PLEASE NOTE

Items for the Church Notices for next Sunday 15th November to
CHRIS G Tel: 328319 Email: cdgtorridon@aol.com

'Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.'
When this tune is played before our preacher of the day leads us in worship, please take this time to be still and quiet and reflect. Thank you. It could be a time to turn in "Singing the Faith" to number 20 or to ponder the three aspects mentioned in the hymn - the presence of the Lord, the glory of the Lord and the power of the Lord.