

ESTHER— A SHORT GUIDE

A bit of background

What happened yesterday is not always what happens today. When the earlier parts of the Old Testament were written, having more than one wife was not uncommon. It often didn't work very well as David and Solomon found out. By the time of Jesus, the pattern had become one man – one woman. However, this is an earlier tale with a contest for an extra wife and frankly a one-off.

The crunch part of the story

A circular is issued with the details of the slaughter of all Jewish people. When Mordecai hears, he gets the news to Queen Esther and begs her to appeal to the king. Now, that's easier said than done. Going to visit Xerxes without being invited means death unless he happens to be in a good mood and waves you in. Even for one of the king's favourites, it's a terrible risk. Esther tells Mordecai that it's a full month since Xerxes has asked for her. In return, he tells her bluntly that doing nothing isn't an option. Maybe, he suggests, you were made queen for a moment like this.

The plot

A beauty contest, a murder plot, mass killings, private dinners and wrong impressions – this book sounds like the plot for a possible TV series. But within all its twists and turns, there is one thing in Esther's life that nearly everyone has to face: the need to be honest and speak up about who we truly are. For Esther, that means putting her life on the line for her family and her people.

from Bible in Ten – David Kitchen

We continue to pray for those members of our Church Family and Friends who are unwell and all those who mourn.

Welcome to Cyncoed Methodist Church



part of Cardiff Methodist Circuit

**Church Notices for Sunday 27th September 2026
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Steward: Sue Tester

10.30am Anthony Thomas

Lectionary: Exodus 17: 1-7; Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16; Philippians 2: 1-13;
Matthew 21: 23-32.

At Cyncoed Methodist Church

We are called to tell God's story by living as God's people through:

- Preaching and teaching the gospel
- Encouraging spiritual growth
- Outreach in the community
- Responding to opportunities for change

All inspired by God centred worship and prayer.

Minister:

Rev. Cathy Gale

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Church Office: Tel: 029 2039 3439

Lesley Meiklejohn

Office Administrator

cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 8:30am to 11:30am

Sunday 4th October 2026 Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Stewards: Sue Tester & Sarah Close

9.15am Rev. Paul Donnison – Communion

4.00pm Rev. Cathy Gale – Informal Service

Lectionary: Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19; Philippians 3: 4b-14;
Matthew 21: 33-46



Informal mid-week Communion

An oasis of peace in a busy week.

**Services held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at
10:30am**

Cyncoed Church Premises

**For Out of Hours or Emergency access to the Cyncoed
Church Premises, please call Martin on 07849 632 394**

**Please send items for the church notices to the Church Office
or email to cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com
before 5.00pm on Wednesday.**

Notices

- ❖ **Bible Study** Just to confirm that Bible study, led by Cathy, will be this **Thursday afternoon, 1st October at 2.00pm**. All are welcome as we begin studying the book of Ruth.
- ❖ **Safeguarding update** On recent publications from the Methodist Church Safeguarding Team, there has been an addition to the roles that need to attend Foundation Safeguarding Training. **Trustees** (members of the Church Council or Circuit Meeting) now need to complete the Foundation Training. Many will already have completed this for other roles they hold, but there will be some that will need to be trained for the first time. Please let Dave know if you think this is you. An email to davekitchen30@hotmail.com would be good with your telephone number if Dave needs to get back for a word or two. Thanks
- ❖ **Community Garden** We will be looking to stake raspberry bushes in the next few months and planting seeds ready for the raised beds. If you have any seed trays or bamboo canes (ideally 6ft) that you no longer need, we'd love to have them please. All donations will be gratefully received
- ❖ **Foodbank** We will be celebrating Harvest, here at Cyncoed, on Sunday 11th October and as last year, I am asking for donations for the Foodbank. Any non-perishable goods and toiletries will be very much appreciated, thank you. Alison H
- ❖ **The Trinity Centre** are holding a competition to name their upstairs hall. The hall is used for many different activities, groups, celebrations and meetings. It has beautiful stained glass windows including the rose window, which is used as a basis for their logo. The other rooms in the building are called the Sanctuary and the Croeso Room. They are looking for a name that is easy to understand and reflects the community and heritage of the building. The prize is a £50 voucher. To enter, email enquiries@trinitycentre.wales for an entry form. The closing date is Monday 16th November.