



Southern Synod
Autumn Synod Together Meeting, Saturday 21st October 2023

To: All Ministers in a pastorate, Church representatives, Synod/United Area Leaders, Administrators and Treasurers, Local Church Leaders, Children and Youth representatives, Synod Staff, Co-opted members, Retired Ministers, Students and Observers.

Dear Friend,

2023 Autumn Synod Together Meeting
Saturday 21st October 2023. 10.30 am to 4.00 pm

at The Temple United Reformed Church, High Street, St Mary Cray, Kent, BR5 4AX

Grace, mercy and peace to you.

It gives me great joy to invite you to attend, in person, the meeting of Synod Together on Saturday 21st October 2023 at The Temple URC, St Mary Cray.

We are extremely grateful to the team at The Temple for making this meeting possible.

When you arrive at the venue, you will be directed to the registration points which will be done alphabetically by surname.

Voting cards will be given to eligible voters at the registration desk. All Ministers in active service, church representatives, Synod/United Area Leaders, Administrators and Treasurers, Local Church Leaders, Children and Youth representatives, and co-opted members are voting members. Others, including Retired Ministers, Students and Observers, are welcome and will be able to address the meeting but are not allowed to participate in decision-making.

Please let us know if you will not be able to attend by sending your apologies as soon as possible, indicating clearly whether you are a minister, church representative etc. and your church to Lauren King on modpa@urcsouthern.org.uk or 0208 668 3730. If you are a Synod Representative and will be sending an alternate in your place please let Lauren know their name and email address.

There is very limited parking available at the church for those who have mobility issues. Additional parking will be available at St Mary Cray Primary Academy. If you would like a parking space please email your name and car registration number to Lauren King (modpa@urcsouthern.org.uk) by Wednesday 18th October. More information on parking and getting to The Temple URC is enclosed.

Please, don't forget to bring your lunch. Soup, tea, and coffee will be provided.

A bookstall selling selection of books and merchandise from the URC bookshop will be running on the day, including diaries and prayer handbooks for 2024. We are expecting the prayer handbooks and diaries to be popular so please email Lauren by 13th October to pre-order and ensure we have enough stock. Please also email Lauren if there is anything else you'd specifically like to preorder from the URC shop.

As you will see from the agenda, we continue to explore how we as a church are helping transform communities. We will also be looking at personal transformation through a presentation of Stepwise. Please read all the reports and papers before attending the meeting as well as taking notes of information to report back on to your various areas,

committees and local congregations. If you have any detailed questions about any of the reports or paperwork, please can I urge you to address specific questions to those responsible for producing the reports prior to the meeting.

I look forward to being with you all.

Yours in Christ,



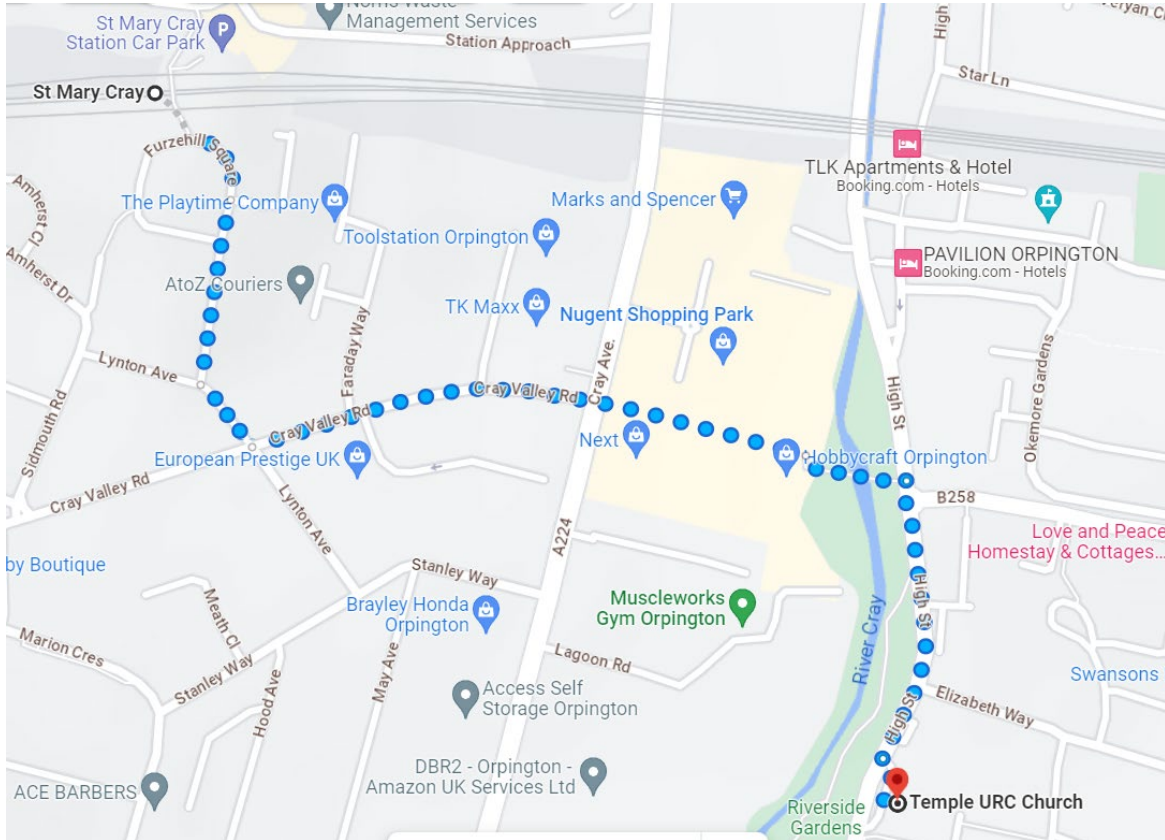
Revd. Martin Hayward

Synod Clerk

6th October 2023

Getting to the Temple URC

The Temple United Reformed Church is a 16-minute walk (0.7 mile) from St Mary Cray train station. Wendy Swan has kindly offered to give people lifts from St Mary Cray station to the church. If you require a lift from Wendy please email her (wendyaswan@hotmail.com) by Friday 20th October.

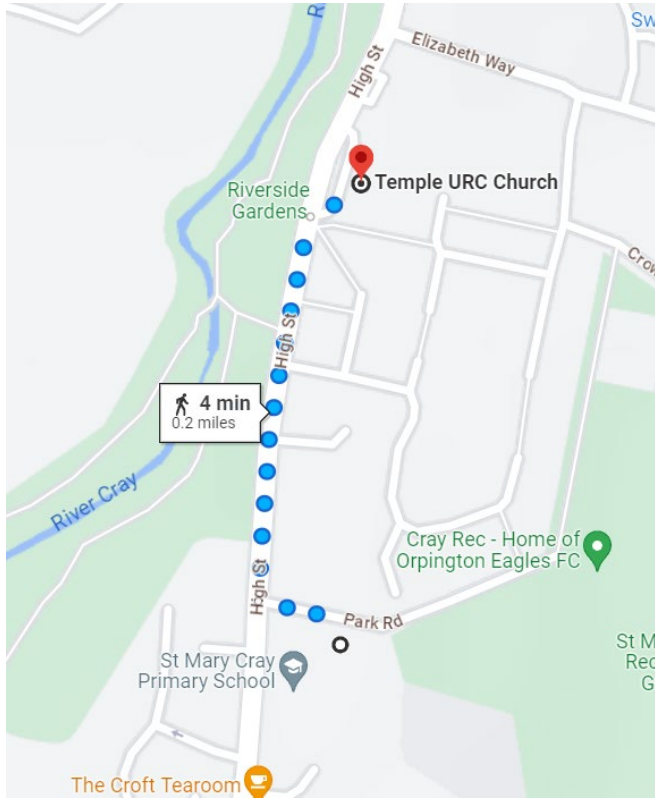


Walking route from St Mary Cray Station to The Temple URC

There is limited parking available at the church, these spaces will be prioritised for those who have mobility issues. Additional parking will be available at St Mary Cray Primary Academy, High Street, St Mary Cray, Orpington, BR5 4AR. Access to the school car park is via Park Road. There will be a steward in high-viz stood on the corner of High Street and Park Road.

If you would like a parking space please let Lauren King (modpa@urcsouthern.org.uk) know by Friday 13th October with your name and car registration number.

If you are driving to Synod Together please consider car sharing.



Route from St Mary Cray Primary School to The Temple URC