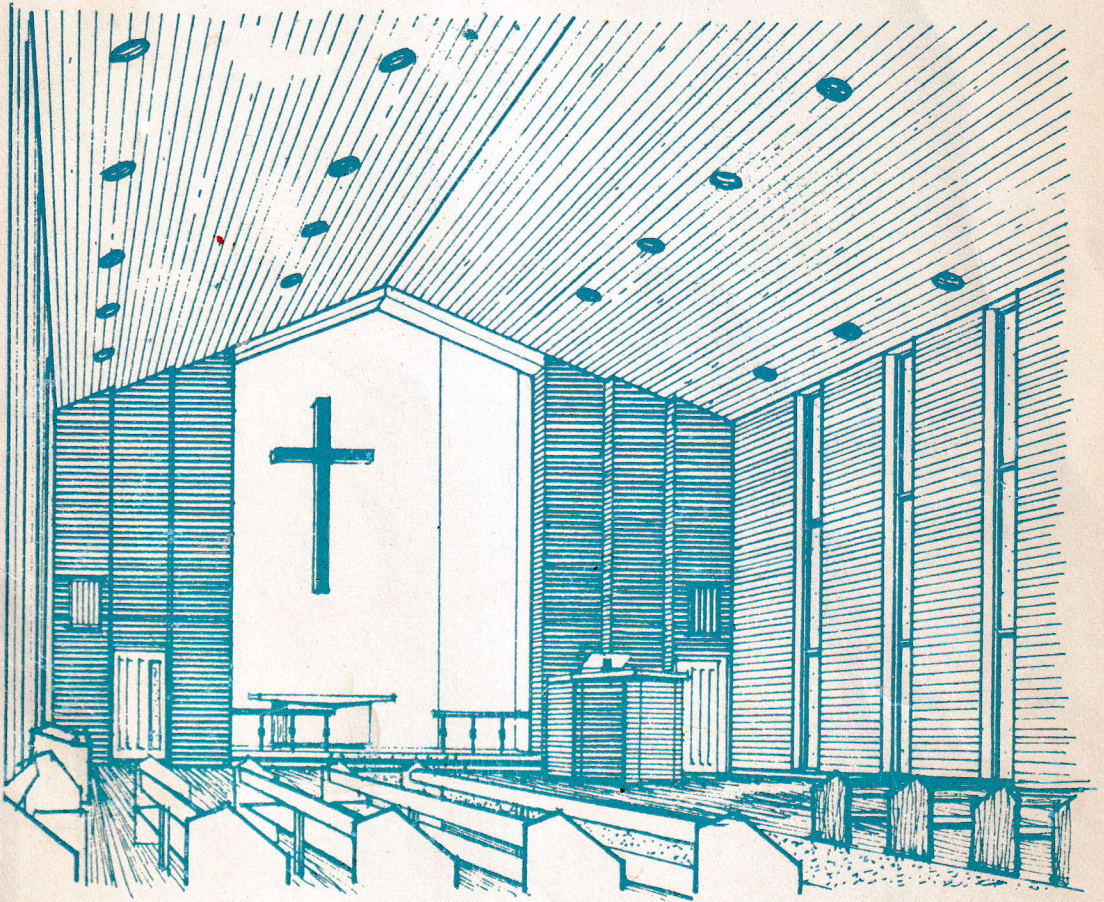


CATSHILL METHODIST CHURCH



Opening & Dedication

SATURDAY OCTOBER 19th at 3p.m.

CATSHILL METHODIST CHURCH
OPENING AND DEDICATION BROCHURE

DATA

The question is often posed, "What's in a name?". People on hearing CATSHILL for the first time often raise their eyebrows, and remark, "What a queer name". Local Lore has it that it was named after St Chad, Bishop of York and Mercia in 669 A.D., but there is no evidence in legal or parochial records that supports this theory.

The earliest traceable reference to the village in the Assize Rolls of Worcestershire, is in 1221, where it is written "Catteshule," while in the court rolls of the Manor of Hales (Halesowen) in 1472, it has become "Catshill Elde.". It may sound "Infra dig" to associate the origins of the name with the wild cat, but there seems no getting away from the fact that the simple meaning of Catshill, is the Hill or House of the Cat, nestling on the lower slopes of the Lickey Hills. Catshill is in the heart of Worcestershire, and in recent years has become a place of great popularity to live, being adjacent to the M.5 Motorway, and within commuter distance of the Midland Engineering Industry.

Our village can make no claim to historical fame. No great event is recorded in its annals, except such as are preserved in the church vestry, bare records of baptism, marriage, and funerals.

There is very little local industry in the village. Weaving and button making were earlier probabilities, but for two centuries it's staple industry was nail-making. This died out in the 1930's and most workers now travel to the Austin Works, or Garringtons at Bromsgrove.

"Our Chapel", a history of Primitive Methodism in the village was written by the Rev Arthur Wilkes in 1931, and suggests that it was in 1823 that the evangelists took their stand in Bromsgrove, and that about 1831 the first converts in Catshill met in a rented room in Barley Mow Lane. Those early pioneers, men and women of faith and vision, undaunted by opposition and often physical violence,

were the founders of the church in Catshill. They have been succeeded by generations of equally loyal christians who have upheld and communicated the faith, so that today we have members who can trace their ancestry back to these early converts.

From Barley Mow Lane, these enthusiasts moved to Golden Cross Lane, and built a new church in 1851, to accommodate two hundred hearers, at a cost of £95. 7. 0d, with the newly appointed minister, the Rev Joseph Hall, to reside at Catshill as the head of the circuit. In 1868, yet another church was built (Demolished in 1967) for £198. This caused great excitement, and the "Society" was very flourishing and vigorous for forty years. Then again in 1910 the people had a mind to build the church which was opened on September 15th 1910 by Mrs Martha Gibbins of Barnt Green, and cost £884.

Two great wars came, and many of our fine young men never returned, but the Spirit of Jesus was alive, the church grew, and when peace was restored in 1945, a Thanksgiving Fund was opened. As a result, a New Vestry, and other amenities were added in 1953.

The great step forward took place in September 1961, when the Quarterly Meeting decided that Catshill should have its own Minister exactly One Hundred Years after the first Minister resided there. We record with thankfulness the gracious ministry of Rev and Mrs W.N.J. Hutchens who came at an opportune time, bringing with them great gifts of understanding and christian grace to lead and inspire us. Before they left in 1966, plans were in hand for the building of the present New Church.

Since the coming of the Rev and Mrs Tony Bullock, things have moved rapidly. New Members have been added bringing with them new ideas. It is invidious to single out names, but thanks of the many are due to the few who have planned, and those who have supported them.

*"The future is bright if our hearts are right,
If our lives are in touch with God.
Let us journey on where the saints have trod,
Trusting always in His great might."*

K.C. Wilkes.

The Service will be conducted by

Rev Cecil F. Guy, M.A., *Superintendent Minister of the Bromsgrove Circuit.*

The Opener will be

Mr S.W. Howard, *the Honorary Trust Secretary.*

The Church will be dedicated by

Rev Tony Bullock, *Minister of the Church.*

The Preacher will be

Rev W. N. James Hutchens, *former Minister of the Church.*

The Key will be presented by

Mr Donald G. Cornfield, A.R.I.B.A., *the Architect.*

The Organist will be

Mr R. K. Wilkes.

The Lessons will be read by

Mr Paul Bartlett Lang *and* Mr James Stephens.

The Vote of Thanks on behalf of the Trustees will be given by

Mr R. E. Wagstaff.

The Vocal Soloist will be Neville Hazelwood. *Accompianist* Alan Walker.

Relay Equipment and Recording by courtesy of Mr Tony Flack.

After the Service, light refreshments will be served in the Youth Hall.

ORDER OF SERVICE

At 2.55 p.m. the congregation being assembled, the Church doors will be locked, the opener and the architect being inside.

At 3.0 p.m. outside the church, the Ministers will proceed to the church door, and the Superintendent Minister will knock on the door.

Within the church, the Architect will present the key to the opener, *Mr S.W. Howard*, who will then open the door and say :-

“In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, I declare the doors of this church open for the worship of Almighty God, and the Service of this community. Serve the Lord with Gladness, enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise.”

Minister: “O come let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation, let us come into his presence with thanksgiving, let us worship Him with songs of Praise.”

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

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|--|---|
| <p>1. With Gladness we worship rejoice as we sing
Free hearts and free voices how blessed to bring,
The Old thankful story shall scale thine abode,
Thou king of all glory most bountiful God.</p> | <p>2. Thy right would we give Thee true homage
Thy due,
And honour eternal the universe through
With all thy creation earth heaven and sea,
In one acclamation we celebrate Thee.</p> |
| <p>2. Renewed by Thy Spirit Redeemed by Thy Son,
Thy children revere Thee for all Thou hast done,
Oh Father returning to Love and to Light,
Thy children are yearning to praise Thee aright.</p> | <p>4. We join with the angels and so there is given,
From earth Hallelujah in answer to heaven.
Amen be thou glorious below and above
Redeeming, victorious, and infinite love.</p> |

Minister: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain, much less these walls made with hands, who yet has promised Thy presence where two or three are gathered in Thy name. we praise Thee for the worship of Thy house; for the memories that gather as we bow in Thy presence; for the ministry of Thy word and the grace and comfort of Thy table; for the fellowship of Thy people, and the faithful service and witness of consecrated lives; and

for our communion with those who have joined the church triumphant. Bless us now with Thy presence as we meet to dedicate this house to Thy most holy worship; enrich us continually by Thy grace, and direct us by Thy Spirit, that all we do in Thy name may be truly wrought in Thee, through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

(1 Kings Chapter 7 v 51, and Chapter 8 vv 22-30)

Read by Mr Paul Bartlett Lang, Secretary of the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts.

HYMN

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|---|--|
| 1. Christ is our Corner stone
On Him alone we build
With His true saints alone,
The courts of heaven are filled
On His great love our hopes we place,
Of present grace and joys above. | 2. O Then with hymns of praise.
These hallowed courts shall ring
Our voices we will raise
The three in one to sing,
And thus proclaim in joyful song
Both loud and long that glorious name. |
| 3. Here gracious God do Thou
For evermore draw nigh;
Accept each faithful vow,
And mark each suppliant sigh;
In copious shower on all who pray
Each Holy day Thy blessings pour. | 4. Here may we gain from heaven
The grace which we implore;
And may that grace once given
Be with us evermore;
Until that day when all the blest
To endless rest are called away. |

AMEN.

TREASURER'S REPORT by Mr G.V. Neal, Hon Building Fund Treasurer.

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

(Colossians Chapter 3 vv 1-17)

Read by Mr James Stephens, a Local Preacher and Member of this Church.

VOTE OF THANKS by Mr R.E. Wagstaff, on behalf of the Trustees.

ANTHEM

("Magnify, Glorify," from Belshazzars Feast by Root)

THE SERMON

HYMN

1. Ye servants of God, your master proclaim
And publish abroad His wonderful name,
The name all victorious of Jesus extol,
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.
2. God ruleth on high almighty to save,
And still He is nigh, His presence we have,
The great congregation His triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.
3. Salvation to God who sits on the throne,
Let all cry aloud and honour the Son;
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim
Fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.
4. Then let us adore and give Him His right
All glory and power, all wisdom and might
All honour and blessing with angels above
And thanks never ceasing and infinite Love.

TENOR SOLO. "If Ye Truly Seek Him" (Mendelsohn's *Elijah*).
(Sung by Neville Hazelwood).

THE DEDICATION

(All Standing)

Minister : Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

Minister: It is meet right and our bounden duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God.

Minister & People:

Therefore with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of Heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory, Glory be to Thee Oh Lord most high.

AMEN.

MINISTER: "Beloved in the Lord, we rejoice that God has put it into the hearts of His people to build this house to His glory. We now meet to consecrate it and set it apart for the worship of Almighty God. Let us therefore solemnly dedicate this house and the things of this sanctuary to their proper and sacred uses.

AT THE FONT THE MINISTER SHALL SAY :

Jesus said, all authority has been given to me, in heaven and on earth. go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them into the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo I am with you always even unto the end of the world.

Grant Oh Lord that whosoever shall come here to be baptised with water, shall also receive the Baptism of Thy Holy Spirit, and being received into Thy church, may ever be numbered among Thy faithful children. *AMEN.*

AT THE PULPIT THE MINISTER SHALL SAY:

We preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your servants for Jesus's sake. For God who commanded the light to shine out of the darkness hath shined in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the Glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Grant Oh Lord that Thy Holy Word may be proclaimed here with faithfulness, and in the power of Thy Spirit, to the calling of many to repentance, and to the edifying of Thy church through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

AT THE ORGAN THE MINISTER SHALL SAY :

It is a good thing to sing praises to our God. Praise God in His Sanctuary. Praise Him for His mighty acts. Praise Him with the Psaltery and Harp. Praise Him with stringed instruments and organs. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.

Almighty God stir up Thy gifts within us we humbly beseech Thee, that Thy house may be filled with joy and gladness, and that thanksgiving and the voice of melody may be found therein. May the ministry of music enable us to worship Thee both with our lips and with our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

AT THE COMMUNION TABLE THE MINISTER SHALL SAY :

"The Lord Jesus in the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks He broke it and said, "Take eat, this is my body which is broken for you do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way He took the cup after supper saying "This cup is the New Covenant in My blood, this do as oft as ye shall drink it in remembrance of Me."

We render thanks to Thee O God for the passion, death, and

resurrection of Thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and for the victory over death and the grave which He has obtained for all who believe in Him, and we pray that whenever Thy people shall gather in obedience to His command around Thy table, they may do so with penitent heart, and lively faith, and in perfect love, that He may be known in the breaking of the bread. *AMEN.*

TENOR SOLO "Bless This House" (Sung by Neville Hazelwood).

THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Minister: "To the Glory of God the Father who has called us by His Grace,
And of His Son who loved us and gave Himself for us,
And of the Holy Spirit who illumines and sanctifies us,

People: We dedicate this house.

Minister: "For the worship of God in prayer and praise,
For the preaching of the everlasting gospel,
For the celebration of the Holy Sacraments,

People: We dedicate this house.

Minister: "For the comfort of all who mourn,
For the strength of all who are tempted,
For the light of all who seek the way,

People: We dedicate this house.

Minister: "For the hallowing of family life,
For the teaching and guiding of the young,
For the perfecting of the saints,

People: We dedicate this house.

Minister: "For the conversion of sinners,
For the promotion of righteousness,
For the extension of the Kingdom of God,

People: We dedicate this house.

Minister: "In the Unity of Faith,
In the bond of christian brotherhood,
In charity and goodwill to all,

People: We dedicate this house.

Minister: "In gratitude for the labours of all the saints,
In loving remembrance of those who have finished the course,
In the hope of blessed immortality through Jesus Christ our Lord,

People: We dedicate this house.

Minister & People:

We now the people of this church and congregation, compassed about with a great cloud of witnesses, grateful for our heritage, sensible of the sacrifice of our fathers in the faith, confessing that apart from us their work cannot be made perfect, do dedicate ourselves anew to the worship and service of Almighty God.

Accept O Lord this service at our hands, and bless it with such success as may most tend to Thy glory, and the salvation of Thy people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. What shall we offer our Good Lord,
Poor nothings for His boundless grace,
Fain would we His great Love record,
And worthily set forth His praise. | 2. Great object of our growing love
To whom our more than all we owe,
Open the fountain from above,
And let it our full souls o'erflow. |
| 3. So shall our lives Thy power proclaim,
Thy grace for every sinner free;
Till all mankind shall learn Thy name,
Shall all stretch out their hands to Thee. | 4. Open a door which earth and hell
May strive to shut but strive in vain,
Let Thy word richly in us dwell,
And let our gracious fruit remain. |
| 5. O multiply the sowers seed,
And fruit we every hour shall bear.
Throughout the world Thy gospel spread,
Thy everlasting truth declare. | 6. We all in perfect Love renewed,
Shall know the greatness of Thy power,
Stand in the temple of our God, as pillars
And go out no more. |

(The offertory shall be taken during the singing of this hymn)

RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING

THE DECLARATION

MINISTER: In the name of the father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
I do now declare this house set apart and consecrated to the worship

and service of Almighty God, to whom be glory, dominion and
power for ever and ever, *AMEN.*

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

This this is the God we adore,
Our faithful unchangeable friend,
Whose Love is as great as His power,
And neither knows measure nor end.

Tis Jesus the first and the last ,
Whose Spirit shall guide us safe home,
We'll praise Him for all that is past,
And trust Him for all that's to come.

BENEDICTION

YOU ARE INVITED TO KEEP THIS ORDER OF SERVICE.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The building of this church has been made possible,

BY: The imagination, patience and skill of the architect, Mr Donald G. Cornfield, A.R.I.B.A., in liaison with Mr J.B. Allen, A.R.I.C.S., of Hart Gilmore Associates (Quantity Surveyors).

The sympathetic co-operation of the builders, Messrs William Weaver Ltd., of Bromsgrove.

The craftsmanship and hard work of the tradesmen and labourers under Mr Frank Nokes, the General Foreman, and Mr Tucker Brown, the site Manager.

The technical competence of the sub-contractors.

BY: The hard work and generous giving of the members of our congregation, and friends from a wide area around Bromsgrove. Donations of special gifts of furnishings, and donations to the Brick Scheme, are further recorded in an illuminated book to be kept in the Church.

BY: The generosity of the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts.
The Methodist Department for Chapel Affairs.
The Charford Trust.
Legacies and Anonymous gifts.

The Trustees record with grateful thanks the gifts of furnishings as follows :

The Communion Table donated by The Women's Own.
The Baptismal Font Stand donated by The Sunday School.
The Pulpit Bible donated by the Bishop Hall Charity.
The Pulpit Hymn Book donated by The Over 21 Club.
The Pulpit Fall donated by The Youth Club.
The Colour Stands donated by Catshill Scouts and Cubs.
The Offertory Plates donated by The Guides, Brownies and Boys' Club.
The Church Carpeting given by an anonymous donor.
The Clock donated by Mr and Mrs W.E. Rutter.
The Hymn Boards donated by Mr and Mrs H.R. Woodbury.
The Communion Table Flower Bowl donated by The Tuesday at Eight.

SUNDAY SERVICES, SUNDAY OCTOBER 20TH.

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Family Worship & Parade Service *conducted by Rev T. Bullock.*
6.00 p.m. Evening Worship, followed by Holy Communion *conducted by Rev W. N. James Hutchens.*

CHURCH OFFICERS

MINISTER: Rev Tony Bullock, 8 Braces Lane, Marlbrook, Bromsgrove. Tel: 021-445-2066.

SOCIETY STEWARDS:

Mr C.Coates, 18 Hazelton Close, Marlbrook, Bromsgrove. Tel: Bromsgrove 4844.
Mr W.E. Rutter, D.K.Hember, T.F.Keight, R.E.Wagstaff, R.K.Wilkes and A.H.Masters.

TRUST OFFICERS:

Secretary: Mr S.W.Howard, 57 Golden Cross Lane, Catshill. Tel: Bromsgrove 3582.
Treasurer: Mr C. Coates.
Building Fund Treasurer: Mr G.V.Neal, 23 Hazelton Rd, Marlbrook. Tel: Bromsgrove 5115.
Ways & Means Secretary: Mr J.B.Cawson, 49 Hazelton Rd, Marlbrook. Tel: Bromsgrove 3852.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

General Superintendent: Mr J.Stephens, 39 Hazelton Rd, Marlbrook. Tel: Bromsgrove 5067.
Secretary: Mr D.K. Hember, 30 Church Rd, Catshill. Tel: Bromsgrove 3249.

BOYS' CLUB - OFFICERS:

Mr D. Wilkes, 23 Cottage Lane, Marlbrook.
Messrs G. Robinson, J. Stephens, R.G. Luckcock, R.K. Wilkes.

GUIDES' OFFICERS:

Mrs F. Whittemore, 27 Limehouse Lane, Marlbrook.

BROWNIES' OFFICERS:

Miss D. Pearson, 261 Old Birmingham Road, Bromsgrove.
Mrs J. Wilkes, 23 Cottage Lane, Marlbrook.

LEADERS' MEETING:

Secretary: Mr G.D. Robinson, 17 Firs Close, Marlbrook.

WOMEN'S OWN:

Secretary: Mrs B. Kings, 32 Victoria Road, Bromsgrove. Tel: Bromsgrove 2139.
President: Mrs G. Manning, 34 Golden Cross Lane, Catshill.

CHOIR:

Secretary: Mrs R.E.Wagstaff, 24 Golden Cross Lane, Catshill. Tel: Bromsgrove 3436.
Choirmaster: Mr J. Durston, 10 Bracken Grove, Catshill.
Organist: Mr R.K. Wilkes, 77 Golden Cross Lane, Catshill. Tel: Bromsgrove 4768.
Asst. Organists: Mr B. Rutter and Mrs D.K. Hember.

TUESDAY AT EIGHT: Sec: Mrs P.Cawson.
OVER 21 CLUB Sec: Mrs F. Whittemore.