

At the junction with Newton Way

Pause at the corner. Note the barrow with flowers across the road, put there and maintained by Baildon in Bloom. Thank God for those who work so hard to improve the appearance of the town.

Diagonally opposite where you stand is a row of old cottages called Tentercroft—a reminder of Baildon's historical involvement in the wool textile industry, from cottage-scale to mills. Little of that remains, but many firms still operate from Baildon supplying diverse markets. Pray for prosperity and jobs, but without forgetting the need for environmental riches, as symbolised by the bloom-barrow.

Back to the start point

When you are ready, turn right along Newton Way. Here is a nursery (there is also a pre-school at the Methodist Church): pray for all our children and young families, that they may be led by right paths.

A few steps further on, you can see Baildon Medical Practice across the road. Pray for all medical professionals, including your own doctor, and those whom you know who are ailing at the moment.

Pass the upper end of the building contractor's yard, which may reinforce your resolve to pray for industry and environment.

Look (or walk, if you have the time) down the path beside the Church, admiring the gardens lovingly tended by church members and friends. Here also are conserved many old varieties of fruit tree, the legacy of the late Robert Pemberton, a Methodist who was a recognized authority on this subject. Pray for good stewardship everywhere.

Now you are back where the walk began. If the cafe area of Wesleys is too busy for you just at the moment, slip into the Quiet Room (Room 4) and sit for a while in peace. May the Lord bless you with his presence throughout your life.

Baildon Methodist Church

Prayer Walk

A gentle walk down to Baildon centre and back by a circular route crossing no roads



Set out with the aim of bringing what you see before God.

Ask him to guide your eyes and your thoughts.
Follow the Spirit's leading in your prayers.

Pray for, and call down blessings on,
all those whom the Lord calls to your mind,
not forgetting yourself and your loved ones,
in the name of Jesus who said:
'Go... I am with you always...'

Stepping out of the church

Leave the Church through the porch, and go up the gentle ramp into Newton Way. Stand and take in the scene, with the busy traffic. Remind yourself: This is God's world—he created it and loves it.

Heading down to the centre

Turn right, and walk down the hill. At the junction with The Grove, is a row of alms houses opposite, called Butterfield Homes (1929). Thank God for charities, and pray for the frail elderly, here and elsewhere.

As you walk down the steeper slope, you'll see the parish church up on the right. Bless those who worship there in the name of the Lord.

You pass a car park, dentist and laundry: ponder these and pray.

The view by the roundabout

At the pharmacy, by the zebra crossing, thank God for the skills of those who dispense medications and pray for those who need them.

Beyond the pharmacy is a cafe: this part of Baildon has many eating places—cafes, restaurants, takeaways, and pubs. Think of the jobs of preparing and serving food and drink, including bar staff, and pray for those tempted to excess, or even addiction.

To your left is a bus turning area. Thank God for transport, public and private. But reflect on how we have turned so many of our roads into brutal no-cross zones for pedestrians and animals.

In the pedestrianized oasis with seats, are stocks and a market cross: Give thanks for the long history of Baildon and pray for its future. Use those thoughts to pray also for your own walk with the Lord.

To your right, above the car park is the Ian Clough Hall and Library. Thank God for the information industry, and all the many meetings held there. But pray also for Baildon's youth, which often drifts and gathers here of an evening with, seemingly, little else to do. Ask God for leaders, to give them good role models and wise direction in their lives.

The walk up Westgate

Walk round the corner into Westgate, which has many shops and small businesses. As you walk up the hill and you notice each one, think about those who work there, and their customers or clients. Turn your thoughts into prayers: for protection and guidance; for prosperity and welfare; and for fulfilment in their work.

There are lots of hairdressers and beauticians: thank God for the gift of beauty, but pray for those who trust too much in the body beautiful.

There are also estate agents, solicitors and accountants: besides praying for these businesses, remember those facing stress at the moment, but also those who trust too much in possessions, power or position.

Think of what's not available here, and pray for those who find it hard to have to travel to supermarkets or other shopping centres.

Moravians and Methodists

On the other side of the road by The Bull's Head pub, is a little road called West Fold along which is the Moravian Church. Methodism owes a lot to the Moravian Church; it was a source of huge inspiration to John Wesley. Thank God for those who worship there.

On this side of the road, just before Westgate Stores is Binswell Fold up which you can see the Methodist Church. If you want to cut the walk short, you can make your way back to the church at this point. Otherwise press on up Westgate.

Houses and homes

Further up the hill you pass a long-established (175+ years) building contractor. Use this to start your thinking about houses and those who live here (16,500 in over 7,000 households in Baildon as a whole).

For a number of years Churches Together in Baildon (the three you've seen plus the Roman Catholics down Baildon Road) used to visit houses to tell residents about the local churches, but that programme has had to cease for lack of support. Pray for Christian outreach in all its forms.