

Settle is an historic market town on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales. Many people come here to enjoy the peace and quiet of the surrounding countryside. We hope that this walk, prepared by members of the Churches Together in Settle and District, will help you find both physical and spiritual refreshment.

The full walk, on minor roads or good footpaths, is 3-4 miles long, but it can be shortened.

1. Market Place

Our walk begins from the heart of the town, the Market Place. Permission to hold a market was granted by Henry III in 1249; a weekly market is still held here each Tuesday. The Market Place is bounded by the Shambles, which was originally built as an open market hall in the 1600s, and also the Town Hall, built in 1832 on the site of an old toll-booth. In 2012 it was bought and remodelled with shops on the lower floors.



John Wesley preached in the Market Place on Sunday 18th April, 1784, having walked here from Gisburn, 12 miles away. He was 81 years old at that time!

Now, members of local churches gather here for Jesus' Trial Scene in the Annual Good Friday Passion Play, joined by a large crowd.

Before leaving the Market Place, please pray for the prosperity of the town, as it develops in new ways, and for all who witness to God's love in word and deed.

Leave the Market Place via Duke Street (South). Take the 1st right into Station Road.

The approach to Settle station will be on your left.

2. Settle Station (T)

Construction of the Settle-Carlisle Railway began in 1869; it took seven years to complete. It was England's last main line railway to be constructed almost entirely by hand. Many of the 6,000 men who worked on the line were killed or injured, while others died from outbreaks of smallpox.



This is perhaps the most scenic railway in England: the 72 mile route passes over 20 viaducts, including the famous Ribbleshead Viaduct

with its 24 arches, and through 14 tunnels. On leaving the Yorkshire Dales, it makes its way through the rolling hills of the Eden valley.

The line survived 2 attempts to close it, in the 1960s and 1980s. It is popular with tourists and walkers, as well as being used for freight.

Settle station used to be part of a much larger complex, including a goods shed, weigh office, sidings, cattle dock, signal box and water tank. The signal box has recently been renovated. ***Settle Water Tower*** has been remodelled to be a dwelling, completed early in 2012.

Thank God for the beauty of the countryside through which this railway passes, and pray for the tourists who use it.

Continue your walk along Station Road, under the railway bridge, and turn right into Bond Lane. Looking to your left, beyond the Primary School, you will see Giggleswick School Chapel on the hillside (see No. 7).

At the T junction, turn right into Kirkgate. After passing under the railway, Victoria Hall (dating from 1853) will be on your left and the Friends Meeting House on your right.

3. Friends Meeting House

Settle Friends Meeting House is the oldest place of worship in Settle, having been built in 1678 on land used by Quakers for burials since 1656. In those days it stood on the main road through the town. A gallery was added about 50 years later and a further room in the mid 19th century. The main meeting room is open to visitors during the daytime and access to the rest of the building is possible on request to the warden.

In the 1960s the burial ground was turned into a garden and the old schoolroom altered to make a house for a warden. Further restoration has taken place, including the addition of an annexe in 2004.



Many Quakers are involved in peace movements.

Spend a few minutes in the garden praying for world peace.

Continue walking along Kirkgate, to the Market Place. Turn left and a short walk will take you to Settle Parish Church, on your right.

4. Church of the Holy Ascension (T)

Settle Parish Church, completed in 1838, is unusual in being dedicated, not to a Saint, but to a mystery, 'The Holy Ascension'. This is represented in one of the main windows behind

the altar, and the very large abstract painting: 'Ascension'.

The church is open daily for prayer and reflection from dawn till dusk. Noteworthy items are described on cards inside the church.



Before leaving, stand with your back to the altar and take time to look at 'Ascension'. Just as God takes and reshapes us, so the artist took everyday objects and materials and transfigured them in this collage.

You might like to ask God if there are any ways in which he wants to reshape you at this time.

Walk under the viaduct and along Church Street. St John's Terrace, on your right, is on the original site of St. John's Methodist Church (1893). In late 2015 the congregation "crossed the road" into a newly constructed worship area adjoining their Church Hall. This is signed off to the left of Church St.

5. St John's Methodist Church



The new church building is designed to be multi-functional. It invokes a spirit of innovation and renewal. When the first Settle Methodist Church was established in 1893, the congregation was mainly farming families. Today the congregation is

a mixture of long-standing local families and people who have moved to the area. St John's is a church where people gather together from various backgrounds and find a strong and welcoming church family.

Consider times when you have had to deal with changes and moves in your life. Reflect on the times when you have needed support from others to help you trust in God's will for you. Pause to thank God for his love and care, and his ability to make all things new.

Go through the gateway to find the Catholic Church on your right. At the front, on Kirkgate, are the statues of St Mary & St Michael.

6. St Mary & St Michael Catholic Church



The first Catholic Church in the area after the Reformation was built in 1864 on the very edge of Upper Settle - the only place they were allowed to build, as animosity towards Catholics was still strong. The two statues were erected there shortly after World War I by the parish priest, Father Maximilian Tillman, who was German. Aware of the huge loss of life on both sides, the statues are a memorial "to all who fell in the Great War". In 1922 Fr Tillman

bought the land which is now Tillman Close. Limited funds allowed just the hall to be built, but not until 1960. The small church, attached to the hall, and the house were built on this site only in 1974, when the statues were relocated.

Let us all thank God for our increasing sense of Christian Unity, and our commitment to it.

*Return to the main road, noting the red *God Loves You* phone box, on land to the right of the cenotaph, which is used by Churches*

Together to advertise their events and local church services.

Cross the river, then turn left on to the footpath along the river. At the next footbridge, take the right fork up the hill, leading into the village of Giggleswick. Turn right at the end of the path into Bankwell Road.

7. Giggleswick Village & School

The uncertain origins of the name "Giggleswick" are certainly very ancient! The explanation which is most likely is 'Wic', or village, of a Scandinavian chief named 'Gigel'.



Giggleswick School, which has a national and international reputation, is one of the oldest public schools in England. In 1507 the Prior and Convent of Durham leased land adjacent to the parish church to James Carr, a local priest, for the express purpose of building a 'grammar scole' at his own expense. The original school building was completed in 1512, so celebrated its quincentenary in 2012. The School received its royal charter in 1553. After four buildings on the same 'half acre' of land, it moved up the hill to its present site in 1867.

Giggleswick School Chapel, with its distinctive copper dome, dominates the skyline for miles around. It was built in the Gothic style to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria and completed in 1901: the gift of Walter Morrison, MP, who was Chair of the School Governors. It is open to the Public - please enquire at the School to view this Grade II listed Chapel.

As you walk through the village, pray for young people growing up in an ever-changing world.

Keep straight on along Bankwell Road, past Belle Hill, to the church.

8. St. Alkelda's Church (T)

The Church is dedicated to St Alkelda. According to legend, she was a Saxon lady living in Yorkshire who suffered martyrdom for her faith at the hands of Danish women.



The Church building dates from the early Tudor period, although it incorporates substantial remains of at least two earlier buildings with Saxon and Norman origins. It suffered the ravages of the reformation when many of the original stained glass windows were lost. The interior was

substantially reordered in 1892, and again in 2013. It is open daily for prayer and reflection from dawn till dusk and has many items worthy of inspection. These are described on cards available inside the church.

Add your prayers, for friends and family, to those which have been offered in this place over the centuries.

Retrace your steps from the church to the bottom of Belle Hill. Before climbing the hill, look to your left and you will see

9. Cravendale House

This house belonged to Dr. Charles Buck, who enjoyed a 50 year friendship with the composer Edward Elgar. Elgar was a regular visitor from 1882-89, and their friendship is marked by a plaque on another of his homes, Buck House in the Market Place (now the NatWest Bank).

Thank God for the gifts of music, art and literature, which enrich our lives.

*At the top of the hill, turn right, passing the secondary school. After crossing the river, take the road to Langcliffe, pausing to view the*Settle Hydro*Archimedean screw power generator by the Weir, installed in 2010 to provide electricity for about 50 homes. It is accessed through the small car park for the Mill flats. (To shorten the walk, return along Church Street to the Market Place).*

10. Mills and Quarries

Watershed Mill, which you will soon pass on your left, is one of a series of 19th century textile mills built along the banks of the River Ribble. It has now been turned into a visitor centre. (T)

Fork left onto a minor road which leads to another mill, now a paper mill; turn right on to a footpath, taking you over a railway bridge. (For a wheel friendly route, follow the main road to Langcliffe.)

Old limestone quarries are on both sides of the valley. Look for Penyghent (North) and Pendle (South) from the railway bridge on a clear day.

Thank God for the natural resources which have always provided us with materials and power. Pray that we may treat the environment wisely.

At the main road, go straight across and along a lane between the houses, into Langcliffe. Turn left to reach the church, which overlooks the village green.

11. St. John the Evangelist



The Anglican Church in Langcliffe was built for the new families of the area's growing cotton industry. It was one of four 'daughter'

churches of the ancient parish of Giggleswick, and was consecrated in 1851. The church is open daily from 10.00am to 4.00pm, and has many items worthy of inspection. These are described on cards available inside the church.

There is a prayer tree in the church; you are invited to write a request on a 'leaf' and add it to the tree if you would like someone to be remembered in prayer.

Retrace your steps to the main road; turn left and then fork left (signed No Through Road). After ½ mile, look for a double gate in the wall on your left, giving access to a footpath to Castleberg. (If you prefer to stay on lower ground, carry on, then turn first left into Castle Hill, then Castleberg Lane.)

12. Castleberg

Castleberg Crag is a limestone cliff which towers above Settle. It gives an excellent view over the town and the surrounding countryside. It is popular with rock climbers: there are 24 routes up!



As you look out over the town, pray for those who live and work in this area.

Return the way you came for a safe route down. Turn left, and left again into Castle Hill and Castleberg Lane. Zion Church (now closed) will be found on your left.

13. Zion Independent Congregational Church



The Itinerant Society for the Spreading of the Gospel in the West Riding was founded in 1811. It was reported that 2 years

later, 1000 people attended an open air meeting and the need for a chapel became urgent. Zion was opened in June 1816. The 19th century interior was very bare, with a double decker pulpit, central pews and forms at the sides for the Sunday school.

The Rev. Benjamin Waugh (see below) preached here on 10 May 1864, having attended the church as a child. It was reported that all Settle came to hear him, and a memorial tablet is in place at Zion.

The Church closed in 2015, 199 years after opening. It is a Grade 2 listed building.

Just beyond the church, turn sharp right into Victoria Street and bear right into High Street just beyond the Folly (built in 1679). As you approach the Market Place, you will see LloydsTSB Bank.

A stone set into the wall on the right-hand side of the entrance marks this out as the site of the birthplace of Rev. Benjamin Waugh (1839-1908). He moved to London in 1866, where he worked in the slums of Greenwich. Appalled by the conditions in which many children lived, he founded the London Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in 1884. Five years later, this evolved into the NSPCC, with Waugh as its first Director and Queen Victoria as its first Patron.

Please pray for all who work for charities, supporting and caring for people less fortunate than ourselves.

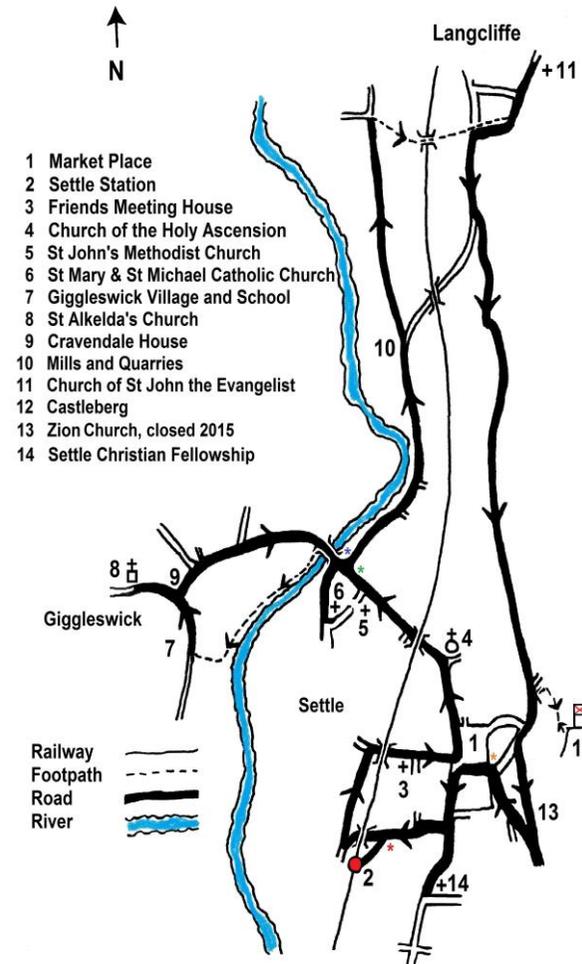
Walk through to Duke St, turn left up the hill to the 'Chapel on the hill'.

14. Settle Christian Fellowship

Built in 1909 for the Primitive Methodists, the chapel was bought in 1976 by a handful of local Christians. It is now home to the youngest church in Churches Together, and draws people from a wide area to its lively services.

We trust you have enjoyed wandering around this interesting and beautiful area, and perhaps pondering as well!

(T) ... Toilet available at this location



Churches Together
in Settle and District
www.ctisad.org.uk

Ponder as you Wander around Settle Giggleswick and Langcliffe



Prepared by
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