



Welcome to the 'virtual' Stoneleigh Methodist Church

Sunday 8 November 2020

10:30am: Remembrance Sunday Worship with Richard Graham

YouTube: youtu.be/HhXzzPs-FG8 or Zoom details on Service sheet

6:30pm: Evening Worship with Rev Emma Cusack

Prayers

Please pray for Emma 'at' Ruxley, for Richard, our Stewards; for others within the Church and beyond, and for the continued health of our key workers and all the National Health Service, on whom we depend so much now, and at all times.

Please pray also for those of our Church family who are unwell or finding their mobility limited and consider whether they might welcome a call from friends. And note 'Thinking of Others' in our Trolley section today.

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." Ephesians 4:32

Notices

Re-opening for Worship. The news of a full lockdown for the next 4 weeks sadly prevents any further use of our Church for public worship. The work we have done so far will stand us in good stead when the Government considers it is safe to restart worship again – hopefully before Christmas if we all behave ourselves!

Meanwhile we will continue with our weekly News/Service sheet delivered to every member, and also a streamed or video Service for the benefit of those able to receive it. *Robin*

Church Centre usage. The clear rule is that the only usage of the Church Centre between now and 2nd December can be the broadcasting of a worship Service – in our case on Sunday mornings. There is no other usage of the Church Centre allowed until the beginning of December (even for keyholders!), but I will continue with my weekly visits to check for spiders etc. *Robin*

Church Meetings. Unfortunately; because of the restrictions of Covid, the Annual Church Meeting, due to take place after the Morning Service on Sunday 15th November 2020, will have to be postponed until a later date.

Also; the next Church Council (CC) meeting will be via Zoom, on Monday 16th November 2020 at 4:00pm. Details of the meeting have been circulated to the CC Members, so if you haven't received your copy, please let me know.

I hope that you are all managing to keep safe and pray that we will be able to meet again soon.

God Bless, *Marion*

SMC website. With the availability of streamed 'closed door' worship from the Church, I have been able to add this to the words of the Morning Service on the website (click the date on the right hand column of the home page – stoneleighmethodist.church)- so you can follow and join in the prayers etc. I hope those who can access our website find this a usual alternate way of accessing our Sunday Services in November. *Robin*

The Link magazine – contributions for the next issue (December/January) should be with the editor by Tuesday 10th November at the latest. In particular, have you been cheered by chance meetings lately, or have you been inspired by reports from your particular favourite charities lately? You can send by email to link@stoneleighmethodist.church, or direct to Vivienne or Helen.

Around the Trolley

Happy Birthday from the Church to Jim, on his 80th birthday. All the best Jim, and keep walking young man!

YouTube – now that we are having our Sunday Morning Worship recorded each week, you can always watch and listen to the Service at your convenience at any time after Sunday morning. They are stored in our very own YouTube channel which you can find at bit.ly/3esvuuw.

Thinking of Others. Please keep a lookout for any of your family, friends and neighbours who may be struggling with health/mental health issues during this lockdown period which is particularly hard for people with depression.

Shout is the UK's first 24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. It's a place to go if you're struggling to cope and you need immediate help. Text: 85258

Samaritans -Provides confidential, non-judgemental emotional support for people experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those that could lead to suicide. You can phone, email, write a letter or in most cases talk to someone face to face. Telephone: 116 123 (24 hours a day, free to call). *Helen*

Contact Details

Contact: Jeananne (07729 028850) - contact@stoneleighmethodist.church

All items for future NewsSheets – to news@stoneleighmethodist.church or phone 020 8393 2155

Any donations, clothing for Whitechapel etc – please leave in porch of 198 Stoneleigh Park Road

Online Services etc

Christ Church with St Philip, 10:00am - facebook.com/christchurchsaintphilip.

Surbiton Hill Methodist Church, 10:30am Sunday at shmc.online.church.

The Ruxley/Stoneleigh Thursday Morning prayer (10:00am) by Zoom and is open to all. It's followed by Chat Time and virtual tea/coffee from 10:45-11:15. Email to publicity@ruxley-church.org.uk by Tuesday for details and a copy of the liturgy too.

The Methodist Church is offering 'Dial-a Prayer' free of charge, updated every Thursday afternoon, on 0808 281 2514. There's also weekly news, again free, on 0808 281 2478.

Methodist Church Year of Prayer on Tuesdays at 12:45pm – a 15 minute Service on Zoom and Facebook Live – full details on <https://www.methodist.org.uk/yearofprayer/>

Morning Worship – 8 November 10:30am

Remembrance Sunday. Led by Richard Graham

Watch live: youtu.be/HhXzzPs-FG8

or join on Zoom: bit.ly/2J5jvY8

To join the Morning Service through Zoom go to [https:// bit.ly/2J5jvY8](https://bit.ly/2J5jvY8)
and use Meeting ID: **874 6773 6490**, passcode **702336**.

On your home phone, dial **020 3481 5240**, listen to the announcement
and enter the meeting ID **874 6773 6490** followed by # (hash) when prompted,
and the passcode **702336** followed by # (hash) when prompted.

And that's it; you should be connected and are able to listen into the service.

Hang up when the service finishes, or whenever you want to leave.

To unmute yourself during the post-service chat time, press ***6**

*Loving Father, we still our souls now to remember that You are here with us, You are here in us,
You are here for us. Lord Jesus, we worship You. Holy Spirit, we welcome You.*

Psalm 46

(NIRV)

God is our place of safety. He gives us strength.
He is always there
to help us in times of trouble.

The earth may fall apart.
The mountains may fall into
the middle of the sea.

But we will not be afraid.
The waters of the sea may roar and foam.
The mountains may shake
when the waters rise.
But we will not be afraid.

God's blessings are like a river.
They fill the city of God with joy.
That city is the holy place
where the Most High God lives.

Because God is there, the city will not fall.
God will help it at the beginning of the day.

Nations are in disorder. Kingdoms fall.
God speaks,
and the people of the earth melt in fear.

The Lord who rules over all is with us.
The God of Jacob is like a fort to us.

Come and see what the Lord has done.

He makes wars stop
from one end of the earth to the other.
He breaks every bow. He snaps every spear.
He burns every shield with fire.
He says, "Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be honoured among the nations.
I will be honoured in the earth."

The Lord who rules over all is with us.
The God of Jacob is like a fort to us.

A Prayer of Approach

(500)

Lord, there are so many obstacles that we bring to worship:
the hurt and anger we feel within us,
the worries and concerns that fill our minds,
our awareness that life and our lives are being changed,
painful memories of the past
that still cause us anguish even now,
the uncertainty and bleakness of our tomorrows,
the emptiness, sorrow and doubt that fill our lives today.
We do not find it easy to keep Christ at the centre,
but open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus. **Amen.**

Hymn: Singing the Faith 55

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might —
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish; but naught changes thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praise we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Walter Chalmers Smith (1824–1908)
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A Prayer of Praise and Confession

(500)

Lord, we praise you because you are the King of creation.

We thank you that there is no one and nothing greater than you.
You are greater than anyone who has ever lived,
greater than anyone yet to be born
and greater than anyone living today.

We thank you because you made your world worth living in.
You planned this to be a place where we can find
happiness, joy and real life.

You always wanted everyone to feel
loved, wanted and of real value.
You meant everyone to live in freedom and without fear.

You made your world and filled it with
hills and valleys, seas and oceans,
streams and rivers, plants and animals,
birds and insects, and fish and fruit.

But you gave us the freedom to choose.

We have chosen to please ourselves and we have broken your laws.
We have spoilt your world as we have spoilt our lives.
Lord, we thank you that you loved us enough to send Jesus,
and we praise you that he is the door to your kingdom.

We are sorry that we give in to temptation
and that we find it so hard to stand firm for you.
Forgive us when we are weak, and help us,
because you are the King of the kingdom.

*In silence, we think about those moments in the past week
where we have given into temptation, or failed to stand firm for Christ.*

In Christ we are set free. Through Christ we are forgiven.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

(MWB)

Readings:

Romans 5: 1-11

(NIV)

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Jeremiah 10: 1-7, 10-13, 16b

(NIV)

Hear what the Lord says to you, people of Israel. This is what the Lord says:

'Do not learn the ways of the nations
or be terrified by signs in the heavens,
though the nations are terrified by them.
For the practices of the peoples are worthless;
they cut a tree out of the forest,
and a craftsman shapes it with his chisel.
They adorn it with silver and gold;
they fasten it with hammer and nails
so that it will not totter.
Like a scarecrow in a cucumber field,
their idols cannot speak;
they must be carried
because they cannot walk.
Do not fear them;
they can do no harm
nor can they do any good.'

No-one is like you, Lord;
you are great,
and your name is mighty in power.

Who should not fear you,
King of the nations?
This is your due.

Among all the wise leaders of the nations
and in all their kingdoms,
there is no-one like you.

But the Lord is the true God;
he is the living God, the eternal King.
When he is angry, the earth trembles;
the nations cannot endure his wrath.

'Tell them this: "These gods, who did not make
the heavens and the earth, will perish from the
earth and from under the heavens."'

But God made the earth by his power;
he founded the world by his wisdom
and stretched out the heavens
by his understanding
When he thunders,
the waters in the heavens roar;
he makes clouds rise
from the ends of the earth.
He sends lightning with the rain
and brings out the wind from his
storehouses.

[For] he is the Maker of all things,
including Israel, the people of his inheritance –
the Lord Almighty is his name.

Hymn: Singing the Faith 351

In Christ alone my hope is found,
he is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! — who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones he came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied
for every sin on him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain;
then bursting forth in glorious Day
up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine —
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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Reflection

Act of Remembrance / Two Minute Silence

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them. **We will remember them.**

Prayers of Remembrance

(Roots)

Lord, we are saddened at the thought of war,
of the soldiers who must fight
and all those people who are killed.
Today we remember their sacrifice with great sadness.
We thank them for what they did for us.

We also remember that they won for us a victory,
that without their bravery these wars may have been lost,
and our lives could have been so very different,
without the freedom we so much enjoy.
We thank them for what they did for us.

We are saddened at the thought of your suffering,
that you, too, had to be a great hero,
and walk to Jerusalem, be arrested, tried
and killed on that horrible cross.
We thank you for what you did for us.

We also remember that you won for us a victory,
that on Easter morning you rose again,
and helped us to overcome our human nature,
so that we might rise again with you.

We thank you for what you did for us.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

Closing Hymn: Songs of Fellowship 77

Crown Him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon His throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
of Him who died for thee,
and hail Him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave
and rose victorious in the strife
for those He came to save:
His glories now we sing,
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring
and lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of love;
behold His hands and side,
those wounds yet visible above
in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends His burning eye
at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
and all be prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end,
and round His piercèd feet
fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of years,
the Potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime!
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For Thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

Matthew Bridges (1800–1894)
and Godfrey Thring (1823–1903)
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Loving Father,
you have not waited for us to become perfect before loving us;
you have loved us perfectly from the beginning.
Thank you for Jesus,
the Friend of sinners,
who showed us the measure of your love
by laying down his life for his friends.
Help us to make your love known to good and bad alike,
and by our self-sacrifice to proclaim forgiveness and freedom
to every man, woman and child.
May the Christ who is risen be our living Lord today. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Have no fear, Christ has overcome the world.
Have no doubt, he has promised to be with you.
Have no anxiety, he is Lord,
and we shall share his joy, his life, his love and his victory.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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Remembrance Evening Service

Sunday 8th November 2020

To join the Evening Service on Zoom go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6641594384?> and use Meeting ID: 664 159 4384, passcode 123123.

On your home phone, dial 0203 481 5240 and follow the instructions using the ID and passcode above. Hang up when the service finishes, or whenever you want to leave.

Call to Worship

I lift up my eyes to the hills –
from where will my help come?

**My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth. (Psalm 121.1-2)**

Hymn StF 693 - Beauty for brokenness

1 Beauty for brokenness,
hope for despair,
Lord, in your suffering world
this is our prayer.
Bread for the children,
justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset,
your kingdom increase!

2 Shelter for fragile lives,
cures for their ills,
work for the craftsmen,
trade for their skills;
land for the dispossessed,
rights for the weak,
voices to plead the cause
of those who can't speak:
*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion we pray;
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain;
come, change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

3 Refuge from cruel wars,
havens from fear,
cities for sanctuary,
freedoms to share.
Peace to the killing-fields,
scorched earth to green,
Christ for the bitterness,
his cross for the pain.

4 Rest for the ravaged earth,
oceans and streams
plundered and poisoned -
our future, our dreams.
Lord, end our madness,
carelessness, greed;
make us content with
the things that we need.
Chorus

5 Lighten our darkness,
breathe on this flame
until your justice burns
brightly again;
until the nations
learn of your ways,
seek your salvation
and bring you their praise.
Chorus

Opening prayer

O God,
you are almighty and everlasting,
yet compassionate and ever-loving;
be with us as we gather before you today
to remember those we have loved,
those we admire,
those we have never known
whose sacrifice ensured that we enjoy freedom
from tyranny and fear. **Amen** .

Scripture Readings:

Matthew 25:14-30

The Parable of the Bags of Gold

“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Hymn StF 123 - O God our help in Ages Past

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.
- 2 Under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.
- 5 The busy tribes of flesh and blood,
with all their cares and fears,
are carried downward by the flood,
and lost in following years.
- 6 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.
- 7 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

A prayer of confession

Heavenly Father,
as we look recall names at places of memorials
we realise how quickly and easily we forget.
We forget who people were and what they did,
we forget the contributions they made
and what they meant to their families.
We confess that sometimes we forget you
and what you have done for us.
Forgive us for those times,
and help us to see you in the lives of all we love,
those we remember
and in the beauty of the world around us.
Forgive our past doings
so that we may praise you for all
you have done for us.
We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen**

Reflection

Prayers of Intercessions

Lord of love, we give thanks for all who gave, and still give, their lives in war and conflict.

Living Lord, hear us.

We pray for places across the world where conflict rages today (*United States, South and North Korea, Syria...*)

Living Lord, hear us.

We pray for all service personnel (*especially our local units, individuals serving in places of conflict and throughout the world*)

Living Lord, hear us.

We pray for all civilians who are caught up in conflict; those whose homes, lands and livelihoods are damaged or made inaccessible.

Living Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who are suffering severe injury as a result of war.

Living Lord, hear us.

We pray for organisations dedicated to the support of all who have been injured in conflict.

Living Lord, hear us.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn StF 706 - Longing for light

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Christ be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has power to save us.

Make us your living voice.

Chorus

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.

Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Chorus

4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Chorus

5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Making your kingdom come.

Chorus

Bernadette Farrell (born 1957) ©1994 Bernadette Farrell – CCL1 19650

Closing Prayer

Go in peace.

We go in peace.

Work for peace.

We will work for peace.

May peace fill your lives,
your hearts and your homes.

Amen .

Blessing

Acknowledgment of prayers:
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