



Welcome to the 'virtual' Stoneleigh Methodist Church

Sunday 15 November 2020

10:30am: Joint Service, SMC and Ruxley Church with the Rev Emma Cusack

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

6:30pm: Evening Worship with the Rev Emma Cusack

Prayers

Please pray for Emma, our Stewards; for others within the Church and beyond who continue to work tirelessly for the benefit of all, 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.

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." Hebrews 11:1

Notices

Website Email Contact. For the past week or so 'someone' in America has been swamping the email contact form on our website with 'rubbish'. Initially our automated system passed these emails forward to the relevant individuals, but I blocked this a few days ago, and have now removed the form altogether. Members of the public are still offered contact by mail or phone, and full email will be restored as soon as possible. *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*

Re-opening for Worship. The news of a full lockdown for the next 2 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*

Pneumonia Injections. Did you know that you can get a free pneumonia jab at your local GP surgery (if you're 'of an age') – had ours last week. *Robin & Denise*

Annual Service of Thanksgiving - Whitechapel Mission

Sunday 15th November, 3:00 - 5:00pm

Premiere on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6O-76luH4KMHkzx8neMifA>

Our thanksgiving service is an opportunity to give thanks for the work that is making a real difference to people's lives in the East End. The service would usually held in the chapel at Whitechapel Mission, but we feel that the current restrictions are best served by meeting together virtually.

Revd Canon Dr Jennifer H Smith, the Superintendent Minister at Wesley's Chapel, City Rd., will be sharing reflections on the Word. We will have an update on last year's work from Michael Spurr, Chair of Trustees. Tony Miller, Director, will be sharing a reflection on how Whitechapel Mission is responding to the challenge of winter this year. Revd John Hayes will be leading the service.

There will be an opportunity for you to make a real difference by making a donation to the work of Whitechapel Mission, details of this will be shared during the service.

Please join us as we share in giving thanks to God for the work of Whitechapel Mission through hymns, readings, prayers and reflection at 3:00pm. (If you can't make 3:00pm, you can always share in the service at a later time.)



Around the Trolley

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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6O-76luH4KMHkzx8neMifA).

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*

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](https://www.facebook.com/christchurchsaintphilip).

Surbiton Hill Methodist Church, 10:30am Sunday at [shmc.online.church](https://www.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/>

Joint Service, Stoneleigh Methodist Church and Ruxley Church

Sunday 15th November 2020 – 10:30am

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**

Welcome

Call to Worship – Psalm 23

The Divine Shepherd - A Psalm of David. (NRSV)

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

³ he restores my soul

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;

for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.

Hymn StF 319 – Christ triumphant, ever reigning

- 1 Christ triumphant ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:
*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

- 2 Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:
Chorus

- 3 Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:
Chorus

- 4 Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:
Chorus

- 5 So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:
Chorus

Opening prayer

O God our Creator, your kindness has brought us the gift of a new morning.
Help us to leave yesterday and not to covet tomorrow.

But to accept the uniqueness of today

(Silence)

By your love celebrated in your Word,

Seen in your Son

Brought near, by your Spirit

Take from us what we need to carry no longer,

So that we may be free again

To choose to serve you

And to be served by each other. Amen

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Song StF 481 The Lord's my shepherd I'll not want

1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.

He makes me lie in pastures green.

He leads me by the still, still waters,

His goodness restores my soul.

And I will trust in You alone.

And I will trust in You alone,

For Your endless mercy follows me,

Your goodness will lead me home.

2 He guides my ways in righteousness,

And He anoints my head with oil,

And my cup, it overflows with joy,

I feast on His pure delights.

Refrain

3 And though I walk the darkest path,

I will not fear the evil one,

For You are with me, and Your rod and staff

Are the comfort I need to know.

Refrain

Stuart Townend (b1963)

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1st Reading – Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

God, the True Shepherd (NRSV)

¹¹ For thus says the Lord GOD; I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹² As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land.

¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD.

¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them; I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹ Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²² I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³ I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

Prayer of Confession – Let us prayer together:

Lord, you are steadfast in your love and infinite in your mercy;
You welcome sinners and invite them to be your guests,
We confess our sins, trusting in you to forgive us

Silence

May almighty God have mercy on us,
Forgive us our sins
And keep us in life eternal. **Amen**

2nd Reading – Matthew 25:31-46

The Judgment of the Nations (NRSV)

³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

⁴¹ Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,

⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.'

⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Sermon

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord's prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be Your Name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours,
now and forever. **Amen.**

Song StF 254 – Seek ye first the kingdom of God

- 1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
and His righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.

- 2 Ask and it shall be given unto you,
seek and ye shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened up to you.
Allelu, alleluia.

- 3 We shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord.
Allelu, alleluia.

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Closing prayer

From where we are to where you need us
Jesus, now lead on
From thee security of what we know to the
adventure of what you will reveal
Jesus, now lead on
To refashion the fabric of this world until it
resembles the shape of your kingdom
Jesus, now lead on
Because good things have been prepared for those
who love God,
Jesus, now lead on

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Blessing

May the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son and the Holy Spirit
be with you now and for ever.
Amen