



# Welcome to the 'virtual' Stoneleigh Methodist Church

## Sunday 29 November 2020

### 10:30am: Morning Worship with the Rev Emma Cusack

Watch live on YouTube at [bit.ly/SMC291120Y](https://bit.ly/SMC291120Y) or join on Zoom at [us02web.zoom.us/j/87467736490](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87467736490)

### 6:30pm: Evening Worship with Diana Pinchin

Join on Zoom at [us02web.zoom.us/j/](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/)

## Prayers

Please pray for Emma, for Diana, 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.

*"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." Galatians 6:10*

### Advent 1

The light of God is coming into the world,  
into the brokenness and pain,  
sharing the joy and the tears,  
pushing back the darkness.

We light the first candle to declare that we believe in the healing light of God.



## Notices

**WHITECHAPEL MISSION.** I was really pleased when Gopal passed the Whitechapel Mission annual review on to me. It's a really interesting read, and so well put together (online at [whitechapel.org.uk/pdf/ar/2020.pdf](https://whitechapel.org.uk/pdf/ar/2020.pdf) or search for Whitechapel on our own website).

They have updated their kitchens with new cookers, fryers, and even a griddle for cooking eggs (there are only so many eggs that can be cooked in a frying pan). There have been 143,945 breakfasts served in the last twelve months, with 4, 295 people being fed every week.

They have received funding for a new computer suite to enable clients to update their skills and contact help agencies etc. They have a new young team helping Tony and Sue, with a few more full-time members of staff, as it is not possible to have volunteers during this time.

One paragraph that caught my eye was something we could help with. "We plan to decorate the Mission at the beginning of December and are hoping that we can offer gifts to everybody visiting the Mission over Christmas week. We would welcome 'Socks & Chocs' to give out during the festive time. If you are able to wrap a pair of socks with a small bar of chocolate, we would be very grateful."

So off I went and bought some in Poundland at a very reasonable price and here are the photos.




Please write on your labels 'From your friend at Whitechapel' with M or F denoting male or female!


The trailer will not be going up till the end of lockdown and, if in the unlikely chance there is no room, I will take the carrier bags up to Whitechapel myself.




So please do think about it, if you would like me to get them for you and wrap them that is fine, or phone me and I can collect them, or leave them in Denise and Robin's porch. *Jeananne – 07729 028850*


**Any donations, clothing for Whitechapel etc** – please leave in porch of 198 Stoneleigh Park Road, and they will be taken by Whitechapel after the lockdown.

 **FOODBANK CHRISTMAS APPEAL** Details of this year's appeal are below. Please only donate items from the following list. WE CAN'T TAKE ANY OTHER ITEMS at the moment due to an overwhelming response from Harvest.

 Please make sure your donations are sealed, in date and do not contain alcohol.

 No reverse advent boxes please, as we pack all of our clients' boxes individually.

 Cut off date is 11<sup>th</sup> December to give us time to sort and pack your donations.

 Items we would like are:

- Boxes of biscuits
- Tubs/boxes of chocolates
- Small/medium Christmas puddings (alcohol-free)
- Mince pies (alcohol free)
- Yule logs/chocolate swiss rolls
- Savoury snacks (twiglets, cheeselets, crisps)
- Mixed fruit and nuts
- Small boxes of shortbread
- Sweets/biscuits for our older/single clients
- Gravy granules
- Hot chocolate
- Custard
- Schloer/other non-alcoholic fizz
- Christmas napkins
- Disposable tablecloths
- New tea towels
- Wrapping paper
- Gift tags
- Sellotape

Thank you, as always, for all of your support 🙏❤️

Please either donate at the usual supermarket points or bring donations to our car park at the Generation Resource Centre, Ruxley Lane, Ewell KT19 0JG, Monday - Friday 9:00am-3:00pm (close early at 2:00pm on Thursdays).

Please avoid 8:30 to 9:00am, and 2:45 to 3:15pm. It may be busy outside those times so please drive carefully. *Many thanks*

**GDPR** Thank you to everyone who has completed the GDPR/Consent form.

We want to acknowledge that members who have given their consent to receive cards for birthdays or special occasions, we will, as we have already been doing as a church and continue to send cards for special birthdays, anniversaries such 18th, 21st, 25th, 50th, 65th etc. Thank you, *Sally & Rev. Emma*

## Around the Trolley

**What are you doing in Lockdown?** Graham and I have started subscribing to online courses. This week I learnt how to make leggings - difficult sewing all that stretchy fabric.

Graham is studying racing technique. This week he is learning a Japanese race circuit.

Has anyone else signed up for online courses? What are your interests? Do let me know. *Vivienne*

**Have you been to see this?** We have just been for a walk across the Downs to visit the Langley Vale Wood Fields of Remembrance, which explains the important part that the local area played in preparations for the war effort, including Kitchener's inspection of troops before they were sent to the Somme. There are life sized stone sculptures of soldiers and civilians, among the Regiment of Trees and a willow wreath for people to share their reflections as part of this 2½mile walk. However, there is no parking nearby, so it makes for a longer walk across the Downs. Sadly, this exhibition closes on 30th November. *Pat & Colin*



**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/SMCTube](https://bit.ly/SMCTube). If you would like a copy of a service on DVD, you can request one free of charge by contacting Jeananne. All the services we have done during November are available, as are all the services produced during Lockdown since March.

## Contact Details

**Contact:** Jeananne (07729 028850) - [contact@stoneleighmethodist.church](mailto:contact@stoneleighmethodist.church)

**All items for future NewsSheets** – to [news@stoneleighmethodist.church](mailto: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

**Our weekly News/Service sheet** is delivered to every member, and also a streamed or video Sunday Service is available to those able to receive it.

**Christ Church with St Philip**, 10:00am - [facebook.com/christchurchsaintphilip](https://facebook.com/christchurchsaintphilip).

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

**The Ruxley/Stoneleigh Thursday Morning prayer (10:00am)** by Zoom 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](mailto: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 - Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020 – 10:30am

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent – led by Rev Emma Cusack

Watch live on YouTube at [bit.ly/SMC291120Y](https://bit.ly/SMC291120Y) or join on Zoom at [us02web.zoom.us/j/87467736490](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87467736490)

To join the **Morning** Service through Zoom go to [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

It's the beginning of Advent and we gather together to wait for the coming Messiah.

## Call to Worship

O people of God,  
let us draw near to God.  
O people who sometimes do not listen,  
let us listen to God's name  
and be renewed by the 'Name Above All Names',  
the name of our maker,  
who made us, and who shapes us  
to be vessels of light in waiting times.  
Come, let us worship.  
Let us worship the 'Name Above All Names'. **Amen.**

## Hymn StF 180 - O come, O come, Immanuel

- 1 O come, O come, Immanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear:  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.*
  
- 2 O come, O come, O Lord of might  
who to your tribes, on Sinai's height,  
in ancient times did give the law  
in cloud, and majesty, and awe:  
*Refrain*
  
- 3 O come, O Rod of Jesse, free  
your own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell your people save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave:  
*Refrain*
  
- 4 O come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery:  
*Refrain*
  
- 5 O come, O Day-spring, come and cheer  
our spirits by your advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
*Refrain*

*Latin, 18th century, based on the ancient Advent Antiphons translated by John M Neale (1818-1866)*

## Lighting of the 1<sup>st</sup> Advent Candle

The light of God is coming into the world,  
into the brokenness and pain,  
sharing the joy and the tears,  
pushing back the darkness.

We light the first candle to declare that we believe in the healing light of God.

## Prayers of Adoration

God, your name is Love, and in your great love  
you have called us into community with each other.  
With you and in you and because of you,  
we are nurtured in love.  
Yours is the name that lasts for ever.  
Your love reaches into all corners,  
confirming those who wait for you –  
that they wait in the name of Great Love. **Amen.**

### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Isaiah 64:1-9

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,  
that the mountains would tremble before you!  
<sup>2</sup>As when fire sets twigs ablaze  
and causes water to boil,  
come down to make your name known to your enemies  
and cause the nations to quake before you!  
<sup>3</sup>For when you did awesome things that we did not expect,  
you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.  
<sup>4</sup>Since ancient times no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.  
<sup>5</sup>You come to the help of those who gladly do right,  
who remember your ways.  
But when we continued to sin against them,  
you were angry.  
How then can we be saved?  
<sup>6</sup>All of us have become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;  
we all shrivel up like a leaf,  
and like the wind our sins sweep us away.  
<sup>7</sup>No one calls on your name  
or strives to lay hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us  
and have given us over to our sins.  
<sup>8</sup>Yet you, LORD, are our Father.  
We are the clay, you are the potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
<sup>9</sup>Do not be angry beyond measure, LORD;  
do not remember our sins forever.  
Oh, look on us, we pray,  
for we are all your people.

## **Prayer of Confession**

We have turned our face from you,  
O God, whose face is always turned towards us.  
We have forsaken what we know is just.  
We have ignored what we understand is true.  
We have refused to believe what should be believed.  
We have deceived ourselves in word and deed.  
For this, we humbly repent,  
and we turn our face towards you –  
who waits for us, and makes us ever new.  
Make us ever new now, O restoring God. **Amen.**

## **Hymn StF 169 - Come, thou long-expected Jesus**

- 1     Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
      Born to set thy people free,  
      From our fears and sins release us,  
      Let us find our rest in thee.
- 2     Israel's strength and consolation,  
      Hope of all the earth thou art;  
      Dear desire of every nation,  
      Joy of every longing heart.
- 3     Born thy people to deliver,  
      Born a child and yet a king,  
      Born to reign in us for ever,  
      Now thy gracious kingdom bring.
- 4     By thine own eternal Spirit  
      Rule in all our hearts alone;  
      By thine all-sufficient merit  
      Raise us to thy glorious throne.

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – 1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

<sup>3</sup>Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus.

<sup>5</sup>For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge

<sup>6</sup>God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you.

<sup>7</sup> Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.

<sup>8</sup> He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>9</sup> God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Sermon**

### **Prayers of intercession**

After each bidding, the response is:

Lord, **we pray.**

For those who have waited for years for the dawn...

For those for whom hope seems dim...

For those whose morning brought the unexpected...

For those struggling to adjust to new realities...

For those whose fires have grown dim...

For those who are ignoring the signs of the times...

For those who are struggling to keep awake...

**Amen.**

### **Hymn StF 172 - Hills of the north, rejoice**

- 1 Hills of the north, rejoice;  
river and mountain-spring,  
hark to the advent voice;  
valley and lowland, sing:  
though absent long, your Lord is nigh;  
he judgement brings and victory.
  
- 2 Isles of the southern seas,  
deep in your coral caves  
pent be each warring breeze,  
lulled be your restless waves:  
he comes to reign with boundless sway,  
and make your wastes his great highway.



- 3     Lands of the east, awake,  
      soon shall your sons be free;  
      the sleep of ages break,  
      and rise to liberty.  
      On your far hills, long cold and grey,  
      has dawned the everlasting day.
- 4     Shores of the utmost west,  
      ye that have waited long,  
      unvisited, unblest,  
      break forth to swelling song;  
      high raise the note, that Jesus died,  
      yet lives and reigns, the Crucified.
- 5     Shout, while ye journey home;  
      songs be in every mouth;  
      lo, from the north we come,  
      from east and west and south.  
      city of God, the bond are free  
      we come to live and reign in thee!

*Charles Edward Oakley (1832-1865)*

### **Closing prayer**

We have been called in,  
to be renewed in the name of the one who is love.  
Even in the darkest night,  
even when there is only one small candle lit,  
your power and love restore us.  
Let your light shine on us as we go from here,  
so that we may be warmed and strengthened  
to light your light all around. **Amen.**

### **Blessing**

*© All prayers from ROOTS*

To join the **Evening** Service through Zoom go to [us02web.zoom.us/j/](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/)  
and use Meeting ID: 664 159 4384, passcode 123123.

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*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.

**The theme of the service is 'expectation', and the service will be led by Miss Diana Pinchin**

### ***Opening Response***

In our watching and our waiting

**Come Lord Jesus**

In our hopes and in our fears

**Come Lord Jesus**

In our homes and in our world

**Come Lord Jesus**

Come, Lord Jesus.

Bless us and surprise us as we look forward to your birthday. **Amen**

© Christian Aid

### ***Hymn SoF 410: O Come, O Come Emmanuel***

**O COME, O COME, IMMANUEL,**

And ransom captive Israel,

That mourns in lonely exile here

Until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Immanuel*

*Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free

Thine own from Satan's tyranny;

From depths of hell Thy people save

And give them victory o'er the grave.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Immanuel*

*Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might

Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height

In ancient times didst give the law

In cloud, and majesty, and awe.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Immanuel*

*Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer

Our spirits by Thine advent here;

Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,

And death's dark shadows put to flight.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Immanuel*

*Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Key of David, come  
And open wide our heavenly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery.

*Tr. John Mason Neale, altd. Words 12<sup>th</sup> Century*

*Rejoice, rejoice! Immanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

### ***Prayer of Confession and God's forgiveness***

Lord we sorry for the times when we have not followed the ways you wish we had.

**Lord forgive us**

Lord, we ask that you will show us a better way forward and will guide us in your ways this Advent time and beyond.

**Lord forgive us**

Lord we know if we seek your forgiveness, you will forgive us.

**Lord forgive us.**

We give you thanks that you are a loving and forgiving God.

**Amen**

*©Diana Pinchin October 2020*

*We say together this Advent Antiphon. An Antiphon may be used to introduce and respond to a reading from scripture, particularly the gospel.*

**Turning the year around,  
Advent is here again:  
Long dark nights waiting  
for cold frosty dawn.  
Into this cold dark world  
we'll welcome Christ again.  
Flesh of our flesh  
right through to the bone.**

*© Janet Lees*

### ***Reading: Luke 12:35-40 NIV Watchfulness***

<sup>35</sup> "Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, <sup>36</sup> like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. <sup>37</sup> It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will

have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. <sup>38</sup>It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. <sup>39</sup>But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

*We repeat the Advent Antiphon*

**Turning the year around,  
Advent is here again:  
Long dark nights waiting  
for cold frosty dawn.  
Into this cold dark world  
we'll welcome Christ again.  
Flesh of our flesh  
right through to the bone.**

© Janet Lees

### ***Sermon***

*Silence for a few moments of reflection before we hear what Paul Tillich says about waiting.*

Our time is a time of waiting; waiting is its special destiny. And every time is a time of waiting, waiting for the breaking in of eternity. All time runs forward. All time, both history and in personal life is expectation. Time itself is waiting, waiting not for another time, but for that which is eternal.

### ***Prayers of Intercession***

We long for the coming of Jesus Christ.  
Let us bring before him our prayers.

**Come O Christ, Emmanuel**

We pray for all those who do not have a voice: the poor, the oppressed of our world, the young who are lonely, the aged sick, and those who suffer alone, we pray.

**Come O Christ, Emmanuel**

Help our community recognize you, O Christ, in the lives of all who pray with us.  
Open our hearts and hands to offer deeds of mercy and love, we pray,

**Come O Christ, Emmanuel**

Lift up those who are burdened with sadness and depression.

Give us hope to those who are jobless, shelter to the homeless, and protection for those who travel, we pray.

**Come O Christ, Emmanuel**

*A Redemptorist pastoral publication ©2000 Liguori Publications*

***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 this day our daily bread,  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us,  
lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil,  
For yours in the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
forever and ever Amen**

***Hymn Sof 510 Spirit of the living God***

**Spirit of the living God,  
Fall afresh on me;  
Spirit of the living God,  
Fall afresh on me.  
Break me, melt me,  
mould me, fill me.  
Spirit of the living God,  
Fall afresh on me.**

*Daniel Iverson. © 1935 Birdwing Music/EMI  
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### ***An Advent Blessing***

Let us go in faith  
to ponder in our hearts  
the mystery of this moment.  
And may life be born within you,  
Christ Jesus be seen among you  
And joy surround you like the angel's song.

© Dorothy McRae-McMahon

### ***The Grace***

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.  
Amen.**