



SORRY – We are closed again due to Covid - *but we are always open on-line*

Welcome to Stoneleigh Methodist Church

Sunday 10 January 2021

10:30am: Morning Worship led by the **Rev Emma Cusack**
Our Covenant Service is postponed until the situation improves.

You can join our Service today online or by telephone – details in the Service header

Prayers

Please pray for Emma leading our Service today, for 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 the National Health Service staff and all our other key workers, whom we depend so much on.

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.

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.” Deuteronomy 31:6

Notices

Churches Together in Ewell - Christmas Goody Boxes. This Christmas, Churches Together in Ewell delivered Goody Boxes to those who would be alone on Christmas Day - our customary Christmas lunch for these people having been cancelled due to the ongoing situation.

The Goody boxes contained assorted festive items including Christmas cake and pudding, a calendar, a cracker with hat and motto. These were prepared by the Together at Christmas group (led by Steve Lee) and delivered to our regular guests by a band of helpers drawn from the many churches in Ewell. Our guests were very happy with their gifts and most grateful for all we do for them each year. Many thanks to all involved. *Sally*

The Link – this Sunday (10th) is the deadline for contributions for the next issue of the Link. Did you enjoy your quiet Christmas? Did you have any heart-warming moments? muddy walks? interesting sights? Please let me know of any interesting times for inclusion in the Link – link@stoneleighmethodist.church or direct to me please. *Vivienne*

Contact Details

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

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

Our weekly News/Service sheet is delivered to every member, and also a YouTube or Zoom Sunday Service is available to those able to receive it, including by telephone. A DVD copy is also available – contact Jeananne.

The Ruxley/Stoneleigh Thursday Morning prayer (10:00am) by Zoom is open to all. It is 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.

Morning Worship – Sunday 10 January, 10.30am

Led by Rev Emma Cusack.

Watch live on YouTube: youtu.be/kZAqZaTlrDQ or join on Zoom: bit.ly/2J5jvY8

To join the Morning Service through Zoom go to bit.ly/2J5jvY8
and if prompted, use Meeting ID: **874 6773 6490**, and 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; just # on its own when asked for your Participant ID; and when prompted, the passcode **702336** followed by #.

And that's it: you should be connected and are able to listen into the service.
Simply hang up when the service finishes, or whenever you want to leave.

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

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship – Psalm 29:1-4

(NIV)

Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the splendour of his holiness.

The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD thunders over the mighty waters.

The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is majestic.

Prayer of Adoration

Come, let us honour the powerful glory of our Creator God.
Let us worship God's majesty in the splendour of holiness. Amen.

Hymn: Singing the Faith 395

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 (1890–1977)
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First Reading: Genesis 1: 1-5

(NIV)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light 'day', and the darkness he called 'night'. And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.

Prayer of Confession

Lord, when you came into the world, things changed. When we came into a relationship with you, things changed. Life became filled with a new sense of purpose and peace. But, Lord, sometimes we let you down by doing wrong things or failing to do right things.

We are sorry, Lord.

Sometimes, Lord, through pride, stubbornness or fear we build barriers and keep others at arm's length – even you, Lord.

We are sorry, Lord.

At times we give in to our weaknesses and temptations, failing to draw on your strength. At times we are troubled by difficult situations and find it hard to trust you.

We are sorry, Lord.

Help us to turn such things around and turn to you. Help us to learn from the past and, drawing on your strength and peace, make a better future. **Amen.**

Second Reading: Mark 1:4-11

(NIV)

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the River Jordan. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt round his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: 'After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'

Hymn: Singing the Faith 338

There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy One.

*Thank you, O my Father,
for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit
'til the work on earth is done.*

Jesus my Redeemer,
name above all names,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
O for sinners slain.

When I stand in glory
I will see his face,
and there I'll serve my King for ever
in that holy place.

Sermon

Methodist Covenant Prayer

(MWB)

We say together:

**I am no longer my own but yours.
Put me to what you will,
rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing,
put me to suffering;
let me be employed for you,
or laid aside for you,
exalted for you,
or brought low for you;
let me be full,
let me be empty,
let me have all things,
let me have nothing:
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours. So be it.**

Prayers of Intercession

The response for the Prayers of Intercession is:

May they feel supported, find fresh hope:
Lord, use our prayers in Jesus' name to strengthen them.

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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.

Amen.

Hymn: Singing the Faith 13

Sing of a God in majestic divinity
seeding the heavens with numberless stars
forming our dust and our dreams of infinity
God of our lives and the judge of our wars.

Sing of a Child who was cradled so tenderly,
sing of a boyhood by Galilee's lake;
sing of a cross and a Saviour who wondrously
suffered and died for humanity's sake.

Sing of a Spirit who daily addressing us,
lives in our sciences, nature, and arts;
moving through all of creation and blessing us,
guiding our minds and engaging our hearts.

Sing of this God who in glory and mystery
chooses to lie in humanity's womb,
enters the prison and pain of our history,
rises triumphant and opens the tomb.

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Closing Prayer and Blessing

Lord, help us to be open to your prompting
as we seek to discover what you would have us be and do.
Remind us again and again that you have promised to be our
guide and companion on our journey.
Help us to look forward with renewed commitment,
and bless our thinking and speaking and doing.
In your name. **Amen.**

May the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you all now and always. **Amen**

The Peace

May the Peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

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