



Welcome

We welcome you today whatever your reason for coming

**'A global Christian family following
Jesus at the heart of London'**



11:15pm 31st December 2025



METHODIST
CENTRAL HALL



ONLINE SERVICE

Preacher: Revd Stephen Poxon and Team

Psalm 95:1-7; John 3:1-17; 2 Timothy 1:11-14

LIVE-STREAM WELCOME

VIDEO CALL TO WORSHIP

Revd Stephen Poxon

VIDEO SONG – Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
let earth receive her King.
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

*Joy, unspeakable joy!
An overflowing well; no tongue can tell!
Joy, unspeakable joy!
It rises in my soul, never lets me go!*

He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His love!

Refrain

Isaac Watts (1674-1748) Chorus: Chris Tomlin (born 1972), Ed Cash, and Matt Gilder

OPENING PRAYERS

Revd Tony Miles

SHOUT OF THANKSGIVING

LESSON Psalm 95:1-7

Read by Ho Namgung

- ¹ Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
- ² Let us come before him with thanksgiving
and extol him with music and song.
- ³ For the Lord is the great God,
the great King above all gods.
- ⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth,
and the mountain peaks belong to him.
- ⁵ The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.
- ⁶ Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;
- ⁷ for he is our God
and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.

REFLECTION

Revd Stephen Poxon

VIDEO SONG – Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say, 'I am strong,'
let the poor say, 'I am rich,'
because of what the Lord has done for us;
and now let the weak say, 'I am strong,'
let the poor say, 'I am rich,'
because of what the Lord has done for us;

Give thanks.

Henry Smith (b.1952)

LITANY FOR THE NEW YEAR

Deacon Myrtle Poxon and Deacon Ali McMillan

VIDEO HYMN – Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God, with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices.
Who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way

with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

Give thanks unto the Lord.

Give thanks unto the Lord.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

Chorus

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given;
the Son and him who reigns with them in highest heaven;
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Chorus

Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), Martin Rinkart (1586-1649) and Ian Hannah

SHOUT OF TRUTH

LESSON John 3:1-17

Read by Revd Dr Joyce Popoola

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.'

³Jesus replied, 'Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.'

⁴'How can someone be born when they are old?' Nicodemus asked. 'Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!'

⁵Jesus answered, 'Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, "You must be born again." ⁸The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.'

⁹'How can this be?' Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰'You are Israel's teacher,' said Jesus, 'and do you not understand these things? ¹¹Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹²I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven – the Son of Man. ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.'

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

REFLECTION

Revd Stephen Poxon

VIDEO HYMN – And Can It Be

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all : the Immortal dies!
Who can explore his strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
Let angel minds enquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above -
So free, so infinite his grace -
Emptied himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray -
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light,
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

PRAYERS

Deacon Myrtle Poxon

SHOUT OF TRUST

LESSON 2 Timothy 1:11-14

Read by Liv Kaszewska

¹¹ And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. ¹² That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

¹³ What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you – guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

VIDEO HYMN – The Lord's My Shepherd

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.

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

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

REFLECTION

Revd Stephen Poxon

PRAYERS

Deacon Ali McMillan

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please join in using your own language or the version you prefer.

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 for ever. Amen.

VIDEO HYMN – Captain of Israel’s Host and Guide

Captain of Israel’s host, and Guide
of all who seek the land above,
beneath your shadow we abide,
the cloud of your protecting love;
our strength, your grace; our rule, your word;
our end, the glory of the Lord.

By your unerring Spirit led,
we shall not in the desert stray;
we shall not full direction need,
nor miss our providential way;
as far from danger as from fear,
while love, almighty love, is near.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

NEW YEAR BLESSING

Revd Tony Miles

VIDEO OUTRO ORGAN

Louis Vierne Meditation played at Oxford Town Hall - Gerard Brooks

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