



# Welcome

*We welcome you today whatever your reason for coming*

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



**9:30 Sunday, 27th November 2022  
First Sunday of Advent**



METHODIST  
CENTRAL HALL



methodist.org.uk

## ONLINE SERVICE

Preacher: Revd Lansford Penn-Timothy

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44

## WELCOME

Revd Lansford Penn-Timothy

VIDEO ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING – Advent Hope  
Skit Guys Studio

## LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

### Leader:

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. Hope for all  
God's people

### Child:

We light this candle for all God's people  
struggling to be bearers of hope  
in a troubled world.

### All:

God, as we wait you're your promise,  
give light, give hope,

## VIDEO HYMN – O Come, O come, Emmanuel

### STF 180

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.*

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:

*Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*

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:

*Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*

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.

*Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*

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:

*Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*

*John M Neale (1818-1866)*

## **OPENING PRAYERS**

**Led by Chris Lawal**

### **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.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Revd Lansford Penn-Timothy**

## **VIDEO GLOBAL GREETING**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**Revd Lansford Penn-Timothy**

## **VIDEO EPISTLE READING    Romans 13:11-14    TNIV Read by Naomi Viscuso**

<sup>11</sup> And do this, understanding the present time: the hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

## **VIDEO HYMN – Blessed Assurance**

### **STF 495**

Blessèd assurance, Jesus is mine:  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation purchase of God;  
Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood:

*This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Saviour, all the day long.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Saviour, all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture burst on my sight;  
Angels descending bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love:

*This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Saviour, all the day long.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Saviour, all the day long.*

Perfect submission, all is at rest –  
I in my Saviour am happy and blest –  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

*This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Saviour, all the day long.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Saviour, all the day long.*

*Frances Jane van Alstyne (Fanny Crosby) (1820-1915)*

## **VIDEO GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 24:36-44 TNIV**

**Read by Nana Ocran**

**36** 'But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son,<sup>[a]</sup> but only the Father. **37** As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

**38** For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark;

**39** and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. **40** Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. **41** Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

**42** 'Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. **43** But understand this: if the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. **44** So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

**SERMON 'Watching, Working and Waiting Together'**  
**Rev'd Lansford Penn-Timothy**

## **VIDEO SONG – A Charge To Keep I Have**

### **STF 658**

A charge to keep I have  
A God to glorify  
A never-dying soul to save,  
And fit it for the sky:

To serve the present age,  
My calling to fulfil-  
O may it all my powers engage  
To do the master's will!  
Arm me with jealous care,  
As in thy sight to live;  
And O, thy servant, Lord, prepare  
A strict account to give!

Help me to watch and pray,  
And on thyself rely,  
Assured if I my trust betray,  
I shall for ever die.

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

## **PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS Led by Chris Lawal**

## VIDEO HYMN – Joyful Joyful

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
Opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee,  
Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around thee,  
Centre of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain  
Call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Well-spring of the joy of living,  
Ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,  
All who live in love are thine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals join the mighty chorus  
Which the morning stars began;  
Love divine is reigning o'er us,  
Leading us with mercy's hand.  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
Victors in the midst of strife;  
Joyful music leads us sunward  
In the triumph song of life.

*Henry van Dyke (1852-1933)*

**CONTACTING THE HEALING PRAYER TEAM**  
**Revd Tony Miles**

**THE BLESSING**  
**Revd Lansford Penn Timity**

**VIDEO OUTRO ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

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