



# Welcome

*We welcome you today whatever your reason for coming*

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

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**CHURCH ONLINE  
EVERY SUNDAY**

**9.30am**

**12<sup>th</sup> December 2021**



**METHODIST  
CENTRAL HALL**



**WESTMINSTER**

## ONLINE SERVICE

Led by Revd Lansford Penn-Timity and Deacon  
Ali McMillan

Preacher: Revd Lansford Penn-Timity

Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:7-18

## LIVE STREAM WELCOME

VIDEO ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING - Advent Joy  
Skit Guys Studios

## LIGHT CANDLE

### ADVENT LITURGY

**Leader:** Today is the Third Sunday of Advent, we  
remember John the Baptist.

**Child:** We light this candle for all God's messengers  
preparing the way for change,  
signs pointing to a new age to come.

**God, as we wait for your promise,  
Give light, give hope.**

## VIDEO SONG - Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee MHON 428

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
Hail thee as 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,  
Flowering 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 the 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 recall;  
Father-love is reigning o'er us,  
Brother love binds man to man;  
Ever singing march we onward,  
Victors in the midst of strife;  
Joyful music lifts us sunward  
In the triumph song of life.

*Henry van Dyke (1852–1933)*

## **OPENING PRAYERS**

Led by Revd Lansford Penn-Timothy

## **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 - Altar Ego**

**Charlie Bushell**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Revd Lansford Penn-Timothy and Deacon Ali McMillan

## **VIDEO GLOBAL GREETING**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Led by Deacon Ali McMillan

## **EPISTLE LESSON Philippians 4:4-7**

**Read by Grace Penn-Timothy**

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

## **VIDEO SONG - Joy To The World**

**STF 330**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
let every 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.

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.

*Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

## **GOSPEL LESSON Luke 3:7-18**

**Read by: Cecilia Achila**

<sup>7</sup> John said to the crowds coming out to be baptised by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?

<sup>8</sup> Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our father.”

For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. <sup>9</sup> The axe has been laid to the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.’

<sup>10</sup> ‘What should we do then?’ the crowd asked.

<sup>11</sup> John answered, ‘Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.’

<sup>12</sup> Even tax collectors came to be baptised. ‘Teacher,’ they asked, ‘what should we do?’

<sup>13</sup> ‘Don’t collect any more than you are required to,’ he told them.

<sup>14</sup> Then some soldiers asked him, ‘And what should we do?’

He replied, ‘Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely – be content with your pay.’

<sup>15</sup> The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, ‘I baptise you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

<sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.’

<sup>18</sup> And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

## **SERMON ‘The Good News of Advent’**

Rev'd Lansford Penn-Timothy

## **VIDEO HYMN - The Servant King STF 272**

From heaven you came, helpless babe,  
entered our world, your glory veiled,  
not to be served but to serve,  
and give your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,  
he calls us now to follow him,  
to bring our lives as a daily offering  
of worship to the Servant King.*

There in the garden of tears  
my heavy load he chose to bear ;  
his heart with sorrow was torn,  
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.

Come see his hands and his feet,  
the scars that speak of sacrifice,  
hands that flung stars into space  
to cruel nails surrendered.

So let us learn how to serve  
and in our lives enthrone him,  
each other's needs to prefer,  
for it is Christ we're serving.

*Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)*

## **PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS** Led by Deacon Ali McMillan

## **VIDEO HYMN - In The Bleak Midwinter STF 204**

In the bleak mid-winter, Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter, Long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold Him, Nor earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away When He comes to  
reign:

In the bleak mid-winter A stable-place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels May have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim Throngèd the air;  
But His mother only, In her maiden bliss,  
Worshipped the Beloved With a kiss.

What can I give Him, Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give Him- Give my heart.

*Christina G Rossetti (1830-1894)*

## **CONTACTING THE HEALING PRAYER TEAM**

Deacon Ali McMillan

## **THE BLESSING**

Deacon Ali McMillan

## **ORGAN VOLUNTARY - O Alain Litanies - Gerard Brooks**

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‘In loving memory of our beloved mother, Constance  
Awotwi Kassardjian on the occasion of the tenth  
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Her favourite hymn was Great Is Thy Faithfulness.’

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