

# GLAZEBURY METHODIST CHURCH

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**Circuit Website** — [www.leighandhindley.org.uk](http://www.leighandhindley.org.uk)



**Bible readings for Sunday, 29 November – First Sunday of Advent – Isaiah 64: 1-9, Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19, 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9 and Mark 13: 24-37**



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER – REV KATHARINE BLAND

Dear Friends,

Let's do something a bit different! After all, it is the start of Advent.

Join with me, and we'll do it together - all of us!

All you need is a pen or a pencil and a piece of paper. And if you've got a yellow or orange or red crayon or a felt-tip pen or coloured pencil, all the better.

Go on then...I'll wait for you.

Right, close your eyes and imagine we're all together. You can be in church or anywhere, God will meet you there, wherever you are.

My dear friend, it's the first Sunday in Advent. It is an opportunity for us to pause a while and reflect. Even if you just have time to stop and sit for only a few minutes, it will do you good. On this first Sunday of Advent, let's reflect on 'Hope'.

The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as the true light coming into the world. In commemoration of that coming, and over the next few weeks, we're going to draw some candles and reflect on the coming of Christ. It is significant that the church has always used that language - the *coming* of Christ - because it speaks to a deep truth. Christ *is* coming. Christ is always coming, always entering a troubled world, a wounded heart.

Don't tell me you can't draw. A candle is easy. It is tall with straight sides with a petal shape on top. Go on, you can do it. Draw your first candle, and then leave room on your paper for four more candles. Your first candle is the candle of hope. As you draw your candle of hope, think of the things you hope for, dare to express your longing for peace, for healing, and the well-being of all creation. And then, when you are ready, here is your prayer. As you read it or say it out loud, know that your voice joins with us all, as one voice...just as if we were all together.

*Loving God, as we enter this Advent season, we open all the dark places in our lives and memories to the healing light of Christ. Show us the creative power of hope. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.*

God Bless,

## **TWO PRAYERS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT –**

Almighty God, we praise You that the whole of history was a preparation for Your coming to us in Jesus Christ.

You spoke through the prophets and have spoken to us in the saints of every age.

You speak so intimately to us in Jesus.

Speak with us in this time of worship. May Your Holy Spirit tune our hearts to sing with gladness the truths we believe.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Blessed God, as we prepare ourselves for the Advent of Your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, help us by Your Holy Spirit to do all that we do in gladness and love.

Keep us mindful of the spiritual realities that Jesus came to show us, and help us to know that all life is sacred since He came, and the whole of life a sacrament of praise and thanksgiving, for we are daily in His company – everywhere. Hear us for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

## **HERE ARE THE LOG-IN DETAILS FOR THIS SUNDAY NIGHT'S ADVENT SERVICE TO BE LED BY REV LEN PEREIRA**

Topic: Sunday Night Worship

Time: Nov 29, 2020 06:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81479185791?pwd=WjhxQ08zdUZsd0p6VFRmbUdmSWlXQT09>

Meeting ID: 814 7918 5791

Passcode: 481393

**WE ARE ALL MISSING CHURCH AT THE MOMENT AND HAVE BEEN SINCE MARCH. WE MISS WORSHIPPING TOGETHER. WE MISS HUGS AND COMFORT IN TALKING TO OUR FELLOW CHRISTIANS AND FRIENDS AT CHURCH, ESPECIALLY WHEN THINGS ARE DIFFICULT.**

**AS WE WOULD LIGHT OUR FIRST CANDLE IN ADVENT THIS SUNDAY – HERE IS A READING FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH WEBSITE -**

**Advent candle song by Mark Earey (Tune: ANGEL VOICES 'Angel voices ever singing...')**

**ADVENT 1** – the Advent hope Jesus said, 'Keep awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.' Amen.

Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The first candle is lit and this response is used Jesus is the light of the world. A light no darkness can ever put out.

**We sing:** Advent candles tell their story as we watch and pray, longing for the Day of Glory, 'Come, Lord, soon,' we say. Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness, changed for gladness on that Day.

**Next virtual Coffee Morning** at Glazebury 10.30am on Saturday 5 December. Log-in details to follow.  
*[Christine T]*



**Please remember in your prayers** – Brenda Dodd and her youngest son, Simon. Brenda's eldest son, Nicholas, passed away suddenly last Sunday after a short illness. The funeral service will take place on Monday, 7 December, 12 noon, at Altrincham Crematorium. Rev Katharine is taking the service.

Please also pray for **Eric Hampson** who is currently in Warrington Hospital and **Joyce Byrne** who recently had a heart attack and has been in Broadgreen Hospital, Liverpool.

## Christmas Post

This year Churches Together will not be doing their usual Christmas card postal service but the two Methodist churches in Culcheth and Glazebury will be offering a smaller service, covering our two villages.

If you have cards for delivery, please put them in either of the churches' letter boxes before Sunday 13th December.

No donations this year but we hope to raise funds at a later date for Action for Children.

If you are able to help with delivery please contact Delia Caswell on **01942-671938** or David Ogilvy at [davidwo71@icloud.com](mailto:davidwo71@icloud.com)

## Starry Night

On Tuesday 8 December, join **Action for Children** and families across the UK for an evening of Christmas carols, fun and festive cheer hosted by Channel 4 News' Jon Snow. Tickets are £10 per household and will give you access to exclusive entertainment, readings, and performances from celebrities including Angellica Bell and Call the Midwife's Jenny Agutter. Tickets and more [here](#).

## RE-OPENING GLAZEBURY METHODIST CHURCH FOR SERVICES

### What's happening about re-opening our church?

Due to the national lockdown, all places of worship are not able to open until after 2nd December (and will then be subject to Government regulations). We will be into Advent at that time and heading towards Christmas. We do continue to review the ongoing situation and we can assure you that when a decision is made we already have all the required precautions in place.

## Christmas Masks

Christmas masks are now available on the washing line in the church garden. Please come along and help yourselves. All we ask is for a minimum donation of £2 each. We can still take orders - phone Delia on 01942 671938. *[Thanks Robert Graham]*

### **Advent & Christmas 2020**

We are planning our Advent and Christmas services and activities in the background at the moment.

These will of course be very different this year as we take on the challenge. Things do change on a daily basis but we have to think practicably so are planning ahead.

Some highlights below....

- Our Graffiti Board has been transformed into a giant Advent Calendar.
- Katharine will be presenting a daily Advent 'podcast' on our Facebook group and the Circuit website.
- There will be a service on **Christmas Eve** and **Christmas Day** virtually on Zoom which will also be available on the phone led by Katharine – accessible to all!
- More to follow later.

*[Thanks - Robert Graham]*

**NB - It is important that we keep this news sheet going. Please feel free to send your articles, poems, favourite hymns to Christine Taylor on the email below.**

**SHARING SUNDAY WORSHIP** We are sharing our Sunday Service over the telephone. Most weeks we have over 180 callers from across the Leigh & Hindley and Liverpool North Circuits.

If you would like to listen in, at 10.30am on Sunday:

Dial **020 3478 5289** on your telephone,

When it asks for the access code, enter **145 404 825#**.

(this number will be the same each week)

When it asks for your ID, press **#**

### **PODCASTS**

Regular podcasts from Rev Viv can be found on: <https://soundcloud.com/user-476066366> . I send these out daily to those who receive notice sheets by email each week. If you know of anyone who would like to receive them, please let me have their email address and I will include them in the distribution. *Christine Taylor*

IF YOU ARE not a member of church and need to talk please ring Rev Katharine Bland or Delia Caswell on the phone numbers at the top of the first page of this news sheet.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE SOMETHING TO THE NEWS SHEET PLEASE CONTACT ME ON EMAIL BY WEDNESDAY OF EACH WEEK: [christine.arran4872@aol.com](mailto:christine.arran4872@aol.com) or phone me on Mobile: 0780125262.**

