

Culcheth **Methodist** Church

Transforming the World by meeting the needs of our community as God's people

Ellesmere Rd, Culcheth, Warrington WA3 4BJ

Reg Charity No. 1129901

Minister: Rev Katharine Bland 01925 763218

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Church Contact: Elizabeth Marr 01925 762187



SHARING SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30am

Sunday 28th November – 1st of Advent - David Ogilvy – Steward Amy Driver

Sunday 5th December – Parade and Toy Service – David Bushby – Steward David Ogilvy

Sunday 12th December – Rev Katharine Bland – Holy Communion – Steward Elizabeth Soehren

Sunday 19th December – Own arrangement/Streamed service – Steward Rachel Slater

We are also sharing our Sunday Service over the telephone, or online.

Everyone is warmly welcome to join us in the hall after the service for tea, coffee and fellowship – socially distanced with individually wrapped biscuits!

To Join our online/telephone service:

Online: click this link to join the meeting via **Zoom**. [Sunday Service Zoom Link](#)

On the Phone: Dial **0330 088 5830** on your telephone,

When asked for the access code, enter **935 8460 6158#**.

When asked for your ID, press **#**.

You will be put into a waiting room and we will let you into the service.

The call will be charged at the standard UK phone rate.



Thank you to everyone who has assisted with the service this morning especially to Ann Langridge for the Advent Wreath

First Sunday of Advent – ‘Hope’

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the Sunday in which we recall the light of Christ who brings us hope. The prophets of Israel all spoke of the hope of God and the coming of Jesus and of how a Saviour would be born, a king in the line of David. They spoke of how he would bring light to the world and bless all nations. So, we remember his birth giving thanks for God's timing and preparation. We remember the day Christ our hope was born. On Good Friday the Christ of our hope died. On Easter day the Christ of our hope rose from the dead. As followers of Christ, we light the first candle to remember that he stepped into our darkness, born humbly in the manger, giving light to the world. We light this candle to remind us of hope.

Pray Together – members of the church will be at prayer from 6.30-7pm every day, and from 10.00-10.30am on Mondays. do join in wherever you are.

Communication:

Weekly Notice Sheet: To Joyce McComb by Wed 6pm for inclusion this week: email to

culchethmethodist@gmail.com or tel 767308

Website: www.leighandhindley.org.uk Facebook: Culcheth Methodist Church and LeighAndHindleyMethodist

Prayer Circle requests contact Janette Hutchinson:766819/07729 313466 or Jane Bushby:509558/07949 390862

28th November 2021

Christmas Fair - 27th November 10.30am until 3.00pm.

At the Christmas Fair this year there will be Father Christmas in his Grotto, stalls in the hall, hot dogs and soup outside and tea & coffee with individually wrapped biscuits. We are going to have the Youth Tent offering games for the young people and Hannah will be showing what she does for our Church in her detached work and her vision for the future.

You could donate wrapped biscuits like Kit Kat, Blue Riband. If you usually bake a cake it can be cut into pieces and put in an individual bag and brought to Church on the day or on Friday afternoon between 3pm and 5pm. They will be used for refreshments or sold on the Church stall.

No bric a brac but new unused items of toiletries or unwanted gifts can be donated. We will also be selling the Culcheth Characters book written by the Culcheth Local History Group.

Please contact me 01925 765561 if you have any questions.

We need to keep safe. Wearing is caring. Please wear a face mask to protect each other.

Let's put the FUN in FUNDRAISING

Daphne Eastburn

Toy and Parade Service 5th December

The service on 5th December will be our annual Toy Service to which all the uniformed organisations have been invited along with family and friends. As usual we are asking for good-quality, unwrapped Christmas gifts suitable for children and young people. Can I ask you to bear in mind the need is not just for toys and gifts suitable for young children but also gifts appropriate to teenagers such as toiletries, cosmetics, games and gadgets (without batteries). I'm sure you will respond with your usual compassion and generosity.

As you know, sadly our gifts cannot be given to 'Action for Children' as they no longer have a local office. However, the good news is that Warrington Salvation Army will be delighted to accept our donation of gifts towards their Christmas Appeal. Your gifts can be brought to the service on 5th December, delivered to 7, Boston Close, Culcheth WA3 4LW, or handed in at the church on Mon 29th Nov between 10.30 and 12.00 am and on Thur 2nd Dec between 7.00 and 9.00 pm. If you need your gift to be collected please let me know on 07586299397 or at davidwo71@icloud.com

Thank you all, David Ogilvy "

Working Party – Saturday 4th December

The all-weather outdoor activity area has become slippery and hazardous again and needs to be hosed down and brushed clean. We're arranging a working group to tackle this on Saturday 4th December from 12.00 to 3.00. Any help will be very welcome - please bring a stiff brush. Many thanks.

David Ogilvy

If you have any safeguarding concerns, contact Rev Katharine Bland 01925 763218

Dates for your Diary

10 th -12 th December 10.00am – 5.00pm	Christmas Tree Festival at Newchurch Parish Church
Wednesday 15 th December at 10.00am	Carols, Communion & Coffee with Rev Katharine at Wigan Road Methodist Church . Everybody Welcome.
Wednesday 22nd December at 7.00pm	Carol Service with the Choir led by Rev Katharine Bland at Culcheth Methodist Church .
Friday 24th December at 7.00pm	Christmas Eve candlelit service with Holy Communion led by Rev Katharine Bland at Culcheth Methodist Church .
Saturday 25th December at 10.30am	Christmas Day united service led by Rev Katharine Bland at Glazebury Methodist Church
Sunday 26th December at 10.30am	Boxing Day Online Service led by Revs Wilfred Robinson and Katharine Bland."

Request for Readers

At one time there was a list of volunteers who were available to read in services. We think it would be good to invite a wider group of people to take part in services. If you would like to be asked to read please put your name on the list which I will put on the notice board in the Welcome Space or contact me at davidwo71@icloud.com or on 07586299397. If you have any questions please speak to me. There will be a need for additional readers at the Carol Service on 22nd December and possibly at the Christmas Eve service.

Thank you, David Ogilvy

Saturday Open Doors

The possibility of restarting the Saturday Open Doors coffee morning was discussed at our recent Stewards Meeting. There's not a problem on safety grounds, since we've successfully moved refreshments after the Sunday service into the hall, provided the usual precautions are followed ie distancing, ventilation and serving at the tables. People could bring their own mugs to save on disposable cups. It could take place in the Welcome Space or, if the numbers were too great, in the hall. Unfortunately Room 2 isn't a possibility.

For this to happen we need someone to arrange a duty rota and look after the cash float/takings. I am happy to talk to anybody about this and to any potential kitchen volunteers who haven't been on the rota before. Please get in touch if you could help.

It would also be very helpful to know how many people would be likely to make use of this if it were to reopen. Do please let me know if you are interested and pass the word around. Thank you, David Ogilvy. Email davidwo71@icloud.com Phone 07586299397

Covid Precautions

I feel that this is an appropriate time to tell you that the recent Stewards Meeting discussed Covid precautions at length and decided to keep our current measures unchanged for the moment. I know some people feel we are being over-cautious but recently a member of the congregation tested positive shortly afterwards and this reminds us to be careful. Covid precautions will continue to be monitored monthly at the Stewards Meeting. The heating is on when the building is occupied and we're taking steps to provide blankets or shawls for those who feel the cold - in fact you might consider bringing your own as well as dressing warmly if the weather is cold.

With every blessing, David Ogilvy

Current Covid Precautions

Following the changes to the Covid regulations, the church council have agreed some small changes to our Covid precautions at church. We now:

Continue to

- Wear masks in our Church building
- Maintain Social Distancing from others not in our household
- Use hand sanitiser as we arrive and leave the building
- Please do not attend if you are suffering from any symptoms, have been in close contact with someone with Covid or have been "pinged" by the Covid app.
- Wipe down common surfaces after use (door handles, light switches etc)
- Keep doors open to improve ventilation
- Retain the one way system on Sunday mornings
- Stewards will direct you to your seat, please don't move around within the church
- Services max 45 mins (3 hymns)
- Retiring collection rather than passing round the bags
- NHS Covid QR code for venue check-in to be displayed

Some changes:

- Chairs have been returned to rows with a space of 1.3m between rows (from the back of one chair to the back of the one in front). It is recommended that you leave 2 empty chairs between household groups. If you wish to sit closer, please make sure that both parties agree!
- The booking system is no longer needed, as we have sufficient capacity to accommodate everyone
- We may now sing! – we will stand and sing hymns, from behind our masks - please keep your mask over your face and nose as you sing to protect your neighbours
- More than one person per service may use the lectern, wipes provided between users
- We will stop cleaning chairs between services, except for the arms of armchairs
- Tea and Coffee - we are now able to serve drinks socially distanced in the hall.
- Small groups can now be more than six people, if wished. They should continue to maintain distancing and wear masks, but they can serve drinks and individually wrapped snacks, and remove their masks while eating/drinking.