

**TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH, OADBY**

Dear Friends

1<sup>st</sup> February 2021

***“My eyes have seen your salvation”*** (Luke 2.30)

Greetings, in this week when the Christian Church celebrates (on 2<sup>nd</sup> February) the Feast of the Presentation of Christ (or Candlemas). If you were encouraged this year by *English Heritage* and others to observe a traditional 40-day Festival of Christmas, you now have permission to take down your decorations and put away the Christmas crib until next December.

This is a good time to re-read St Luke’s sequel to the Christmas story (Luke 2, vv22-40). As we are reminded of the devotion and deep spirituality of Simeon and Anna, let us give thanks for the faithful witness of the older members of our church family and for all who have inspired us in our journeys of faith. We read, that the infant Jesus who was brought to the Temple, thereafter *“grew and became strong, filled with wisdom”*. This should encourage us to pray for all children and young people known to us whose lives are currently blighted by the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. At the heart of the Candlemas story we find Mary, who is told by Simeon that *“a sword will pierce your own soul too”*. We continue to pray for all who struggle with sadness and grief in these days.

It is often said that Candlemas acts as a kind of pivot in the Christian year: one last look back to Christmas, and then we turn towards Lent (which this year is very near) and to Easter. The word ‘Lent’ reminds us that the days are lengthening as we look forward to Spring and the promise of new life. For Christians, as the Archbishops of Canterbury and York pointed out in their open letter, published last week, this also means looking forward in Christian hope to the celebration of Easter. As they wrote, *“We live in the hope that we will share in [Christ’s] resurrection. Death does not have the last word. In God’s kingdom every tear will be wiped away”*.

- *God our Father, whose Son was revealed to Simeon and Anna as the light of the nations, and the glory of Israel: grant that, guided by your Holy Spirit, we may live by the light of faith until we come to the light of glory; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*The Alternative Service Book, 1980,  
© The Central Board of Finance of the Church of England.*

**Howard Smith**

## **Faiths Engagement meeting of the NHS in Leicester /shire**

We can help with the roll-out of the vaccination programme in the city and county:

- 1) Volunteers are still needed – especially in the city (There are up to 4 hour shifts, some regular and planned but some where volunteers are requested at the last minute.) It takes 3 minutes to complete the volunteer form on line. If anyone wants to volunteer they can register with VAL (Voluntary Action Leicestershire) <https://valonline.org.uk/> There are numerous centres across the city and county. More centres will open over the coming weeks. You can also call the VAL helpline 0116 257 5050.
- 2) Everyone should take up vaccines, especially ALL men, BAME communities, and those with a disability, or living in disadvantaged communities. People over 80 should NOT TURN UP EARLY but should rather turn up on time – centres don't want people queueing.
- 3) The vaccine is FREE so no one should respond to registration requests which ask for Bank details/payments etc. You CANNOT pay for the vaccines. If you hear of people having problems, the centres/ NHS want to know and have evidenced responsiveness.

The process for receiving the vaccine is: Registration; Consent process; Immunisation; Wait 15 minutes (This mitigates against drive-through centres)

If there is reluctance from a faith community, the Faiths Engagement Team need to know and are willing to engage with groups. It is really important that as many people as possible take up the vaccine.

Hospital capacity is very tight and rising, so even when you've received the vaccine, you must continue to be very mindful of the instructions: Hands, Face, Space.

## **Inclusive Church**

On February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1pm, Bevan Powell, Connexional Equality Diversity & Inclusion Adviser is running a training event entitled Ensuring no-one needs to ask 'Am I not a Methodist too?'

It would be great if we could be represented to build on the Inclusive Church work we had started last year. Booking instructions available from Rev Derek

## **Chaplaincy**

The Leicester Diocese has an annual service at which Chaplains' work is recognised. This was particularly powerful this year as we heard from a university chaplain about the first conversations with a Chinese student in January 2020 about a new virus disrupting plans to travel home. We heard how that has affected hospital, prison and emergency services chaplains. The service can be watched again here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=85xPpmrzyG8>

**Affinity:** The February/March edition is now available.

**Morning Worship** continues online every week at **10:30am**.

Our preacher this week is Matthew Forsyth from AllWeCan.

**Sunday Evening Circuit Services** every week **6pm**

Revd Derek will lead the service on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

**District Ordinands Testimony Service** On 14th February at 6pm, we celebrate the testimonies of Paul Carter, Calvin Cheung, Judith Lincoln, and Daniel Yovan

Please let me know if you would like to join online, and I can send you a link, and also talk you through setting this up. Email for information: [derek.mclean@methodist.org.uk](mailto:derek.mclean@methodist.org.uk)

Don't forget that it is possible to phone in, even if you haven't got a computer.

### **Churches Together**

The Welcome and Induction service for John Tearne and Sami Lindsay took place at St Peter's on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>. This was a service of welcome to the Benefice which includes St Cuthbert's, Great Glen so it was good to see Kim involved as well as Steve and Bishop Martyn. It can be viewed here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D6WgXx\\_FnBc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D6WgXx_FnBc) (It starts 11 minutes in)

The Week of Prayer resources (18-25 January) can still be accessed here:

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQ7vzm2\\_mxusMM0XVhV\\_3wUGPkk8VdR7Z](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQ7vzm2_mxusMM0XVhV_3wUGPkk8VdR7Z)

**Saturday Prayer** continues online each week at 10:15, please contact Barry or Derek for joining instructions.

### **Forthcoming Funerals**

Please hold in prayer those who are mourning. Funeral services will be held as follows: Mary McLean, 5/2 12:45; Peggy Ganney 10/2 1:30; Margaret Murphy 11/2 2:30.

Please contact each family directly if you wish to attend, or if you would like the link where services may be webcast.

In particular, please contact Barry Murphy for details of Margaret's funeral, or to receive an Order of Service.

### **Sharing Joy and Good News**

- We are grateful for the family of Dorothy Williams who have made a substantial donation to Oadby Trinity Methodist Church in her memory.
- Congratulations to Jane on the safe arrival of her new grandson.
- It has been a real joy seeing so many children joining our online worship: a particular joy to see the smiling faces of some of our youngest new arrivals. We are also now regularly getting 6 participants from landlines, so this has been worth a renewed push to remind people that it works!
- Tablets for Schools: Thank you for your generosity. We have now donated 33 tablets which will be supplied to help school-children with online learning.

# Sunday Worship for Oadby Trinity, Great Glen & Houghton

Methodist Churches & Aigburth MHA

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February – led by Matthew Forsyth



## Welcome

### Call to Worship video

### Worship song- Blessed be your name

Blessèd be your name  
In the land that is plentiful,  
Where Your streams of abundance flow,  
Blessèd be Your name.

And blessèd be Your name  
When I'm found in the desert place,  
Though I walk through the wilderness,  
Blessèd be Your name.

Every blessing You pour out I'll  
Turn back to praise.  
When the darkness closes in, Lord,  
Still I will say:

Blessèd be the name of the Lord,  
Blessèd be Your name.  
Blessèd be the name of the Lord,  
Blessèd be Your glorious name.

Blessèd be Your name  
When the sun's shining down on me,  
When the world's 'all as it should be',  
Blessèd be Your name.

And blessèd be Your name  
On the road marked with suffering,  
Though there's pain in the offering,  
Blessèd be Your name.

You give and take away,  
You give and take away.  
My heart will choose to say:  
Lord, blessèd be Your name.

Matt & Beth Redman  
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### Welcome and introduction to the service

### Prayer of thanksgiving and praise

### Spoken word poem

### Hymn/Song – Love Divine

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesu, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation,  
perfectly restored in thee:  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Charles Wesley (1707–1788)  
Singing the Faith 503

### All We Can talk

### Reading – Mark 1:29-39

### Be still

### Sermon

### Prayers of Intercession-

### Worship song- 10,000 reasons

*Bless the Lord, o my soul;  
O my soul, worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul.  
I'll worship Your holy name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;  
It's time to sing Your song again.  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,  
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.  
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

And on that day when my strength is failing,  
The end draws near and my time has come,  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending;  
Ten thousand years and then forever more!

Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman  
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### Dismissal

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