



# The Methodist Church in Sheffield

. . . growing followers of Jesus

*Dear all,*

*This is the latest mailing from the Circuit. Please find information below which may help you feel more connected at this time of separation.*

*Included below is a letter which one of the 3 Co Supers write each week for the Circuit newsletter;*

25<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**Dear sisters and brothers,**

As we enter the season of Advent we naturally think of light and hope. Despite news of the current national lockdown ending and options for households to bubble together for five days over Christmas, some of us may be yearning for light and hope more than ever this year - for ourselves, our loved ones, indeed all creation - because of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

The journey through Advent to Christmas is, of course, about looking to the coming of Jesus as the light of the world. Yet, Jesus says this,

**“You are the light of the world.**  
A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.  
Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl.  
Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.  
In **the** same way, let your **light** shine before others,  
that they may see your good deeds  
and glorify your Father in heaven”  
*(Matthew 5:14-16).*

We might want to light a candle each evening as a sign of light still shining despite the darkness of these times. Maybe there are ways we can continue to let light shine in practical ways too this Advent – in our words and actions within our communities. As the hymn says,

“I will hold the Christ-light for you  
In the night-time of your fear  
I will hold hand out to you  
Speak the peace you long to hear

...

Brother, sister, let me serve you  
let me be as Christ to you  
Pray that I may have the grace  
To let you be my servant too.”  
*(Singing the Faith 611)*

So, how will you be light for others? How we will you allow others to be light for you?



Reverend James Morley

Co Superintendent

### ***Streamed services***

*Some churches are streaming regular services. This allows you to experience different preachers from different churches in the comfort of your own home if you choose to do so. You can even ‘catch up’ later when it’s convenient. Please see below a list of services, (if you know of others that are being streamed, please let the Circuit office know and they will be included);*

[Victoria Hall](#)

[Greenhill Methodist Church](#)

[Coal Aston Methodist Church](#)

[St Paul's Methodist Church, Dronfield](#)

[St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church](#)

[Carterknowle Methodist Church](#)

[Totley Rise Methodist Church](#)

[Stocksbridge Christian Centre \(as part of the Cornerstone Mission Partnership\)](#)

[Christ Church Stocksbridge](#)

[Stephen Hill Methodist Church](#)

[St Andrew’s Church Gosforth Valley](#)

[Church of Christ Darnall](#)

[Victoria Stafford Road](#)

***Singing the Faith Plus: Service Sheets***

*These short acts of worship have been produced for you if you are unable to attend church. If you are well enough why not spend a few moments with God, knowing that other people are sharing this act of worship with you? Click here for the [link](#).*

### **Facebook**

*Facebook is another way to keep in touch. In addition to the streamed services Sally Coleman, James Morley and Melissa Quinn are holding Morning and Evening Prayers and Reflections at various times as Watch Parties on their Facebook pages. These are videos where there is live participation at the time and the videos can be watched later. There are also occasional slots where we can listen to one of our local preachers.*

### **Methodist Church Guidance**

*This is regularly updated and covers many topics including; prayers and worship during the coronavirus pandemic, (where you will find resources for worship at home), serving neighbours and speaking with friends, taking care of yourself and those around you, and many others. Find out by visiting the Methodist Church in Britain [website](#)*

### **Summarising the position for places of worship**

**Update 12 November 2020**

*The [National Restrictions](#) are now in effect **from 5 November 2020** in England. As part of these new restrictions, places of worship and their ancillary accommodation will have to close or remain closed for congregational worship and all other user groups, with certain [exceptions](#).*

### **Safeguarding Advice as churches think ahead to the end of lockdown**

*Please find advice from Connexion [here](#)*

### **District Safeguarding Newsletter: Child Poverty**

*Marcus Rashford had done a wonderful thing. Using his status as a football star he has shone a spotlight on Child Poverty. Using the topic of free school meals, we have been encouraged to look a little deeper into the subject of child poverty and we are challenged to consider how we respond.*

*For this month's Safeguarding newsletter I have followed Marcus's lead and provided an up to date picture of child poverty in this country and given some suggestions of how we can act, to move this priority forwards: [Child Poverty](#)*

*As always, I'm here if you need to discuss this or any subject relating to the safeguarding: [safeguarding@sheffieldmethodist.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@sheffieldmethodist.org.uk) or please call 07483 362 735.*

*Many thanks, Alison Hill*

*District Safeguarding Officer*

### **Methodist Prayer Wall**

*This is for people to write and submit their prayers so they can be prayed for by people around the world. You can find out more by visiting the Methodist Church in Britain [website](#)*

### **Circuit Newsletter**

*If you wish to receive the Circuit Newsletter which is being published every week during the Coronavirus Pandemic please follow this [link](#)*

*There is also an option to subscribe.*

### **Dial-a-Prayer**

#### **Free phone lines for prayers and news from the Methodist Church**

*Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514*

*Listen to news: 0808 281 2478*

*Content is updated weekly on Thursday afternoon*

### **News from Sheffield City Council: Covid 19**

#### **[New national restrictions](#)**

*Subject to Parliamentary approval, the Government is introducing National coronavirus restrictions across England.*

*They will begin at one-minute past midnight on Thursday 5 November 2020 and are expected to last until Wednesday 2 December 2020.*

*These new national restrictions will replace Sheffield's regional restrictions.*

*More information regarding local restrictions in Sheffield is also available on SCC [Website](#)*

### **Keeping Safe on Zoom**

*Zoom has emerged as a very popular tool for online meetings, training and other communication activities during the coronavirus pandemic of 2020, but there are risks associated with any such app.*

*The National Police Chief's Council have therefore written a short guide to the main security controls and how to access them, to enable you to keep safe during meetings.*

*You can download the Zoom advice guide [here](#)*

***Finally, please let us know if you have ideas of how we can keep connected!***