

Sunday 29th November 2020

This short act of worship has been prepared for you to use whilst we are unable to use Methodist Church premises. 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.

Opening Prayer

Loving, faithful God,
As your people of old waited and
watched for Your coming in Jesus,
So we wait and watch for Your coming
today. As we come before You now,
waiting and watching,
Fill us with your light and love.
*(If you have an Advent wreath at home,
you may wish to light one candle)*

Hymn: H&P 241

Lo, he comes with clouds descending
Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or
listen to it here [https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=jBw0JMdh57k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jBw0JMdh57k)

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
robed in glorious majesty;
we who set at nought and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears;
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars.

Sing, amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own:
come, Lord Jesus!
Everlasting God, come down!

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Let us pray together

Loving, faithful God,
We praise you for your faithfulness to
Your people down the ages.
They hoped and were not disappointed;
In Jesus they saw You come as one of us,
sharing our life so we might share Yours.
We have known Your coming in our lives,
Whether in blazes of glory, or quiet
moments of knowing we are loved;
and in the power of your Holy Spirit.
We know You will come again in glory,
In light and power that we cannot
imagine. That one day all heaven and
earth will praise You.

We come to You too, sorry for the times
When we have been too impatient to
wait, when we have lost heart.
God who comes to us in love,
We know that You forgive all who turn to
you. Forgive us, renew our hope, turn
our eyes back to You, So that we may
see your coming in our world
And share Your joy with others. Amen.

Today's Gospel Reading: Mark 13: 24-37

Read Rev. Ken's Sunday Sermon - What
will be the signs of Your coming?

Take a time to sit quietly

**GOD
IS WITH
US**

During this season
the Methodist
Church is
proclaiming "God is
with us". God is with
us is more than a
statement. It's a reminder that God is
always with us. We are encouraged to
share our story (and other people's

stories) of walking with God in this extraordinary year. How might you share how God has been with you this week?

Find out more here <https://www.methodist.org.uk/christmas/>

A time of prayer

Loving God, who comes in Jesus,
We bring to You all who wait for you,
in hope and faith, or in fear and despair.

We pray for all who wait for peace, for justice, for their voices to be heard.

We pray for all who live in fear, of war, violence, abuse or bullying.

We pray that our Churches may wait on your guidance, so we may serve you faithfully.

We pray for all who wait for test results, news about their jobs, news of loved ones, or for the coming of a child.

We pray for all who are ill, all who are close to death, and all who watch and wait with them.

May we watch and wait with them, be people of peace and justice, and bring hope, comfort and healing, light in the darkness.

The Lord's Prayer
Our Father

Hymn: 242 Mine eyes have seen the glory of the Lord

A prayer of blessing

God of hope, the Dawn from on high,
break upon us, and fill us with light and hope. Send us out to be light and hope wherever we are. Amen.

Mark 13: 24-37

'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'