



# Stratford-upon-Avon Methodist Church

## Morning Worship and Holy Communion 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent

16<sup>th</sup> December 2018 @ 10.30am

**Preacher: Revd. Audrey Simpson**

**Organist: Peter Cox**

Advent liturgy - Candle of love (*Sylvia Bevan and Vida Pearce*)

Hymn: STF 172 'Hills of the north, rejoice,' (*verse 3 sung seated*)

Hymn: STF 188 'There's a light upon the mountains,'

Prayers (*MWB pages 117-118*)

Collect (*MWB page 524*)

Readings: Zephaniah 3, v 14-20 *reader Alan Cumming*  
Philippians 4, v 4-7 *reader Jan Gardner*

Background to the readings

Hymn: STF 404 'God's spirit is in my heart;'

Reading: Luke 3, v 7-18

Sermon

Hymn: 'Light out of darkness'

Prayers (*MWB pages 121-123*)

Offering

Hymn: STF 504 'May the mind of Christ my Saviour'

Holy Communion (*MWB pages 124-128*)

Hymn: STF 335 'Rejoice, the Lord is King!'

Blessing and dismissal (*MWB page 128*)

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## **CHURCH NOTICES**

'Our vision is to share the good news of Jesus Christ with those around us and provide a place of witness for all people.'

### **WELCOME TO ALL**



**Please join us for refreshments after the service.**

### **Dates for the coming week.**

**Monday** 10am - 12 noon Monday Makers.  
10am - 12 noon Card Craft.  
2.30pm Bible study.

**Tuesday** 10am - 12 noon Knit, Stitch and Natter.  
10am Prayer group.

**Wednesday** 9.30am -11.30am Wesley's Baby and Toddler Group.

**Friday** 9.30am -11.30am Wesley's Baby and Toddler Group.  
2pm - 4pm Cake and Company.

## **FURTHER NOTICES**

There is still time to join us for Christmas Dinner, the notice is on the board in the Wesley Hall. If you know of anyone who is likely to be lonely at Christmas please let them know they will be very welcome here.

Details of the January Friendship Lunch are on the notice board in the Wesley Hall, please add your name if you would like to join us on the 6<sup>th</sup> January.

We ask for your prayers this week for the developing of the two new circuits, to be known as the South Warwickshire Circuit and the South Worcestershire Circuit.

### **Concerned about Climate Change**

We are facing a man-made disaster of global scale. Our greatest threat in thousands of years - climate change. "If we don't take action, the collapse of our civilisations and the extinction of much of the natural world is on the horizon."  
**Sir David Attenborough, December 2018**

A meeting to discuss strategies will be held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 7:30pm, here at the Methodist Church. **Local action can drive change.**

## **Circuit prayer from Revd. Dr Israel Selvanavagam**

Ever living and Eternal God, excite us by your glorious presence in nature with order, beauty and goodness. Warm our hearts with the flame of your Holy Spirit and calm our minds by the presence of your Son Emmanuel. May this season bring your children together, closer as individuals and families, that our joy may abound. In all circumstances may we be consciously aware that ultimately we belong to you, to you alone. Amen.

*Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 10.30am*

*Service will be led by Mr. James Steele*

*From 5pm Tea and mince pies followed by Carol Service at 6pm.*

**NEXT WEEK'S NOTICES:** to Gillian Bowers. email:-  
[gillianbathome@hotmail.com](mailto:gillianbathome@hotmail.com) no later than WEDNESDAY please

**Stratford Methodist Church website:**

[www.stratforduponavonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.stratforduponavonmethodist.org.uk)

**Web Master :** [sharon.stroud@talktalk.net](mailto:sharon.stroud@talktalk.net)

**Church email:** [stratforduponavonmethodist@gmail.com](mailto:stratforduponavonmethodist@gmail.com)

**Church office:** telephone number 01789 298835

**Church Twitter:** @SuAMethodists

**Stratford & Evesham Circuit website:**

[www.stratfordandeveshamcircuit.org.uk](http://www.stratfordandeveshamcircuit.org.uk)

**Birmingham District website:** [www.birminghammethodist.org.uk](http://www.birminghammethodist.org.uk)