



Ainsdale Methodist Church

Weekly Notices

22nd December 2024

10am Service at Ainsdale Village Church

4pm Carols by Candlelight

6pm Raising Praise at Leyland Road Church

Christmas Eve - 11.30pm Midnight Communion led by Rev Patrick Evans

Christmas Day - 10am CTiA Celebration Service at St Johns Church

29th December - 10.45am Carol Praise Service

5th January - 10.45am Communion & Covenant Service led by Rev Jan Fraser

Mission Statement

To share locally and globally in the whole Church's purpose of the worship of God and the care of people.

Minister: Rev Patrick Evans

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Lectionary Readings 22nd December 2024

Micah 5.2-5a; Luke 1.46b-55 (Magnificat); Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.39-45(46-55)

Prayer

God our Redeemer, you chose the Virgin Mary, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour. Fill us with your grace that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Carol Praise Service

Refreshments will be served during the Carol Praise Service on the 29th December. If you have any Christmas cake, biscuits or nibbles left you are welcome to bring them along!

Join Kelly's Slimming World Group at Ainsdale Methodist Church!

After losing an incredible 18 stone and being crowned Slimming World's National Woman of the Year 2023, Kelly is now an inspirational consultant ready to help you achieve your goals. Starting Friday, January 3rd, 2025, join her supportive group sessions at 5:30 pm or 7:00 pm. Discover a flexible, sustainable way to enjoy real food while transforming your health and confidence. Special joining offers are available, including FREE joining for church or activity attendees. Contact Kelly at **07493 078193** or on Facebook at **Slimming World Ainsdale with Kelly** for more info. Let 2025 be your year of success!

Church Notices

The next set of notices will be produced for Sunday 12th January - please let Lucy have anything you wish to include by Wednesday 8th on 01704 536648 or email lucy@southportmethodist.org.uk Thank you.

Bags of Christmas Cheer

A big Thank you to everyone who has given generous donations towards the Bags of Christmas Cheer, so far eight bags have been made, which are being distributed through the Foodbank sessions at the church on Thursdays.



Christmas Online Circuit Service

Get ready to celebrate Christmas! Our online Christmas service premieres on YouTube this Christmas Eve! Join Rev. Ernie Grimshaw as we journey around the globe, hearing messages of hope and joy. We'll connect with Rev. Ann Hall all the way from sunny New Zealand and brave the snowy landscapes with Margaret Sadler in Canada. Closer to home, Rev. Rachel Bray offers thoughtful reflection on the recent tragic events in Southport. The uplifting voices of the Ainsdale Choir will fill your heart with the spirit of the season, culminating in a final blessing from Rev. Patrick Evans. Don't miss this special online event!

The Christmas Online Circuit Service will be available from Tuesday 24th December 2024 and can be accessed at

<https://southportmethodist.org.uk/christmas>

Churches Together in Ainsdale at Christmas

The Village Church will hold their annual *Christmas Christingle* at 4 o'clock on Christmas Eve. Everyone welcome.

We'll be carol singing again inside the Co-op on Christmas Eve morning for half an hour from 10 o'clock. Come and join in - the more the merrier!

Heavenly Father,

In this holy season of Christmas, we gather as your people, united in faith, love, and hope. We thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, who came to dwell among us and bring salvation to all.

Lord, we praise you for the beauty of this season—the twinkling lights that remind us of your eternal presence, the carols that proclaim the joy of Christ's birth, and the fellowship that reflects your boundless love.

As we celebrate the miracle of Jesus' birth, we ask for your blessings upon this congregation. Fill our hearts with peace, our minds with wisdom, and our spirits with the courage to share your love with those in need. Let our actions be a reflection of your grace, and may our words bring hope to the weary and joy to the sorrowful.

Bless the families in our midst, Lord—those who are celebrating with joy and those who carry burdens unseen. Comfort the lonely, heal the sick, and provide for those in need. Let our church be a sanctuary of warmth and welcome, a beacon of your compassion to all who enter its doors.

As we gaze upon the manger, remind us of the simplicity and humility of Christ's birth. Help us to lay aside our worries and distractions, so that we may fully embrace the wonder and awe of your love revealed in Jesus.

May this Christmas season rekindle our faith, deepen our devotion, and inspire us to live as your faithful disciples. Let your peace reign in our hearts and spill over into our homes, our community, and the world beyond.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and King, we pray.

Amen.

Ernie

