

Notices**Fellowship Groups meet on Tues 7 / Wed 8 / Thurs 9 December**

To join a group please contact Andrew Grey.

14-18s youth group tonight 7.00-8.30pm

At Gavin and Jessica Wright's home.

December and Christmas Dates...**Great for friends and visitors: please take flyers from the back of church**

Saturday 18th December 10am — Christmas Family Fun

Sunday 19th December 10.45am — All Age Carol Service

Sunday 19th December 6.30pm — Traditional Carol Service

Christmas weekend

Saturday 25th December 10.30am Note time— Christmas Morning Service

Sunday 26th December 10.45am—Boxing Day Service

Bookstall

There are books for sale at the back today and in the run up to Christmas—with lots of different titles, which we hope will be good for us and to buy for others.

Food for hungry ChristiansA great new Barnabas Fund project, seeking to help Christians in some of the poorest parts of the world, where faith in Jesus makes daily survival even harder. For more information see <https://www.food.gives/>**Giving**Regulars wanting to support our work can give through a standing order supported by Gift Aid. Information available from the table at the rear of the hall or from our treasurer: treasurer@immanuelbrentwood.org**If you're new to the church or have a question...**Speak to one of the team; send an email to info@immanuelbrentwood.org; or fill in your details below and put the slip in the box by the door to request information about:☐ Is there more to life? ☐ Christianity Explored ☐ Immanuel Church Brentwood**Your name and contact details:****Welcome to Immanuel Church Brentwood****Welcome!** It's great to have you here.

We meet at **9.30am** in different teaching groups for Sunday School. Fresh coffee and cake are served at 10.15am. Church begins at **10.45am**. We hope that **whole families** will enjoy church together. **For children** there is a separate **learning sheet** to help them make the most of the sermon. We don't mind that little ones make a bit of noise or wriggle around.

Toilets are located along the corridor on the ground floor. If you need assistance or information just ask one of the people who welcomed you when you came in.

If you're a **parent** please keep an eye on younger children before and after the service as the school is both a big and public space and we want everyone to stay safe. Please accompany your children to the toilet.

If younger children need a break there is a **crèche** nearby with toys and activities. Make your way to the back of the hall and you'll be shown where it is. You can leave your child there or remain with them.

During church today we will share the Lord's Supper

Who is the Lord's Supper for? We welcome to the Lord's Table to receive bread and wine all who know and love the Lord Jesus for themselves; who are today turning away from sin; and who are trusting Jesus for forgiveness.

Parents, it is up to you to instruct your **children** appropriately as you want. We permit believing children to receive bread only or both bread and wine.

If you are **not yet a Christian believer** please don't take the bread or wine.

As you enter church please collect a cup of wine with a wafer from the stewards. Follow instructions from our minister on when during the service to eat and drink. We use non-alcoholic wine. Cups can be disposed of at the end of the service.

If there is an emergency during the service:

- Go to the muster point which is the field adjacent to the car park
- **If you have children in crèche**, they will be evacuated to the playground with the covered tables; please collect them from there, then proceed to the muster point.
- Proceed quietly and calmly in order to hear any additional instructions.

Welcome and call to worship**Andrew Grey**

“Behold your God!” Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms”. (Isaiah 40:9c-11a)

O come, O come, Emmanuel

And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of Hell Thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave

O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

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John Mason Neale

Confession and assurance of forgiveness

God our Father,
we come to you in sorrow for our sin.
For not being ready for the return of Jesus
Father, forgive us.
For failing you by what we do, think and say
Father, forgive us
For living as if this world is all there is
Father, forgive us
For not looking forward to the return of Jesus
Father, forgive us. Amen

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!

Humbly He lay, Creator come as creature,
Born on the floor of a hay-scattered stall.
True Son of God, yet bearing human feature,
He entered earth to reverse Adam's fall.
In towering grace, He laid aside His glory,
And in our place, was sacrificed for sin.
Fall on your knees! O hear the gospel story!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!

Come, then, to Him Who lies within the manger,
With joyful shepherds, proclaim Him as Lord.
Let not the Promised Son remain a stranger;
In reverent worship, make Christ your Adored.
Eternal life is theirs who would receive Him;
With grace and peace, their lives He will adorn.
Fall on your knees! Receive the Gift of heaven!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born
O night, O holy night when Christ was born

CCLI Song 7031877
A C Adam / J S Dwright / K Hartnett / P Cappeau
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Final prayer and blessing

Praise to the Lord,
the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him,
for he is your health and salvation!
Come, all who hear;
brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.

2. Praise to the Lord,
above all things so mightily reigning;
keeping us safe at his side,
and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen;
all you have needed has been
met by his gracious ordaining?

3. Praise to the Lord,
who shall prosper our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy
shall daily attend us.
Ponder anew,
what the almighty can do,
who with his love will befriend us.

4. Praise to the Lord -
O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before him!
Let the 'Amen!'
sound from his people again -
gladly with praise we adore him!

after J. Neander, C. Winkworth,
and P. Dreamer (b.1906)
Public Domain

The Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 10:16-17, 11:23-26)

**We do not presume to come to this your Table,
O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy:
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

While the bread and wine is taken please remain seated—singing, listening or praying.

**Almighty God, give us grace
that we may cast away the works of darkness,
and put upon us the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility;
that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty,
to judge both the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and ever.
Amen.**

Congregational Bible reading

Psalm 119:129-136 (page 515)

Prayers of intercession

Oh how strong the power of Jesus' name
it is stronger than any other name
Oh how sweet the victory that bore my shame
took the burden of my sins away

*Hallelujah what a Saviour
I owe everything to Him
Hallelujah what a Saviour
Hallelujah to my King*

Oh how great the kindness our God has shown
We were strangers, now we're called His own
His grace has welcomed the sinner home
Tender mercies lead us to the throne

Hallelujah what a Saviour ...

Oh what peace the Spirit of Jesus brings
through the trials He will carry me
And one day in heaven our eyes will meet
Filled with wonder all the saints will sing

Hallelujah what a Saviour ...

CCLI Song # 4956138
P Baloché / B Brown
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In Christ alone my hope is found,

He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this Solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save:
'til on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the World by darkness slain:
then bursting forth in glorious Day
up from the grave He rose again!
And as he stands in victory
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am His and He is mine –
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from His hand;
'til He returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

CCLI Song # 3350395
Keith Getty / Stuart Townend
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