



The Pink Candle of Joy

When the Angel Gabriel told Mary that a special child would be born to her she was filled with joy.
She sang a song that began with these words:
"My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour"

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are always happy to have visitors with us in Cregagh; and we welcome any who may be worshipping with us today. We would ask our visitors and members to remain seated at the end of the service until directed to leave by an usher.

It would be also appreciated if when entering church for the service that you sit in the pew as directed by the ushers and not request another seat – this arrangement is to ensure safety and social distancing. Please do not stop to chat in the church pews or aisles as you enter or leave church but you may do so in the church grounds, obviously observing social distancing and wearing your mask.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

This morning, children and adults are asked to leave their Christmas gifts under the Christmas tree before the service or as they leave. The gifts will be taken to the Belfast Central Mission on Monday morning for needy families in the city.

CANDLELIGHT ORDER OF SERVICE

This evening please pick up your order of service in the Church Porch or McIntyre Suite as you enter church and take it home with you afterwards.

CHURCH OFFERINGS

As the offering cannot be collected in the usual way during current services there are collection plates in the Church Vestibule and McIntyre Suite for your use.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

'World Development' (for PCI Moderator's Appeal) and 'Cregagh Christmas' (for Mission Projects) envelopes are in the pews for your use at any of the Christmas services.

YOU ARE INVITED.....

Coffee Bar will be open in the Allen Hall after this morning's service.

Christmas Refreshments will be served in the Allen Hall after this evening's service. Please remember to wear your face covering when moving around the hall and please only enjoy your refreshments when seated.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

The Zoom Bible Study will take place on Monday, as usual, at 7.00 p.m.

MORNING WATCH

Morning Watch will meet on Tuesday at 10.45 a.m. in the Session Room.



THE EVERGREENS

The Evergreens will meet on Wednesday at 12.00 noon in the Barbour Hall for their Christmas Lunch.

OFFICE HOURS

Rev McKenzie will be in the Minister's Room on Thursday from 6.30 – 8.30 p.m.

OPEN CHURCH

The church will be open for private prayer and meditation on Friday from 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon.

PRE CHRISTMAS WALK

The Walking Group will walk on Saturday meeting at 10.00 a.m. at Cairn Wood (21 Craigtanlet Road, BT23 4TE) Please speak to Robert McNair (07815 817411) if you would like to come or need directions.

NEXT SUNDAY

Youth Bible Class Christmas Service at 11.00 a.m.

Candlelight Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 7.00 p.m. (Repeat of this evening's service for those not attending today)

BLOBS

Blobs will meet on Tuesday week, 21st December at 9.30 a.m. in the McIntyre Suite.

CHRISTMAS DAY

The Christmas Day Family Service will be held at 9.00 a.m.

BOXING DAY

The service at 11.00 a.m. on Sunday 26th December will have as its theme: 'Christmas Day Leftovers'

NEW YEAR COMMUNION

The New Year Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed on Sunday 2nd January at 11.00 a.m.

Retiring Offering for the Benevolent Fund.

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES

Members are asked to note that there are only two more Sundays on which to bring their 2021 WFO, Building Fund and United Appeal contributions up to date.

The congregational financial books will close promptly on Sunday 26th December.

CHURCH PUBLICATIONS

This is the time of the year when subscriptions for church publications are due.

'Presbyterian Herald' Current and new subscribers please contact:

Joan Taylor 07791 150354.

'Wider World' Current and new subscribers please contact:

Dorothy Platt 07803 264286

KIRK SESSION DUTY

Elders on ushering/open and welcoming duties in December are: Anne Graham, Beth McNair, Robert McNair and Joan Taylor.



EMMANUEL MINISTRIES CALCUTTA

“I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped in any way to enable a total of 57 Christmas Door Decorations to be made. From those providing foliage, those who helping arranging, everyone who placed orders and all those who gave donations. A total of £1124 was raised and will make an incredible difference to EMC’s work with the Street Children, the Children who live on the Railway, the Slum Areas and the Boys and Girls in the Residential Homes.

Thank you all so much” (Maureen Mulligan)

MALAWI

CHIFUNDO3 Can you help to fill a box with much needed stationery supplies for Chifundo3 pre-school and our sponsored students in Malawi? Any donations of crayons, paper, biros, pencils, sharpeners etc will be gratefully received and can be left in the plastic box in the McIntyre Suite. For anyone trying to avoid busy shops there will also be a donations box available and either supplies will be purchased on your behalf or a contribution made towards the shipping cost of £25 per box.

We are hoping to send a container rather than transfer funds due to limitations of supplies and poor quality of materials than can be purchased in Malawi. Whilst PCI don’t send containers anymore we have found an alternative source. Prayers and thanks for your generosity. (The Malawi Working Group)

COVID UPDATE

In Cregagh we wish to create a worship environment that is both safe and welcoming.

While we would actively encourage all members to come to worship, believing it is safe to do so with the measures we have taken, we would also wish to highlight that no one should come to services if they have COVID symptoms. PCI have advised that one meter social distancing during services of worship be observed. Doors will open at 10:30am for 11.00 a.m. services and 6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m. services so ushers can guide folk to their seats. It is again now mandatory that face covering have to be worn at all times during services – entering and singing in church as well as when seated. Members are asked to register, due to ‘contact tracing’ and to ensure space and availability of seating by contacting the Clerk of Session, Michael Graham, on email: michaelgraham112@gmail.com or phone 07548635075. As before those who have registered will be asked to inform Michael if for whatever reason someone cannot attend so that the register can be as accurate as possible. It is strongly requested that members register by Thursday of each week.

KidZone warmly invite the children of the congregation to come along, this is an additional reason why registering by Thursday is helpful, so required preparations can take place. Crèche is available, but we would ask for the time being that a parent/carer accompany their child and wear a face covering while in the crèche room.

Bibles and hymnbooks have now been returned to the pews for your use. Unfortunately, by advice from Presbytery, pastoral visitation from the Minister is still to be limited to emergencies, bereavements or at special request. Indoor activities may take place in church buildings providing the necessary risk assessments are adhered to. Organisations are requested to contact our Congregational Secretary, Jim McCurry so that the risk assessments are adequate and confirmed.



WEEKLY NEWS SHEET

12th December 2021

The Third Sunday in Advent



*May the Christmas gifts remind you of God’s greatest gift, His only begotten Son
May the Christmas candles remind you of Him who is the ‘Light of the World’
May the Christmas trees remind you of another tree upon which He died for you
May the Christmas cheer remind you of Him who said ‘Be of good cheer’
May the Christmas bell remind you of the glorious proclamation of His birth
May the Christmas carols remind you of the song the angels sang, ‘Glory to God...’
May the Christmas season remind you in every way of Jesus Christ your King.*

TODAY’S SERVICES

Morning Service at 1100 a.m – KidZone Christmas Tree Gift Service
Evening Service at 7.00 p.m. – Candlelight Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Cregagh Presbyterian Church
102-104 Cregagh Road
Belfast BT6 0ER
Tel: 028 9045 5160
Website: cregaghpresbyterian.org

Minister: Rev Edward J B McKenzie
Tel: 07809 674068
Email: emckenzie@presbyterianireland.org

