

Notices

**Monthly church prayer meeting this Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 8pm**  
(not an Advent Service as previously advertised). Venue TBC.

**Fellowship Groups next meet on Tues 7 / Wed 8 / Thurs 9 December**  
To join a group please contact Andrew Grey.

**11-14s youth group tonight 6.30-8pm**

At Max and Lauren Fenn's home

**December and Christmas Dates...**

**Men's Breakfast next Saturday 4th December**

From 8.30-9.30am at Konch's cafe (near St Thomas' church). £5 per head for full English or vegetarian (includes hot drink). Email [steven.durrant4@gmail.com](mailto:steven.durrant4@gmail.com) to book a place.

**Great for friends and visitors: flyers now available at 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 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am <sup>Note time</sup> — Christmas Morning Service

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> 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 Christians**

A 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](mailto:treasurer@immanuelbrentwood.org)

**Weekly update e-mail and online address book:**

To be included please ask Caroline Evans ([admin@immanuelbrentwood.org](mailto:admin@immanuelbrentwood.org)) for a form.

## 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.

**While you are waiting for the service to begin, please familiarise yourself with the nearest emergency exit.**

**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.

**If you're new to the church or have a question...**

Speak to one of the team; send an email to [info@immanuelbrentwood.org](mailto: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**

*In completing this form, you agree that Immanuel Church Brentwood may store and use any personal details with which you supply us for the purpose of providing you information about Immanuel Church Brentwood.*

**Welcome and call to worship****Mark Smithers**

*"Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord.  
See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient  
about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient.  
Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand." (James 5:7-8)*

**Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;**

from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Dayspring from on high, appear;  
come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!  
O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth;  
"Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end;  
by his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;  
this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Verses 1,4 Charles Wesley, 1744, Public Domain;  
Verses 2–3, Mark E. Hunt, © 1978, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to you**  
to receive the food of your holy word.  
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;  
shape and fashion us in your likeness,  
that the light of Christ might be seen today  
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us  
all your purposes, for your glory.

Teach us Lord full obedience,  
holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
in the radiance of your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see  
your majestic love and authority.  
Words of power that can never fail;  
let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
that will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on your promises:  
and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built  
and the earth is filled with your glory.

CCLI Song # 4615235  
Keith Getty / Stuart Townend  
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**Final prayer and blessing**

Sermon notes

You can listen to Sunday sermons online—[www.immanuelbrentwood.org](http://www.immanuelbrentwood.org)  
Next Sunday we will be looking at Luke chapter 1:39-56

**You're the Word of God the Father,**  
from before the world began;  
every star and every planet  
has been fashioned by your hand.  
All creation holds together  
by the power of your voice:  
let the skies declare your glory,  
let the land and seas rejoice!

*You're the author of creation,  
you're the Lord of every man;  
and your cry of love rings out  
across the lands.*

Yet you left the gaze of angels,  
came to seek and save the lost  
and exchanged the joy of heaven  
for the anguish of a cross.  
With a prayer you fed the hungry,  
with a word you stilled the sea.  
Yet how silently you suffered  
that the guilty may go free.

With a shout you rose victorious,  
wresting victory from the grave  
and ascended into heaven  
leading captives in your wake.  
Now you stand before the Father  
interceding for your own.  
From each tribe and tongue and nation  
you are leading sinners home.

CCLI Song # 3709898  
Keith Getty / Stuart Townend  
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## 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 Lord my Rock and my Redeemer**

Greatest treasure of my longing soul  
My God like You there is no other  
True delight is found in You alone  
Your grace a well too deep to fathom  
Your love exceeds the heavens' reach  
Your truth a fount of perfect wisdom  
My highest good and my unending need

2. O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer  
Strong defender of my weary heart  
My sword to fight the cruel deceiver  
And my shield against his hateful darts  
My song when enemies surround me  
My hope when tides of sorrow rise  
My joy when trials are abounding  
Your faithfulness my refuge in the night

3. O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer  
Gracious Saviour of my ruined life  
My guilt and cross laid on Your shoulders  
In my place You suffered bled and died  
You rose the grave and death are conquered  
You broke my bonds of sin and shame  
O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer  
May all my days bring glory to Your Name

CCLI Song 096627 Nathan Stiff  
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## Congregational Bible reading

## Psalm 119:121-128 (page 515)

## Prayers of intercession

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.  
Amen.

### **1. O great God of highest heaven**

Occupy my lowly heart  
Own it all and reign supreme  
Conquer every rebel power  
Let no vice or sin remain  
That resists Your holy war  
You have loved and purchased me  
Make me Yours forevermore

2. I was blinded by my sin  
Had no ears to hear Your voice  
Did not know Your love within  
Had no taste for heaven's joys  
Then Your Spirit gave me life  
Opened up Your Word to me  
Through the gospel of Your Son  
Gave me endless hope and peace

3. Help me now to live a life  
That's dependent on Your grace  
Keep my heart and guard my soul  
From the evils that I face  
You are worthy to be praised  
With my every thought and deed  
O great God of highest heaven  
Glorify Your Name through me

CCLI Song # 4804015  
Bob Kauflin  
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