

## Copplestone Methodist Church – Mission Statement

As a Church ...

- Our purpose is to enable all people to respond to the invitation to follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.
- We aim to reach out and share God's love and grace in our local community, serving people of all ages.
- Through prayer, worship and Bible-based learning together, we seek to be Christ-centred people, led by God's Spirit, committed to growth and equipped for mission and service.

*Our offertories will be taken during the welcome time (prior to first song). If you are a visitor please do not feel obliged to give, simply pass the gift bag to the next person.*

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*To view our circuit website: [www.ringsashcircuit.org.uk](http://www.ringsashcircuit.org.uk)*

Sunday 22nd March 2020

# Welcome to

# Copplestone

# Methodist Church

We welcome you as you join us today for our services of praise and worship. If you would like any help or advice please speak to a Service Coordinator or Leader, or to our Minister Rev John Wiltshire.



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

## Thought for the week

I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress,  
My God, in whom I trust"  
Psalm 91:2

## Sunday 22nd March

**CORONA VIRUS** - It is with great sadness that in line with Government and UK Methodist Church advice we are suspending all church services and other gatherings with immediate effect until further notice. We will update you as and when the situation changes.

The Gospel remains "the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes" – Romans 1v.16

Plymouth Central Hall will be live-streaming their worship services - there will be no congregation present, but there will be Worship, Preaching and Prayer - live at 11.00 am each Sunday via Facebook Live and You Tube. Plymouth Central Hall stands firmly within the Methodist Evangelical tradition

GOD IS STILL ON THE THRONE,  
AND HE WILL REMEMBER HIS OWN;  
THOUGH TRIALS MAY PRESS US  
AND BURDENS DISTRESS US,  
HE NEVER WILL LEAVE US ALONE;

GOD IS STILL ON THE THRONE,  
AND HE WILL REMEMBER HIS OWN;  
HIS PROMISE IS TRUE,  
HE WILL NOT FORGET YOU,  
GOD IS STILL ON THE THRONE.

Dear Friends

Greetings in the strong and precious Name of Jesus

The national response to the Coronavirus has developed very significantly this week. We remain in a very fluid situation

It is with great sadness that I need to inform you that, in line with Government policy, following National Methodist direction, and a meeting of Superintendent Ministers with Revd Graham Thompson this morning (18.03.2020) – the last for a while! , in consultation with Circuit Leadership Team and local Church Leadership Teams, we have had no option but to suspend for the time being all Church services and events. This includes all Sunday activities, Children and Youth events, Café's, Lunches, business meetings, etc. In other words, all non-essential contact. More information is at <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/coronavirus-guidance/>

This does not mean however that we stop praying for one another, our communities, nation and world at this challenging time; indeed we very much need to do so – GOD is still on the throne! It has been suggested that whenever possible, wherever we are, we pause at 12 midday for prayer. I commend this to you.

We will be making available as soon as we can via the Internet and hard copies for those not on the Internet a suggested Order of Service for home worship, a written Bible based reflection / message each week, which I will prepare, and Internet Links to live-streaming of Sermons and Prayers.

If you require specific support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Churches together in England have called us to prayer for the situation this coming Sunday. Further information can be found at <https://www.cte.org.uk/Publisher/Article.aspx?ID=569010> We will also seek to produce hard copies for any requiring them.

Inevitably this is a very difficult situation for many of us – please continue to pray for our four congregations , leadership (local and Circuit), especially those working within the NHS, as we seek to be Christ's Church in a different way over the coming days.

With all Best Wishes and Love in Christ

John W H Wiltshire Rev, Andy Cooper, Chris Down, Paul Warren.