

Yn Agglish Haasilagh ayns Mannin

**The Methodist Church**  
in the Isle of Man



Twinned with the Methodist Church of Sierra Leone

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To the Methodist People of the Isle of Man.

Dear friends,

Along with this letter you will have received, the Manx Methodists at Service Together (MMAST) sheet for the 21st of February. This sheet has a dual purpose. If you are connecting with the recorded services on our YouTube channel at [www.methodist.org.im](http://www.methodist.org.im) they will help you to follow the service. If you are not able to do this they act as a stand-alone resource to assist you in your devotions. New versions of MMAST are added each Sunday and can be accessed at any time. I am grateful to all those who are doing the work necessary to make this possible.

“O love that wilt not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee :  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
that in thine ocean depths its flow  
may richer, fuller be.”

George Matheson (1842–1906)

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We are half way through February which is, in many ways, the darkest month of the year. Winter is still hanging on and everyone is longing for spring but there are signs of hope. The pandemic numbers are going down. The vaccination numbers are going up and we have snowdrops in the garden. Most of all, the Love of God will never let us go.

These days we are being woken in the morning by the seagulls on our chimney stack who are very aware that spring is on its way. With all our cares and concerns nature simply keeps going. The created order, it seems, is not brought down by the news but, maybe, marches to the beat of a different drum which is above and beyond our passing concerns.

Even as Christians it's not always easy to stay positive in the midst of the struggle. That simple piece of wisdom “This too shall pass” is often an appropriate reminder that the cares which crowd in on us today will one day be a distant memory. “Today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday and all is well”.

**As the Methodist Church in the Isle of Man  
we are called to love and serve in response to God's love in Jesus and help others  
to enter into a relationship with him.**

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This doesn't mean however, that we should always put on a brave face. Sometimes the question, how are you? is the most important question we can ask, especially if we ask it and then listen to the answer.

Christian fellowship is about being there for each other or, as another hymn writer you may have heard of put it:

“Didst thou not make us one,  
that we might one remain,  
together travel on,  
and share our joy and pain,  
till all thy utmost goodness prove,  
and rise renewed in perfect love ?”

Charles Wesley (1707–1788)

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Or, as St. Paul put it in his letter to the Galatians;

“Bear one another's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfil the law of Christ”.  
(Galatians 6:2)

This Sunday we begin our journey through Lent. Let's continue to look out for signs of spring, signs of hope, signs of God at work amongst us and to look out for each other.

God Bless.



Please note that we are distributing this mailing, to those who do not have email, through a commercial mailing service who have offered to help us with this during this crisis. This is a temporary arrangement and does not mean that any data is compromised, however, if for any reason you would prefer not to receive this mailing, or if you are able to receive it by email, please let the office know by calling 01624 625408

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