

Sundays in December
at Westcote Methodist Chapel

- 6th 11am **Morning Service with Holy Communion**
led by Rev Stephen Bywater
- 13th 11am **Carol Service** led Rev Fred Ireland
- 20th **3pm** **Carol Service** led by Mr Tony Gibson
- 27th 11am **Joint Service at St Mary's, Church Westcote**
led by Mr Tony Gibson

As seating is limited for services in the Chapel, please could you let Tony know if you plan to attend. This way no-one will be turned away at the door. Thank you.

A full risk assessment has been completed.

Please Note: You must wear a face covering (mask or visor)

WESTCOTE CHRISTMAS POST BOX

We regret there will **NOT** be a Post Box at Chapel this year. We suggest you might like to put one card to everyone on the noticeboard instead. If you wish to give individual cards, please distribute them yourself.

Thank you.



CUR:ve

Churches in Upper Rissington: Valuing Everyone

Email: sendtocurve@gmail.com

Check out our website for podcasts, newsletters and more

westcotemethodists.co.uk

THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP

There is no Thursday Fellowship in December.

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WESTCOTE METHODIST NEWSLETTER

**WISHING YOU ALL A
HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A
PEACEFUL NEW YEAR**



**Join us for one of our
Carol Services**

*The Carol Service offering on 20 December will go to
OPEN DOORS, who support persecuted Christians in
Syria and the Middle East*

No. 371

DECEMBER 2020

WESTCOTE METHODIST CHAPEL

www.westcotemethodists.co.uk

SUPERINTENDENT MINISTER: Rev Rose Westwood
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Monthly Prayer Breakfast

No Prayer Breakfast this month

If you have any prayer requests, please let one of the stewards know.

WHAT IF?

What if Mary had said “No” to the angel – too young for such a responsibility. We would’ve been left with no story to tell, of how she bore Jesus for you and for me.

What if Joseph had refused to take Mary, not believing what the angel had proclaimed – He would’ve missed all the joy and the glory, surrounding the Child which the angel had named.

What if the shepherds had not bothered to look, to see if the angel’s news that night was true.

They would never have known what’s in the Good Book – a Saviour was born in Bethlehem for you.

What if the wise men had ignored the bright star, that took them on their journey to Bethlehem.

They would only then have pondered from afar, on the royal gifts they would bring for the King.

What if the innkeeper had said “Yes, there’s room”, and given the couple a bed for the night –

He would’ve been blessed by Jesus in his home, and could have welcomed the new babe with his heart.

What if you hear the good news of Jesus’ birth, but then fail to realise it is life’s key.

When eventually God asks about your worth, will you say “I didn’t know He came for me”?

So don’t miss the importance this Christmas tide, of the baby’s birth two thousand years ago.

Don’t make excuses – what if, no time, too old – accept Him as your Saviour – please, don’t say “No”.
HJB

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

As I write, a vaccine for Covid 19 has been produced, so there is a glimmer of hope that better days lie ahead, and Christmas won’t be cancelled after all! I suppose that all depends on what our expectations for Christmas are. Could it be that if we are unable to do everything that would be our normal practise, we will have more time to think about the real significance and meaning of Christmas. I love the Message translation of John 1:14, “The Word became flesh and blood and moved into our neighbourhood”! One of the names given to Jesus is Emmanuel, which means ‘God with us’. You couldn’t invent this story. I love a line of Wesley’s hymn, “Our God contracted to a span incomprehensibly made man”! Truth is stranger than fiction. However incomprehensible the Jesus story is, the fact remains millions of lives have been transformed by faith in Him, his birth, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension and his coming kingdom. The message of Christmas offers us hope, joy and peace if we open our hearts to Him. May this be your personal experience.

Happy Christmas

Tony

**He will be called Immanuel, which means “God with us”.
Matthew 1 v 23**