



# **For those leading worship** Released: Nov 2010

*We pray that God will bless you during your preparation for and participation in worship at Christchurch. Please contact the 'Worship Contact' in the first instance if you need any help. Your choice of music, and any other requirements, should be passed on by the **preceding Wednesday evening***

## **OVERVIEW**

Christchurch is a united church of all ages, with a vision to be 'led by the Spirit, 'working in the community' and 'bringing people to Christ'. We worship God with all that we are, and music is fundamental to the way that we worship. More details about Christchurch and all its services of worship can be found on our web site: <http://www.christchurchhitchin.org.uk>. Some guidelines are given below to help in your planning for this particular style of worship.

## **SERVICES AT 9 AM**

This first service of the day is aimed at those who appreciate a short service to start the day, lasting no more than 30min. It uses traditional hymns (usually two), prayers and a short sermon. Our aim is that this service is brief, consistent and focused. The congregation will be small (~30), enabling a more intimate experience of community. Most, but not all, will be retired adults. There is the potential for following a theme and being a resource for house groups, and you will be informed if your service fits within a current theme. Otherwise a reading from the Revised Common Lectionary should be used. That chosen will be indicated on the weekly notice sheet and displayed before the service starts. Once a month there will be Communion, which is usually taken all together at the Rail, with some kneeling and others standing behind.

For some, the attraction of worship at this time leaves the rest of the day free for other important activities – such as visiting family or supporting children in sporting events. For others, the traditional style is highly valued, as other services take a more blended approach or follow different styles.

Refreshments are served afterwards in the church hall, and once a month, when Communion is celebrated, there will be a more substantial breakfast.

## **PARTICIPATION**

**BIBLE READING** - People in the congregation usually read from the Bible. The preacher should lead prayers of intercession, drawing from a prayer book in which individual concerns have been noted. Each week we also pray for several members of our congregation in turn so that over a period of a year we pray for all our members. These names, which will be provided, should be offered usually along with our Offertory.

**MUSIC** - The congregation enjoys singing and values hymns from a variety of sources. *Hymns and Psalms* is our current hymn book. An organist will provide the music, and a piano is always available.

## **FACILITIES AND RESOURCES**

**AUDIO-VISUAL** - There is an excellent amplification system, operated from the sound desk. Pre-recorded music (e.g. CD) can be played. All hymn/song words are projected. We can also project prayers, responses, Bible readings, DVDs, video cassettes, PowerPoint presentations, video avi files, and still pictures. We can handle any Office format. Advice on the use of anything more technical than projecting hymns or readings can be offered. It is essential that all electronic files are provided ahead of Sunday morning (i.e. usually by Wednesday evening) to allow set-up and checks to be done, otherwise we cannot guarantee compatibility, nor will there necessarily be time to load during the pre-service run-through.

**COPYRIGHT AND RECORDINGS** - We are licensed with Christian Music Association (CMA) and hold a Christian Copyright Licence (CCL) for hymn and song production, also a Music Reproduction Licence (MRL), Video Licence (CVL), and Performing Right Society (PRS) Church Licence. Some sermons, unless the preacher requests otherwise, are available as MP3 files on our web site - it would be appreciated if you could supply a title for your sermon.

## **EXPENSES**

Christchurch will reimburse your expenses if you are not already expecting to reclaim these from the Methodist Circuit (which is the normal system for appointments arranged under the Methodist preaching plan). The steward should mention this to you, but please ask if they do not.

## **CHRISTCHURCH CONTACTS**

**Worship contact** – Sara Crowley (aka Sara Mole) [s.mole@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:s.mole@ucl.ac.uk) 01462 436581 who can advise and will pass on any requirements.