



For those leading worship Released: Jan 2011

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**, or at least a **week/fortnight before** if you require anything which may require preparation and a rehearsal.

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, however, we welcome creativity.

SERVICES AT 6 PM

Our evening services explore and experiment with distinctive styles to develop and deepen our worship. This service is attended by 30-60 people. A style ranging from traditional to meditative, from a focus on healing to café-style, and which is set for a particular Sunday. Visiting preachers are usually planned for a 'traditional style. You will be advised if a style that is not traditional is planned.

Traditional: A reflective style is usually appreciated. The service is 1 hour in length, and young people will be using the adjacent hall from 7 pm. Readings usually follow the Revised Common Lectionary. Those chosen will be indicated on the weekly notice sheet and displayed before the service starts.

PARTICIPATION

BIBLE READING AND PRAYER - People in the congregation usually read from the Bible. The preacher usually lead prayers of intercession, including drawing from a prayer book in which individual concerns have been noted, but you can request someone to lead these prayers if you wish. 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 are recorded in a book, should be offered usually along with our Offertory.

MUSIC - In this style of evening service, more traditional hymns and well established songs are appreciated. A musician who plays both organ and piano will provide the music. (Overall Christchurch draws on hymns and songs from a wide variety of sources - Spring Harvest, Soul Survivor, Hillsong, Iona Community, Taizé, in addition to *Songs of Fellowship* and *Hymns and Psalms*, and including songs that have been written by Christchurch Members).

FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

AUDIO-VISUAL - There is an excellent amplification system, operated from the sound desk at the rear of the church. Pre-recorded music (e.g. CD) can be played. All hymn/song words are projected, but a few printed booklets, together with *Hymns & Psalms*, are provided to those who are unable to see the projection. 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 01462 436581 who can advise and will pass on any requirements.