# The Greatest Commandment

**WORSHIP FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL THEME 2022/2023** 





## The Greatest Commandment

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## **WELCOME**

## Welcome to worship resources that take a global Church perspective on this year's presidential theme 'The Greatest Commandment'.

There are two services, each with fresh and inspirational material from Methodists working around the globe.

Service One should be led by a presbyter, deacon or local preacher, and can be adapted for all-age worship.

Service Two is a Local Arrangement service, which can be led by a worship leader, steward or other church member.

The services can be used on any Sunday. We suggest church councils communicate with local preachers' meetings to agree on a date for using them. The two services are different, so a congregation should be able to use both during the year.

There are also PowerPoint presentations of both services. To access these, go to **www.methodist.org.uk/global-relationships/resources** 

May God bless us as we worship and grow, inspired by God's people across the world.

## **CONTENTS**

#### President and Vice-President's Introduction

#### Service One

- Suggested Order of Service
- All-age Materials
- Suggested Prayers
- Sermon Outline, with reflections on the readings, stories from Partner Churches and ideas to apply those reflections and stories

#### Service Two – A Local Arrangement service

#### Global Relationships and the World Mission Fund

#### How to Give to the World Mission Fund

**Please note:** These worship resources are for your church whether or not you make an offering to the World Mission Fund (WMF) on the Sunday you use them. Whilst any offering to support the Methodist Church in Britain's Partner Churches and Organisations, and our Mission Partners, in their mission, would be gratefully received, we hope these worship resources will be a blessing to you.

### HOW CAN WE CARE FOR THOSE AROUND US GLOBALLY?



**Pray.** We can pray for our global Methodist community by using the Methodist Prayer Handbook and these worship resources



**Serve.** We can serve overseas through the Methodist Church or be enriched in our twinning relationships.



**Give.** We can also donate to the World Mission Fund.

The World Mission Fund currently invests £250,000 in emergency grants of solidarity for our partners each year. It costs on average £48,000 per year to support a mission partner. Between now and August 2024, we are offering one-off capacity-building grants to our partners to help their mission thrive thereafter, and we need your ongoing help to support this work.

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### **PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to worship resources that take a global Church perspective of this year's presidential theme 'The Greatest Commandment'.

Each year, the Methodist Conference elects the President and the Vice-President to preside over the following year's Conference. They then spend that year representing the Methodist Church as they travel around the Connexion and abroad. The role of President of the Methodist Conference is reserved for presbyters and that of Vice-President for lay people or deacons.

For more about the Presidency and to follow the Presidential Diary during 2022/2023 please visit **www.methodist.org.uk/pandvp** 



#### The President writes...

I was thrilled to make in person visits to our partners in Belize and Guyana, once the restrictions caused by the

pandemic were lifted. This year's theme is 'The Greatest Commandment' and the love of God and neighbour were particular emphases of the visits. We were in Belize over the Easter weekend and Guyana during Easter week as we focused on the God who loves us so much that God sent Jesus to be the Saviour of the world.

#### **Revd Graham Thompson**



#### The Vice-President writes...

In an online meeting with mission partner and United Church in

Zambia Health Secretary, Gina Oliver, we had an inspiring conversation about the work of the hospitals and clinics run by the Church, often in remote areas and the many challenges they face, not least the lack of resources and essential hospital equipment. The United Church in Zambia is growing and there is a focus on strengthening support for struggling communities. May we always be open to learning from each other as we share the challenges of being a global Christian family.

#### Anthony Boateng