

## Memorial Carol Service

**Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> of December 2025, 6pm**

**at Handsworth Methodist Church**

**289A Handsworth Rd, S13 9BN**



You are warmly invited to this Memorial Carol Service, whether you have lost someone recently or a long time ago.

This service is an opportunity to remember those who have died and acknowledge our grief.

There will be time and space to light candles and hear the names of loved ones read.

We will give thanks to God for lives lived, and we will ask God for support on our different bereavement journeys and for comfort in our grief and sadness.

The service will include some well-known carols and of course the Christmas story and a short reflection.

After the service, there will be time to share stories over a cup of tea or coffee and a mince pie.

During Advent and Christmas our families and friends are very much on our minds.

This is often a time when we miss them most, especially when this year is the first time without them.

I hope that this service can offer some comfort and space to reflect in the knowledge that others are also grieving.

I look forward to seeing you all!!

*Tender God who knows our griefs, comfort all who mourn this day.*

*Be with those whose loved ones returned in their dreams and who on waking must remember again.*

*Be with them when the world feels large and harsh and cruel;  
when people still get on buses and go to work in the morning,  
and the news plays the same theme at six o'clock in the evening.  
Contain them when their longing feels too vast to be held within,  
and the sky does not feel large enough to rage at.*

*Meet us where we hurt this day.*

*Bear our pain and anger, our tears and our loneliness.*

*Bear the questions that have no answers and in our darkness, give us hope.*

Prayer by Tess Ward