

Dear Friends,

The Government has advised today that those aged over 70 and those with compromised immune systems should stay at home.

**We are now advising that Methodist services of worship should be suspended immediately.** As it will be difficult to inform all those who may have been going to attend tomorrow please ensure that someone is present to meet any who arrive for worship and to offer appropriate spiritual and pastoral care.

**Rev Robyn Allen-Gouge will still lead a brief service which will be available online** <http://takapuna.methodist.org.nz/live-stream> **from 10am tomorrow Sunday 22nd March. This will continue to be available for viewing.**

*A prayer from the Methodist Church in Britain*

God of all hope we call on you today.

We pray for those who are living in fear:

Fear of illness, fear for loved ones, fear of others reactions to them.

May your Spirit give us a sense of calmness and peace.

We pray

For those needing to make decisions in order to care for others

For those who will feel more isolated by not being able to attend worship.

Grant us your wisdom.

Loving God, we remember that you have promised that

Nothing will separate us from your love demonstrated to us in Jesus Christ.

Help us turn our eyes, hearts and minds to you.

Amen

Grace and peace

Rev David Bush

General Secretary

Methodist Church of New Zealand