

St James', Wulfstan Way, Cambridge

The Weekly Sheet

13 December 2020



Today:

8.00 am	Eucharist in Church
9.30 am	Children's Activity via Zoom
10.00 am	Sunday Service via Zoom

This week we welcome Rev'd Ros Hunt who will be leading our 8 o'clock service in Church. Sunday 10 o'clock services will continue via Zoom. Mid-week Eucharists will be held in Church. Morning Prayer will continue via Zoom until further notice. We have now planned our services leading up to Christmas – please see page 6 for the details.

This week:

Individual private prayer and reflection. The church will be open between 10.00 am and 12 noon on Monday. On Wednesday, after the Eucharist service, the church remains open for quiet prayer until 12 noon.

You are very welcome to come in to church for some quiet time. Please respect social distancing rules of 2 metres, wear a mask, and use hand sanitiser upon entering and leaving the church. Please do not touch Bibles and other literature.

Morning Prayer will be held via Zoom at 8.45 am on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. (Ask Steve or Anne for the link).

The **Mid-week Eucharist** is on Wednesday at 10.15 am in Church

The Advent Reading and Compline Group will take place on Wednesday at 8 pm via Zoom with a special theme for Advent: we will be using the new book *Frequencies of God* by Carys Walsh, which uses the poetry of RS Thomas to reflect on the Advent season. We will still include Compline as part of our time together. The Zoom link will be sent out early next week along with the poem that we'll be looking at.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in the different ways that we are maintaining our work as a church community.

Collect for today

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today's readings are:

Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-end; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24; John 1.6-8, 19-28

Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-end

The Good News of Deliverance

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the / fortunes of / Zion,
then were / we like / those who / dream.
Then was our mouth / filled with / laughter
and our / tongue with / songs of / joy.
Then said they a/mong the / nations,
'The / Lord has done / great things / for them'.
The Lord has indeed done / great things / for us,
and / therefore / we re/joyiced.
Restore again our / fortunes, O / Lord,
as the / river beds / of the / desert.
Those who / sow in / tears
shall / reap with / songs of / joy.
Those who go out weeping, / bearing the / seed,
will come back with shouts of joy,
/ bearing their / sheaves / with them.

1 Thessalonians 5.16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

John 1.6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

The Testimony of John the Baptist

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,

“Make straight the way of the Lord”’,
as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, ‘Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?’ John answered them, ‘I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.’ This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Readings for next Sunday, 20 December (4th Sunday of Advent) are:

2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16; Canticle: ‘Magnificat’; Romans 16.25-end; Luke 1.26-38

For the details of our **Christmas Services**, please see page 6. You will note that on Sunday 20 December, in place of our usual 10 o’clock Zoom service, we will be holding our Carol Service via Zoom instead.

Christmas Cards. Please don’t post cards to members of the congregation via the church this year as they are unlikely to be collected.

Advent Calendar of Giving. Also known as a reverse Advent Calendar ... the idea is that instead of opening windows as we approach Christmas, you cross them off and put an item for the food Hub in a bag or box each day.

Anne has prepared some bags and instructions. It is not too late to pick one up from church on Friday between 3 and 4.30 pm, or Saturday morning 10-10.30 am if you would like to take part. There is no rush to return the bags as we are asking that they are returned in January.



St James' has regularly supported the **Women's Refuge** at Christmas by donating gifts. Due to the risks posed by COVID-19, the Women's Refuge is currently unable to accept donations of physical items, and have closed their Amazon wish list. However, they would greatly appreciate donations of money at this time so that they can keep supporting women and children to meet their needs.

If you wish to support them, please use the donation link on their website

<https://cambridgewa.org.uk/seasonalgifts.php> or send a donation by cheque made

payable to *Cambridge Women's Aid* and send it to CWA, PO Box 302, Cambridge, CB1 1EA. Thank you.

Message from Jennifer Day. I am very grateful for all the music Grae and the choir have been providing over the past months and am so glad we will be able to have a carol service. In case anyone would also like to enjoy a **Nine Lessons and Carols Service**, may I recommend one to you. During the pandemic I have been doing lots of singing and recording with the Self Isolation Choir, a body of singers from around the world. We have recorded a full carol service, which will include some familiar carols, some less known and some numbers from Messiah. If you want to view and listen, the live service is at 5pm on 20th December, but should be available after that as well. This poster gives the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P53dr0Jo40s&feature=youtu.be>

Food Hub. In the New Year the Food Hub will continue operating on a Saturday morning between 10.30 am and 12.30 pm here at St James'. In the run up to Christmas and the New Year, there are some changes to opening times:

There will be an additional weekday session on Wednesday 23 December, times to be advised, (but no hub on Boxing Day, 26 December).

The hub will then open again on Wednesday 30 December but will then not be open again until Saturday 9 January.

The food remains a basic food package ideally for those who are either struggling to pay for provisions or who cannot get to the shops or book an online delivery.

You can continue to donate to the Food hub and donations should be dropped off at St James' on Friday afternoons between 3.00 pm and 4.30 pm – thank you. Look on the Queen Edith Community Forum website to find more details about the food hub and to see a list of the most needed items and how to donate financially.

Geoff Heathcock's home-based **RNLI** shop is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons between 2.00 and 4.00 pm at 52 Queen Edith's Way. 01223 244901.

Caroline is working from home, and has access to the office phone and email, so please do contact her as you would normally.

Phone line. The Church of England central team have supported the release of the Daily Hope phone line. Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. Find out more here - <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-parishes/daily-hope-phone-line>

Services for the week leading to Christmas

Sunday 20th

- 8.00 am Eucharist in church
- 10.00 am Christmas Carol Service via Zoom

Monday 21st

- 8.45 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

Tuesday 22nd

- 8.45 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 10.15 am Eucharist in church



Wednesday 23rd

- 8.45 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 8.00 pm Advent Reading and Compline Group via Zoom

Thursday 24th, Christmas Eve,

- 8.45 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 4.00 pm Christingle Service, outside in church garden
- 11.00 pm Midnight Mass*, in church (by reservation only)

Friday 25th, Christmas Day

- 8.00 am Eucharist in church* (by reservation only)
- 10.00 am Christmas Morning Service via Zoom

Services marked * require pre-registration. Please email s.rothwell3@btinternet.com

Zoom links will be sent out via the Weekly Update email

Prayer for Friends and Congregation of St James'

Sunday	Ann and Geoff Heathcock
Monday	David Heslam
Tuesday	Beryl Hobbs and family
Wednesday	Ruth Holdstock, John Griffiths, Matilda and Theo
Thursday	Jean Holland
Friday	Christina Hood, Elena and Lukas
Saturday	Geoff Howard

Contacts

Priest-in-charge	Rev'd Steve Rothwell 246419 s.rothwell3@btinternet.com
Curate	Rev'd Anne Strauss stjamescurate@gmail.com
Churchwardens	Pam Butler, 07745 591235 pambutler27@hotmail.com Hatty Harris, 01223 504720 harrishatty458@gmail.com
Pastoral Assistants	Mary Calladine, (01223) 246742 Rosemary Monk, (01223) 246421 rem66@btinternet.com
Director of Music	position vacant
The Music Group	Grae Worster, 846295 mgw1@cam.ac.uk
Safeguarding Officer	Jill Bradley, 07971 013645 happybeadsuk@gmail.com
Church Office:	246419 (Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9.15 am - 1.15 pm)
e-mail:	stjameschurchcambridge@yahoo.co.uk
Website:	stjamescambridge.org.uk

Weekly Church Activities – *currently suspended*

Junior Choir Practice	Sundays, 11.15 am – 12 noon
Choir Practice	Mondays 6.30 pm—7.30 pm
Meditation Group	Fridays 1.30 pm—2.00 pm

Community Activities – *currently suspended*

Beavers (6-8 yrs)	16thcambridgebeavers@gmail.com
Cubs (8-11 yrs, QE Schl)	Stephen Harrison, 07548 765421
Scouts (10½ - 14 yrs, QE Schl)	16thcambridgescouts@gmail.com

Our parish magazine **Crosspiece** is available on the website.

If you are ordering goods from **Amazon**, please remember to use the Amazon link on the St James' website fundraising page. It doesn't cost you any more but gives St James a percentage of the price you pay.