

St James', Wulfstan Way, Cambridge

# *The* Weekly Sheet

6 December 2020

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent



### Today:

8.00 am Eucharist in Church  
10.00 am All Age service via Zoom

Now that the lockdown has come to a close we can plan for our services in the run up to Christmas.

We will once more be holding 8 o'clock Sunday Eucharists (please remember to contact Steve on [s.rothwell3@btinternet.com](mailto:s.rothwell3@btinternet.com) to reserve a space) and mid-week Eucharists in Church. Sunday 10 o'clock services will continue via Zoom.

Morning Prayer will continue via Zoom until further notice.

### This week:

**Individual private prayer and reflection.** The church will be open between 10.00 am and 12 noon on Monday and Wednesday.

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.

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## Collect for today

Almighty God,  
purify our hearts and minds,  
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as  
    judge and saviour  
we may be ready to receive him,  
who is our Lord and our God.

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## Today's readings are:

Isaiah 40.1-11; Psalm 85.1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3.8-15a; Mark 1.1-8

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## Isaiah 40.1-11

### God's People Are Comforted

Comfort, O comfort my people,  
    says your God.  
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
    and cry to her  
that she has served her term,  
    that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand  
    double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:  
'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
    make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
Every valley shall be lifted up,  
    and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
    and the rough places a plain.  
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
    and all people shall see it together,  
    for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!'  
    And I said, 'What shall I cry?'  
All people are grass,  
    their constancy is like the flower of the field.  
The grass withers, the flower fades,  
    when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
    surely the people are grass.  
The grass withers, the flower fades;  
    but the word of our God will stand for ever.  
Get you up to a high mountain,  
    O Zion, herald of good tidings;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
    O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,

lift it up, do not fear;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
‘Here is your God!’  
See, the Lord God comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.  
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead the mother sheep.

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## **Psalm 85.1-2, 8-13**

Lord, you were gracious / to your / land;  
you re/stored the / fortunes of / Jacob.  
You forgave the of/fence of your / people  
And / covered / all their / sins.  
I will listen to what the Lord / God will / say,  
for he shall speak peace to his people and to the faithful,  
that they / turn not a/gain to / folly.  
Truly, his salvation is near to / those who / fear him,  
that his / glory may / dwell in our / land.  
Mercy and truth are / met to/gether,  
righteousness and / peace have / kissed each / other;  
Truth shall spring / up from the / earth  
And / righteousness look / down from / heaven.  
The Lord will indeed give / all that is / good,  
and our / land will / yield its / increase.  
Righteousness shall / go be/fore him  
and di/rect his / steps in the / way.

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## **2 Peter 3.8-15a**

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

## Final Exhortation and Doxology

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him,

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## Mark 1.1-8

### The Proclamation of John the Baptist

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,  
'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
"Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight" ',

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

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## Readings for next Sunday, 13 December (3rd Sunday of Advent) are:

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

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If you have a favourite **Christmas Carol** and would be willing to record yourself talking about why you enjoy it and what it means to you, please let Steve/Anne know. We are compiling a special resource for Christmas. Thank you.

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.



## Services for the week leading to Christmas

### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>

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

### Monday 21<sup>st</sup>

- 8.45 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

### Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>

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



### Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>

- 8.45 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

### Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>, 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 25<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:s.rothwell3@btinternet.com)

Zoom links will be sent out via the Weekly Update email

## Prayer for Friends and Congregation of St James'

Sunday	Caroline and Tony Dickson and Helen
Monday	Judy and Ron Ferrari and family
Tuesday	Denise Finlay and family
Wednesday	Matthew Gaskarth, Alison Maguire, Edward, William, Charlotte and Henry
Thursday	Maureen Gibbs
Friday	Alison and Graham Giles
Saturday	Hatty Harris

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## Contacts

Priest-in-charge	Rev'd Steve Rothwell 246419 <a href="mailto:s.rothwell3@btinternet.com">s.rothwell3@btinternet.com</a>
Curate	Rev'd Anne Strauss <a href="mailto:stjamescurate@gmail.com">stjamescurate@gmail.com</a>
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Pastoral Assistants	Mary Calladine, (01223) 246742 Rosemary Monk, (01223) 246421 <a href="mailto:rem66@btinternet.com">rem66@btinternet.com</a>
Director of Music	position vacant
The Music Group	Grae Worster, 846295 <a href="mailto:mgw1@cam.ac.uk">mgw1@cam.ac.uk</a>
Safeguarding Officer	Jill Bradley, 07971 013645 <a href="mailto:happybeadsuk@gmail.com">happybeadsuk@gmail.com</a>
Church Office:	246419 (Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9.15 am -1.15 pm)
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Website:	<a href="http://stjamescambridge.org.uk">stjamescambridge.org.uk</a>

## 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)	<a href="mailto:16thcambridgebeavers@gmail.com">16thcambridgebeavers@gmail.com</a>
Cubs (8-11 yrs, QE Schl)	Stephen Harrison, 07548 765421
Scouts (10½ - 14 yrs, QE Schl)	<a href="mailto:16thcambridgescouts@gmail.com">16thcambridgescouts@gmail.com</a>

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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.