St James', Wulfstan Way, Cambridge

The Weekly Sheet

15 December 2024

THE 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Today:

8.00 am **Fucharist** 10.00 am

Parish Eucharist

Welcome to our services.

If you are visiting St James for the first time please introduce yourself to the vicar or a sidesperson (the person who may have greeted you when you arrived and offered you service booklets). You may wish to complete a contact details card so that we can send you details of forthcoming events. These are available on the table in the foyer.

If it is your usual practice to receive bread and wine at communion, please feel free to do so at these services. We are following the Bishop's guidelines which stipulate that it is not permissible to intinct the bread (wafer) into the wine chalice. Therefore if you do not wish to drink from the chalice please return to your seat after taking the bread.

Today's readings are:

Zephaniah 3.14-end; Psalm 146.4-end; Philippians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18

Our hymns at 10 o'clock are:

Opening:	O come, O come, Emmanuel	NEH 11
Offertory:	O for a thousand tongues to sing	NEH 415 omit v3
Communion:	Love of the Father, love of God the Son	NEH 409
Final:	Hills of the north, rejoice	NEH 7
Anthem:	E'en so Lord Jesus (Paul Manz)	

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.

This week:

Monday 16 th	9.00 am 11.30 am 12 noon	Morning Prayer Advent Group discussion followed by Meditation Group
Tuesday 17 th	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 18 th	9.00 am 10.15 am	Morning Prayer Eucharist
Thursday 19 th	5.30 pm	Community Carol Singing outside the shops All are welcome to meet outside The Coffee House for outdoor carols, moving on to Dunstan Court and then into The Queen Edith Pub for a rousing finale!
Saturday 21st	3.30 pm	Christingle Service . Christingle-making, craft activities, and mince pies. There will be an opportunity to donate to the Children's Society Christingle campaign - raising money for children and young people facing serious life challenges.

Dates for your Diary:

For details of other services over Christmas, see page 6

Zephaniah 3.14-end

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!
The LORD has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion: do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

Psalm 146.4-end

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob / for their / help, whose hope is / in the / Lord their / God; who made heaven and earth, the sea and / all that is / in them; who / keeps his / promise for / ever; who gives justice to those that / suffer / wrong and / bread to / those who / hunger. The Lord looses / those that are / bound; the Lord opens the / eyes / of the / blind; the Lord lifts up those who are / bowed / down; the / Lord / loves the / righteous; the Lord watches over the stranger in the land; he upholds the / orphan and / widow; but the way of the wicked / he turns / upside / down. The Lord shall / reign for / ever, your God, O Zion, throughout all gene/rations. / Alle/luia. [or / Praise the / Lord].

Philippians 4.4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3.7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowingfork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Readings for next Sunday, 22 December (The 4th Sunday of Advent)

Micah 5.2-5a; Psalm 80.1-8; Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.39-45 [46-55]

Meditation Group have some special sessions for **Advent** looking at the Anglican poet-priest Thomas Traherne. These half-hour discussions over coffee are 11.30-12.00 on Monday mornings <u>tomorrow</u> and also next Monday (23^{rd)}, and will lead into our usual meditation at noon. Readings are available in the Foyer.

If you can help by distributing flyers with details of our Christmas Services, through the letterboxes of the parish, please take some today. It would be great if most can be delivered

before Thursday when the first of our activities, community carol singing, takes place. Thank you. The road grid is available on the entrance foyer table.

If you find you are short of flyers, or have some left over, it would be helpful if you could write this on the road grid or drop an email to Caroline in the office, as this will be helpful to know for future occasions, thank you.

We will be offering **mince pies and mulled wine** after our Carol Service next Sunday (22nd). If you can donate the mince pies, (they don't have to be homemade), or can offer help with setting up, serving and/or clearing away, please sign the list on the noticeboard. Thank you.

We would prefer that the pigeonholes <u>are not used</u> for delivering **Christmas cards** as they are no longer routinely used and cards may not be collected by the intended recipient.

Linda Appleby has written a new book "The Kingdom Is Yours". It is a diary that charts the events of the 1990s and their connection with events in people's lives. It costs £7.99. There are flyers with more information in the foyer.

St James' 70th anniversary. St James' is going to be 70 years old next year! We would like to think about ways of celebrating this event. **If anyone would like to be part of a planning team**, please let Steve know.

Saturday mornings at St James'. Our Fairbite Food Club runs every Saturday from 10.30 am until 12 noon, and the Saturday Morning Café is open from 10.00 am. Everyone is welcome to drop in for tea/coffee and a chat.

The office is open on Wednesday and Thursday this week, usual opening times of 9.15 am – 1.15 pm, and is then closed until New Year. Caroline will be working from home on Monday and has access to the office phone and email.

Prayer for Friends and Congregation of St James'

Sunday	Peter Canning
Monday	Denis Chandler
Tuesday	Eric and Rhena Clouston and family
Wednesday	Ellen and Andrew Collings, Sharn and Troy
Thursday	Caroline and Tony Dickson and Helen
Friday	Maureen Gibbs
Saturday	Alison and Graham Giles

If you would like to add your name to our prayer list please let Caroline in the office know.



Community Carol Singing

Thursday 19 December, 5.30 pm

Meet outside The Coffee House for outdoor carols, moving on to Dunstan Court and finishing at The Queen Edith Pub



for a rousing finale!

Family Christingle



Saturday 21 December, 3.30 pm Christingle-making, craft activities and mince pies followed by a Christingle celebration.

There will be an opportunity to donate to the Children's Society Christingle campaign - raising money for children and young people facing serious life challenges.



Lessons and Carols

Sunday 22 December, 7 pm A traditional carol service with readings, carols, a choir and candlelight

Family Crib Service



Christmas Eve, 4 pm Children come dressed as your favourite nativity character. Participation actively encouraged!



Midnight Mass, Christmas Eve, 11 pm



The first Holy Communion of Christmas

Christmas Day All Age Eucharist, 10 am All Age Eucharist with choir, carols and celebration

Contacts

Vicar	Rev'd Steve Rothwell (01223) 246108 s.rothwell3@btinternet.com
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	(Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 9.15 am -1.15 pm)
E-mail:	stjameschurchcambridge@yahoo.co.uk
Website:	stjamescambridge.org.uk

Weekly Church Activities

Junior Choir Practice	Mondays, 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm
Choir Practice	Mondays, 7.00 pm—8.00 pm
Lower Voices Choir	Wednesdays, 7.30 pm – 8.30 pm
Meditation Group	Mondays, 12 noon

Community Activities

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

We continue to provide a Zoom link for our 10 o'clock Sunday services: Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88561908831?pwd=OTNzMEIRazBMdW5WV2pNcE5iRzINQT09 Meeting ID: 885 6190 8831 Passcode: 258631

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.

If you are not a regular giver, or would like to top up your regular **donations**, you can do this by scanning the **QR code here** or by using the Donation Station in the lobby for cashless donations.

