

## Sunday 15th December

### Third Sunday of Advent

8am: Holy Communion at St. John's

#### 10am: Service of Holy Communion

**President & Preacher:** Rev Gemma Fraser

**Crucifer:** Dave Thomas

**Server:** Janette Tadman

**Chalice:** Revd Suzanne, Dave Thomas

**Intercessions:** Revd Gemma

#### Readings

**Isaiah 35:1-10** Richard Field

**James 5:7-10** Elaine Law

**Matthew 11:2-11**

**Sidesmen:** Hilary Few, Maxine Buck

**Sound:** Mike Tadman

**Coffee:** Maxine Buck, Mary Marshall

**Counters:** Richard Field, Mike Tadman

**Duty Churchwarden:** Lucy Bubb

**Organist:** Alan Arnot (*voluntary - one of Bach's 2-part "Inventions"*)

#### 2pm-5pm: Christmas Tree Festival

*Refreshments available*

#### 4pm-5pm: Carols & Christmas Songs

*Led by Revd Gemma with music by the music group*

## Advent and Christmas Services

### Advent Meditations/Reflections:

Advent is a time of waiting, a time of preparation, and a time of hope. We have several opportunities to come together during this time:

Advent Meditation/Reflection - a time together for prayer and bible readings to reflect on the meaning of Advent.

#### Wed 11 Dec, 7.30pm at St Luke's

Advent Craft and Prayer - a time together for prayer and craft activities.

#### Thurs 12 Dec, 11am at St John's

#### Sat 21 Dec, 11am at St Luke's

### Christmas Tree Festival

Sat 14 Dec, 10am - 4pm with activities for children available throughout the day, specific children's event 1.30pm-3pm

Sun 15 Dec, 2pm-5pm with Carols at 4pm.

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Christmas Eve, 4pm - Crib Service

Christmas Eve, 11.30pm - Midnight Mass

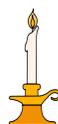
Christmas Day, 10am - Family Communion

Sun 29 Dec, 10am - joint service at St Luke's

Sun 19 Jan, 10am - Christingle Service

### Living Light

If you would like to sponsor the Aumbry Light for December please speak to Mary Marshall



Thursday 12th December 2019  
in the Small Hall: 1.30-3.30 p.m.

Please phone for an  
appointment: 01245 42333

There is a **£17.50** charge for this service

### Newsletter Content

If you have any items for the Newsletter (including requests for prayer) please contact Janette Tadman 01245 469124

Email [janettetadman@gmail.com](mailto:janettetadman@gmail.com)

Deadline Wednesday evening

### Contacts

**Vicar** Revd Gemma Fraser 07540 152561

#### Churchwardens

Richard Field Lucy Bubb  
07776 208546 07970 728673

#### Deputy Churchwardens

Mike Tadman Sue Davies  
07740 625454 07708 296804

## WELCOME to St. Luke's Church.

**Please stay for refreshments and fellowship in the hall after the service.**

There will be a collection during the third hymn. If you are a taxpayer, please use a Gift Aid envelope, available from the Sidesmen. If you give by Standing Order or are unable to give today, please pass the basket on.

## Sunday 8th December

### Second Sunday of Advent

8am Holy Communion at St. John's

#### 10am Second Sunday Service

**Leader & Speaker** Dave Thomas

**Intercessions:** Dave Thomas

#### Readings

**Romans 15:4-13** Mike Tadman

**Matthew 3:1-12**

**Sidesmen** Jane Chambers, Janette  
Tadman

**Sound** David Millward

**Coffee** Volunteers

**Counters** Dave Chambers, Janette  
Tadman

**Duty Churchwarden** Mike Tadman

**Organist** Rita Roscoe

## Collect

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.  
**Amen**

## Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven,  
who sent your Son to redeem the world  
and will send him again to be our judge:  
give us grace so to imitate him in the  
humility and purity of his first coming  
that, when he comes again,  
we may be ready to greet him  
with joyful love and firm faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

**TO OUR VISITORS** Welcome to our service. The **hymn numbers** are displayed on the boards, and will also be announced. When we come to receive Holy Communion, please see the notes in our **Order of Service**, which are provided for your guidance. We like to mark **birthdays** by singing "Happy Birthday to you: to Jesus be true. May God's richest blessing rest today upon you." If it is your birthday this week, please tell one of the ministers.

**The ministry of Prayer with Laying-on-of-Hands for Healing** is available every Sunday. If you would like this for yourself or another, please speak to one of the Ministers or Churchwardens.

## Readings

**Isaiah 11:1-10** (*Not being read at Sunday morning service*)

### **Romans 15:4-13**

<sup>4</sup>For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

‘Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,  
and sing praises to your name’;

<sup>10</sup>and again he says,

‘Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people’;

<sup>11</sup>and again,

‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples praise him’;

<sup>12</sup>and again Isaiah says,

‘The root of Jesse shall come,  
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him the Gentiles shall hope.’

<sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **Matthew 3:1-12**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near. <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.”’

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?’ <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume 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. <sup>10</sup>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.

<sup>11</sup>‘I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

## Please Pray This Week

For Brian, Joan, Bob, Margaret, June, Tammy, Kath (in hospital), Emma, Basil, Greta, Carmen, Revd John S, Melvyn, Nicky and Alina, Sally and Peter, Mary U.

For those named on the prayer board

This week we remember:

Adrian Pudney (08.12.1994)

Audrey Dunmall (10.12.2013)

May Wade (12.12.1990)

Revd Gordon Law (14.12.2010)

The funeral for Agnes Millward † will be held at St. Luke’s on Thursday 19th December at 12 noon, all are welcome.

## Christmas Tree Festival

It’s only ONE WEEK to go to our Christmas Tree Festival on 14 - 15 December and we are expecting over 20 trees to fill the church and the halls. This is a great opportunity to bring our community together and welcome many who have never stepped foot inside our church building. Please do volunteer - even for an hour - to help to get the church ready, to providing refreshments and welcoming visitors .... and encourage friends, neighbours and family to come along!

## Christmas Community Evening 1st Moulsham Brownies

**Tuesday 10th December 6.15 - 7.30pm**  
Carols, crafts, refreshments etc  
In support of Crisis

## Christmas Giving

For those that have not heard, a rough sleeper was found dead in St John’s churchyard on Thursday morning. It had been a very cold night and it is thought that may have contributed to his death. Please remember him (we do not know his name at the time of printing) in your prayers but also consider the impact our advent giving could have in supporting the work of CRISIS, the national homeless charity.

Over the festive period, we will be supporting the following charities:

- CRISIS at Christmas, throughout Advent
- Little Havens Children’s Hospice, Crib Service
- The Children’s Society, Christingle Service.

Please look out for Gift Aid envelopes so that, if you are a tax payer, the charities can claim an extra 25% on top of your donation.

## This Week

The church is open daily for prayer

### **Monday 9 December**

*Pray for the Bradwell Episcopal Area team*

### **Tuesday 10 December**

*Pray for Gordon Road*

9.15am: Morning Prayer at

Church of the Holy Spirit, Widford

6.15pm: Christmas Community Evening

1st Moulsham Brownies

### **Wednesday 11 December**

*Pray for the Society of Friends*

9.15am: Morning Prayer at St. Luke’s

1.15pm: Edward Bear Toddler Group

7.30pm: Advent Meditation/Reflection  
at St. Luke’s

### **Thursday 12 December**

*Pray for Peace in Syria and The Middle East*

9.15am: Morning Prayer at St. John’s

11am: Advent Craft and Prayer  
at St. John’s

13.30: Age UK Toenail cutting

### **Friday 13 December**

*Pray for the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows*

### **Saturday 14 December**

*Pray for Poplar Close*

**10am-4pm: Christmas Tree Festival**

*Including children’s Christmas Workshop*

*Refreshments available throughout*