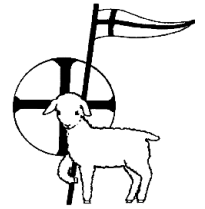


St John the Baptist Church, Tisbury

reflecting Jesus Christ



Sunday 26th November 2023

Christ the King

Today's Services

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

President and Preacher: Revd Canon Simon Evans

9.30am Parish Communion

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The Lincoln Setting *Malcolm Archer* Gospel Acclamation and Sentence *Daniel Ficarra / Stuart Robinson*
Introit: O come ye servants of the Lord *Tye* Processional hymn: 433 O worship the King (omit * verses)
Gradual psalm: 95.1-7 (*words overleaf*) Offertory hymn: 352 Crown him with many crowns
During Communion: Ave verum *William Byrd* Final hymn: Christ triumphant every reigning (*words overleaf*)
Organ Voluntary: Litanies *Jéhan Alain*

Next Sunday, 3rd December

Advent Sunday

9.30am All-Age Communion with Christingles

Led by the Revd Juliette Hulme and Canon Judy Anderson

For your prayers

In our linked diocese of Cueibet, South Sudan, we are asked to pray this week that Archbishop Justin and Bishop Elijah will teach their people with love and that they respond well.

In the Holy Land we give thanks for the temporary ceasefire and the exchange of hostages and prisoners; we pray that the ceasefire will continue and more people will be released to return home to their loved ones. We continue to pray that a way may be found for a lasting peace to be established in that land.

We pray for Ukraine and for all the troubled regions of the world, for peace and for healing of relationships between and within countries and communities.



Advent Course from our Bishops

Our three Bishops, together with the Dean of Salisbury Cathedral, have put together an Advent course on the theme of the diocesan vision *Making Jesus Known*. There is an introduction, followed by four meditations exploring different aspects of the vision. The course is available electronically from the Parish Administrator, and hard copies are available in church for those who are not able to print their own. There will be an opportunity for those of you who wish to gather at the Rectory at 3.00pm on Wednesday 13 December to share thoughts on the meditations.

Choir for the Carol Service

Additional singers would be welcome to join the choir for the village Carol Service on Monday 18 December. You would need to attend practices on Thursday 14 December at 7.15pm and Monday 18 December at 6.00pm for the service at 7.30pm. Please email Stuart Robinson if you would like to participate: stuart@stuartrobinson.co.uk

Christmas gifts

At Christmas many of us like to give something to those who are in need. Instead of bringing a present to church at Christmas, we invite you to contribute to the work of two of our local charities, Salisbury Food Bank and Salisbury Refuge. Please see the separate notice for details of what items would be helpful and how to donate. Thank you!

An appeal from the Bishop of Salisbury for the Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza

The hospital is owned and supported by the Episcopal (Anglican) Diocese of Jerusalem and remains open to serve all Gazans, despite shelling and missile attacks. Medical staff are continuing to serve at huge personal risk to themselves. Bishop Stephen asks us all, if we can, to support the hospital at this critical time. The quickest and most efficient way to donate is direct, via this link: <https://www.jmeca.org.uk/get-involved/donate/current-appeals-0/al-ahli-hospital-gaza-appeal> You can read about the hospital and its work using the same link.

The Revd Juliette Hulme, Team Vicar
Canon Judy Anderson, Parish Administrator

revjmhulme@gmail.com
tisburyparishchurch@gmail.com

01747 871957
01747 873142

www.tisburyparishchurch.org

The Collect for Christ the King

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

Psalm 95.1-7

1 O come, let us sing to the Lord : let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving : and be glad in him with psalms.

3 For the Lord is a great God : and a great king above all gods.

4 In his hand are the depths of the earth : and the heights of the mountains are his also.

5 The sea is his, for he made it : and his hands have moulded the dry land.

6 Come, let us worship and bow down : and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

7 For he is our God : we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit : as it was in the beginning, is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

The Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said, 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

Final hymn

I Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!

Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

2 Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!

Power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:

3 Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!

Death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:

4 Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!

Sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:

5 So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,

ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:

Michael Saward (b 1932)

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