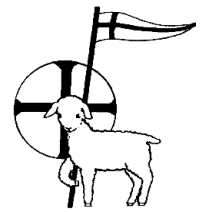


St John the Baptist Church, Tisbury

reflecting Jesus Christ



Sunday 10th December 2023

The Second Sunday of Advent

Today's Service

9.30am Parish Communion

President: The Revd Juliette Hulme Preacher: Julie Dunstan

The Brecon Service *Philip Moore* Modal Alleluia and Gospel Advent Sentence *Daniel Ficarri /Stuart Robinson*

Hymns: 11 O come, O come Emmanuel; 6 Hark the glad sound; 12 On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry

During Communion: O radiant dawn *James MacMillan*

Final hymn: 9 Lo, he comes with clouds descending

Organ Voluntary: Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottes Sohn *JS Bach*

The Revd Juliette Hulme and Julie Dunstan are also leading worship at Holy Trinity Church, Fonthill Gifford, this morning

Next Sunday, 17th December

The Third Sunday of Advent

9.30am Parish Communion

President: The Revd Juliette Hulme Preacher: The Revd Nigel Worn

There is no evening service at St John's on 17th December

Monday 11th December at 4.00pm

Advent Course discussion

If you would like to come to the Rectory on Monday 11 December at 4.00pm to share thoughts on the Bishops' Advent course over a cup of tea, please would you let Juliette or Judy know? All are welcome!

Advent Boxes

Our Advent Boxes this year are for the charity Embrace the Middle East. The decision to support this charity was made many months ago, and has proved particularly appropriate in the light of current events in the Holy Land. Do please take a box and bring it back (full!) after Christmas. You can find information about the charity at <https://embrace.org>

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 Cheer

Anyone who wishes to contribute to needy individuals or families in Tisbury, to help them have a more cheerful Christmas than they otherwise would have had, is invited to make their donation (in cash please) to a member of the clergy, a Churchwarden or the Parish Administrator in a sealed envelope marked 'Christmas Cheer' no later than **11am on Sunday 17th December** please. All such donations will be gratefully received and will be distributed in time for Christmas.

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 please would you bring your gift by **Sunday 10th December** so that it can reach the charities in time for distribution for Christmas. Thank you!

In Memoriam

We were sorry to hear of the death, on 26th November, of **Terry Elsey**, a resident of Tisbury for many years. His funeral will take place at St John's on Thursday 21st December at 11.00am.

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

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The Collect for the Second Sunday of Advent

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40.1-11

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.

The Gospel: Mark 1.1-8

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.'

For your prayers

In our linked diocese of Cueibet, South Sudan, we are asked to pray this week for the schools run by the Anglican church in the diocese, for the pupils and their teachers, and for adequate resources. We pray for safety and resources for the medical staff and the patients of the Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza run by the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. We pray for a ceasefire and for aid to reach the people of Gaza.

We pray for our Advent Charity *Embrace the Middle East* as they work to transform lives and restore the dignity of the most excluded and marginalised communities in Israel/Palestine, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt. We pray for the pupils and staff of St John's School and for its carol services taking place in our church this week.

If you would like to donate to the Al Ahli Hospital, you can do so via this link:

<https://www.jmecca.org.uk/get-involved/donate/current-appeals-0/al-ahli-hospital-gaza-appeal>



Christmas Services at St John's

Monday 18 December at 7.30pm: Village Carol Service

Sunday 24 December at 4.00pm: Crib Service

Sunday 24 December at 10.00pm: The First Eucharist of Christmas

Monday 25 December at 9.30am: Parish Communion for Christmas Day

On Sunday 24 December, there will be an 8.00am service of Holy Communion (BCP) for the Fourth Sunday of Advent
There will be no 9.30am service at St John's on Sunday 24 December