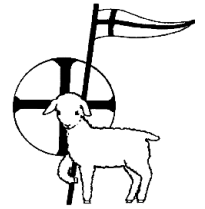


St John the Baptist Church, Tisbury

reflecting Jesus Christ



Sunday 17th December 2023

The Third Sunday of Advent

Today's Service

9.30am Parish Communion

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

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

Hymns: 16 (omit v 3) Wake, O wake! With tidings thrilling; 5 Hark a herald voice is calling

33 (omit v 3 & 6) Of the Father's heart begotten

During Communion: This is the record of John *Orlando Gibbons* Final hymn: 7 Hills of the north rejoice

Organ voluntary: Von Himmel hoch *J Pachelbel*

There is no evening service at St John's today

Monday 18th December

7.30pm Village Carol Service

Sunday 24th December The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

There is no 9.30am service at St John's on 24th December

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve

4.00pm Crib Service

An informal, interactive service - children are invited to come dressed as angels, shepherds or wise men/women

10.00pm The First Eucharist of Christmas

Monday 25th December Christmas Day

9.30am Parish Communion for Christmas Day

Thank you!

Thank you very much to all who gave so generously to the benefice appeal for Christmas gifts for the Food Bank and the Refuge. The charities are very grateful to have our gifts to distribute to those they serve.

Christmas Cheer

It's not too late to contribute money for needy individuals or families in Tisbury, to help them have a more cheerful Christmas than they otherwise would have had. Please would you give your donation (in cash please) to a member of the clergy, a Churchwarden or the Parish Administrator, in a sealed envelope marked 'Christmas Cheer,' or else put your envelope through the Rectory letter box (Park Road), no later than **10.30am on Wednesday 20th December** please. All donations will be gratefully received and will be distributed in time for Christmas.

Advent Boxes

Our Advent Boxes this year are for the charity Embrace the Middle East. The decision to support this charity 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://embraceme.org>

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

revjmhulme@gmail.com
tisburyparishchurch@gmail.com

01747 871957
01747 873142

www.tisburyparishchurch.org

The Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The Gospel: John 1.6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said,

'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
"Make straight the way of the Lord"',
as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

For your prayers

In our linked diocese of Cueibet, South Sudan, we are asked to pray this week for all those in the diocese preparing to celebrate Christmas, and that it may truly be a time of joy and peace.

We pray for Christians throughout the world, that they will have a blessed and peaceful Christmas, and especially for protection for those whose faith puts them at risk of attack as they gather to celebrate the birth of Christ.

In our own country, we pray for all who are in need, especially those who use the Salisbury Food Bank and the Women's Refuge.



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

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

