

Newsletter and Notices

10am Service of the Word for the New Year, in Church & via Zoom You are welcome to share in our worship in the following ways:
1. Come to Church All are welcome! Remember to bring your order of service.
2. Join with Zoom on your computer When you are signed in you can 'Join a Meeting'.
Remember to join Derek's Zoom today: Meeting ID 927 480 8728, Password 889123).
3. Join with Audio Zoom via phone a) Call 0131 460 1196
b) Enter Derek's Meeting ID: 927 480 8728 followed by # c) You may be asked to enter Participant ID: press # d) Enter Derek's Meeting Password: 889123 followed by #

You will be muted automatically when you join the 'meeting' (service).

Whether or not you might like to do this, let's be aware of the prayerful communion in God's Spirit that we all share, wherever we are, whether or not we are able to talk, video-call or communicate with one another.

Collect for The Second Sunday of Christmas

Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love: help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Psalm for The Second Sunday of Christmas, Psalm 147. 13-21 *Refrain: Great is our Lord and mighty in power.*

Sing praise to the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion;

For he has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blest your children within you. He has established peace in your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat. **[R]**

He sends forth his command to the earth and his word runs very swiftly.

He gives snow like wool and scatters the hoarfrost like ashes.

He casts down his hailstones like morsels of bread; who can endure his frost? [R]

He sends forth his word and melts them; he blows with his wind and the waters flow. He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and judgements to Israel.

He has not dealt so with any other nation; they do not know his laws. Alleluia. **[R]** *Compassionate God,*

as you know each star you have created, so you know the secrets of every heart; in your loving mercy bring to your table all who are fearful and broken,

all who are wounded and needy,

that our hungers may be satisfied in the city of your peace;

through Christ who is our peace. Amen.

Sunday 3rd January 2021 Second Sunday of Christmas

MICHAEL'S

Gospel for The Second Sunday of Christmas, John 1. 1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. 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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me." ') From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

An anthem for today

Last year on this day our Choir sang 'Joy to the World' (arr. Cleobury). You might like to listen to <u>this version</u> by members of Churches Together who've come together as a virtual choir, Bishop's Stortford (arranged by Paul Burrell).

In these times when it's not feasible for the Junior Church to meet we've created a few children's resources for families to share together on Sundays –

• There's a <u>printable sheet on our website</u> which offers a prayer and activities that will help young people get to know the person of Jesus. This week's is based on today's Gospel reading from John.

• You might also like to share in this week's Godly Story, 'John's wondering', also from John 1. It's a fantastic visual version of the scriptures, with wondering questions for families to talk about together. Find the video on YouTube <u>here.</u>

Do have a look and explore the links on our <u>Children and Young People</u> page: there are lots of fun things including craft activity templates, quizzes and a video made by our Youth Group. We've got lots of wonderful Christmas activities, including the final part of our Nativity Scene craft: the wise men!



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The church is open for Personal Prayer 11am-1pm Monday to Friday, 10-11am Saturday, 10:45-11:30am Sunday AND 4-5pm every day.

An opportunity to spend some comforting time in prayer, peace and reflection

If you'd like the Prayer Chain to pray for some concern which is on your heart, please make your prayer request to the coordinator, Diane Pettitt: diane.pettitt@hotmail.com / 461845. Requests are strictly confidential to the Prayer Chain, who will simply pray as asked and a request won't lead to further contact or action. If a request to the Prayer Chain would help, don't hesitate to make it.

Foodbank Appeal – This winter, the Foodbank is expecting a rise in demand. Please see <u>our website</u> for items requested.

The Christmas Story, a reflective journey

Some of you might not have been able to come to the church so we hope these pictures might offer you an opportunity for meditation and reflection from your own homes.



Please visit the <u>*Prayer*</u> page on our website, to see the texts for the prayer resources which go with the flowers, to aid reflection.

Sunday 3rd January 2021 Second Sunday of Christmas



8am Holy Communion on Sunday 3rd January is cancelled. There will be 8am Holy Communion next on Sunday 10th January 2021.

Bridge Youth Worship, Sunday 3rd January, 5:30pm – If you'd like to join in via Zoom, please contact AI Evans at <u>bridgeyouthchurch@gmail.com</u>

Holy Communion for Epiphany, Wednesday 6th January, 10am – In church and via Derwyn's Zoom. You can also dial in by phone; instructions on previous page. (Meeting ID 846 662 9590, Password 834900).

Prayers for our Community, 9:30am, Saturday 9th January – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

Zoom prayer with June on Mondays – A support chat and prayer room each week. If you're interested in joining, do call her for more details (771756).

More details of all services and events are available on the <u>Calendar</u> page on our website. Do follow us on Social Media too, for regular updates.



| The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar) | 653867 | Churchwarden: Rosemary Thomson | 758389 |
|--|--------|---|-------------|
| The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO) | 652173 | Deputy Churchwardens: | y |
| The Rev'd June Knight (PTO) | 771756 | Terry Pigram, Peter Rixson, Roger Sudbury | |
| Rob Klincke (Reader) | 833523 | Parish Office 012 | 79 654416 🚺 |
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