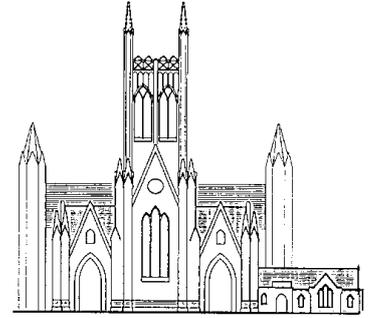


CHRIST CHURCH CHELTENHAM



THIRD OF ADVENT

15th December 2019



Arrangements for Today

8.00am **Holy Communion BCP**

10.30am **Parish Communion**

Preacher: Rev Josie Goodwin

Readings: Isaiah 35:1-10 *Pew Bible p.682*

Matthew 11:2-11 *Pew Bible p.923*

Hymns: 30, 27, 31, 24

- *There are **crèche facilities** in the Alstone Porch (back left of church). If you have young children please feel free to use them.*
- *Anyone who would like to receive personal prayer, simply come to the back of church after receiving Communion and a member of our Prayer Team will be there to pray with you.*
- *There are facilities for receiving communion gluten-free: collect a sign from one of our sidespeople.*
- *Large print bibles are available - please ask a churchwarden.*
- *Activity Bags for children to use in church (esp. 2's-5's). Please ask a Sidesperson for one & return afterwards.*
- *Coffee served after the service in the Harwood Hall.*
- *Christ Church does not hand around a collection plate, but always needs funds to support its life and mission. If you would like to support Christ Church financially you'll find a plate for your offering at the back of church. Thank you.*

There will be no 6.30pm service this week

Our next evening service will be our

Festival of Lessons & Carols by Candlelight

next Sunday, on 22nd December

www.christchurch-cheltenham.org

ARRANGEMENTS DURING THE WEEK

Mon	8.45am	Morning Prayer in church (side chapel)
16th	1.30pm	Baby & Toddler Group in the Harwood Hall
Tues	8.45am	Morning Prayer in church (side chapel)
17th		
Wed	8.45am	Morning Prayer in church (side chapel)
18th	10-12	Coffee Morning in the Alstone Porch
	10.30am	Holy Communion BCP in the Music Room
	6.00pm	Pates School Carol Service in church
Thurs	8.45am	Morning Prayer in church (side chapel)
19th	5-7pm	Carol Singing for Christian Aid in the High Street (meet outside John Lewis)
Fri	8.45am	Morning Prayer in church (side chapel)
20th	4.00pm	Brass by Candlelight in church: Cotswold Brass Quintet
	6.45-8.15	Trebles' rehearsal in the Music Room
	7.30-9pm	Choir rehearsal in the Music Room
Sat	9-10am	Carol Singing for Christian Aid at Waitrose,
21st		Honeybourne Way

NEXT SUNDAY – THE 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8.00am	Holy Communion CW: Rev Josie Goodwin
10.30am	Morning Worship [organ]: David Laszlo
12.15pm	Christingle Production Line in Lansdown/Bayshill [please note: this activity is not suitable for children]
6.30pm	Festival of Lessons & Carols by Candlelight: Andrew Judge

The sign-up sheets for Christmas Services and Events are available at the back of church.

Christmas Posters of different sizes [A4, A5 & A6] are available at the back church: please display one if you can.

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

Thank you to those who give regularly to Christ Church in this way. You're gifts are much appreciated: you'll find your new envelopes at back of church.

CHRIST CHURCH'S MONTHLY SALE in aid of the Development Fund after the 10.30 service last Sunday raised £105.68. Thank you very much for your support.

GIANT CHRISTMAS CARD

Every year we try to cut down on our paper usage and make life a little less stressful at Christmas by providing a giant Christmas Card for us to send our Christmas message to the whole Christ Church family in one marvellous message. The money you save on buying Christmas cards can be donated for a really worthwhile cause. This year we have agreed it should go to Mission Without Borders – Operation Christmas Love. They send boxes of essentials and treats to the poorest families.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Rev Mike Smith's Licensing will be at St. Georges Church, Brockworth on 26th January 2020 at 3pm. There will be refreshments after in the village hall. Google directions: St George's Church, Brockworth, Court Rd, Brockworth, Gloucester GL3 4QT.

If you require or can offer a lift, there is a sign-up sheet in the Baptistery.

Grant of £4,000 awarded to Christ Church from the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust

Many thanks to Barbara & Arthur Lucas, Sarah & Francis O'Meara, Amanda Whitefield, Colin Masey and Tony White for volunteering to help to man the church reception desk and welcome riders and striders to Christ Church on 14th September. Being a part of the Ride and Stride day qualified us to apply for a grant from the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust and we have been awarded a grant of £4,000 which will go towards the expense of the new boiler installation. We now hope to build on this success in applying for other funding from elsewhere. Katy Bleasdale

HERE TO HELP: CHRIST CHURCH PASTORAL TEAM

Christ Church Pastoral Team exists to offer support to anyone who would value it. If there's a way in which the team could help, please contact the parish office: 01242 578163.

A warm welcome for all our visitors and newcomers

If you would like further contact with Christ Church, please do complete one of the white cards in the pew and hand it to a Sidesperson.

We are delighted that Reverend Canon Simon Heron has accepted the position to be the next Vicar of Christ Church:

Following a short lived career as a scaffolder, and a longer one as a trader in the City of London, Simon trained for the Anglican ministry between 2005 and 2007 at Ridley Hall in Cambridge. He served his curacy in Rochester Diocese, before moving to North Essex in 2011 where he has been Vicar of three churches and Area Dean of the Harwich Deanery.

Simon would describe himself as a classic extrovert who finds himself enthused and stimulated by being around others. He has a particular passion for seeing children and young people come to know Jesus, and finding fresh and innovative ways to communicate the gospel. He is a keen cook and songwriter, whose ambition sometimes overshadows his talent!

Simon is married to Gill, who has been a primary school teacher and currently works with a charity providing pastoral and spiritual care in schools. They have three children, Christopher 26, who is married to Megan, Benjamin 24, Katy 16.

The family are excited at the prospect of moving to Cheltenham and getting to know the community at Christ Church, and for Christ Church getting to know them. Ideally over coffee or pizza!

Simon's Licensing will take place on 6th May 2020, so please put this date in your diaries!

Guiding God, we pray for Christ Church:

During the vacancy, we pray for those who will preach and lead our worship. Through their work, please strengthen the faith of those who have it and draw to faith many who don't yet know you.

We pray for our vicar designate.

Prepare him and equip him for the task he will begin.

Prepare us for this change. May it be a point of growth for us as individuals and as a community. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

We pray for the sick: Manal Al-Badish, Julia Bamford, Graham and June Banfield, Kim Caswell, Ghazi Chehaib, James Dawes, June Eddershaw, Tina Holland, Rose Marville, Roger Millard, Sue Potter, Daphne Simpson, Rosemary Singer, William Staight, Anne Standish, Katharine Swan, Jane Weston & Mike Westgate.

We pray for the family and friends of Mike Smith.

Missed the collection plate?

TEXT **CHURCH** to **70450** to give **£10** to Christ Church PCC.

This costs £10 plus a standard rate message