

# Connected

Sunday 27th November 2022  
1st Sunday Of Advent

## Sermon Snippets

**Christ Church**  
**Daniel 3: 8-30**

Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent, when we look forward to Jesus' return by returning to his birth story - his first coming. Traditionally we think about judgement and being prepared for his return (I don't do fire & brimstone - please don't be put off!). We will also be finishing our questions series, exploring: "Is the world getting worse?", looking at the story of Daniel's friends in the fiery furnace and today's exile experience. We will also explore where we are on the eternal timeline of God's plan:



**Emmanuel**  
**Titus 2: 11-14**

As we celebrate the first Sunday of Advent this Sunday morning at Emmanuel we will be thinking about the challenge presented in Titus 2:11-14:

'...to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, **while we wait** for the blessed hope... our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness...'

As recipients of God's grace, we are empowered to live in a new way, but what does that reality look like when faced with the difficulties, hard realities, and challenges we see in our daily lives and in our world?



## Season of Advent

Advent is the season of reflective preparation for the Nativity of Christ at Christmas and the expected return of Christ in the Second Coming.



Advent symbolises the present situation of the Church in these "last days" as God's people wait for the return of Christ in glory to consummate his eternal Kingdom. We are waiting and hoping in prayerful expectation for the coming of the Messiah.

The Church, during Advent, looks back upon Christ's coming in celebration while at the same time looking forward in eager anticipation to the coming of Christ's Kingdom when he returns for his people.



# What's On This Week

## Saturday 26th November

Christmas Bazaar from 10:30am-2pm at Emmanuel

## Monday 28th November

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

## Tuesday 29th November

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel

The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

## Wednesday 30th November

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10:15am at Christ Church  
(*please note that this event is currently full*)

## Thursday 1st December

Craft & Chat at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Parenting for Faith at 7:30pm in The Spire Centre

## Saturday 3rd December

Christmas Coffee Morning: 10am-1pm at Christ Church

## Sunday 4th December

Healing & Wholeness Service at 6pm at Christ Church

## Notices

### *Christ Church Directory*

The Christ Church Directory is now available!  
Please feel free to take a copy from the table  
at the back of church.

### *Church Weekend*

If anyone still has their lanyard or badge from the  
Church Weekend, could you please return this to the  
Church Office at your earliest convenience.

### *Lost Property*

There are quite a number of items in our 'lost  
property box' - please do have a look through this  
to see if any of the items are yours.

## *Verse For The Week*

" Then Nebuchadnezzar said, 'Praise be to the God  
of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent  
His angel and rescued His servants! They trusted in  
Him and defied the king's command and were  
willing to give up their lives rather than serve or  
worship any god except their own God. "

*Daniel 3: 28*

# Prayer Pointers

## **Church Family:**

"Lord, the one you love is sick." (John 11:3).  
We lift up to you Lord our loved ones - those  
in our Church family who are sick, suffering,  
lonely, frightened, hurting, or bereaved.

We pray for the Christmas coffee morning at  
Christ Church - for a good time of fellowship  
and for the Holy Spirit to flow through all  
the conversations taking place. Pray for an  
essence of peace to be experienced by all who  
attend. We also give thanks for the Christmas  
Bazaar held at Emmanuel last Saturday.

## **Our Community:**

We lift to our Lord the Trussell Trust  
(Foodbank) and their vision for hunger-free  
communities. We pray for all who volunteer  
(giving up time to meet people's needs), for  
the vision to end hunger, and especially for  
all children to come to fruition.

Father God, we intercede on behalf of single  
parent families. We ask, Lord, that You bring  
our families into a safe environment,  
encourage and guide them to receive the  
right help as required, and to know Your  
presence in their lives.

## **National Prayer:**

We have been blitzed over recent months  
with Parliament issues that affect our nation.  
We lay this all before God, to use this crisis  
moment for His use. Amen.

We bring before You, Lord, all who are  
feeling anxious about winter fuel bills,  
knowing that You will provide the help  
needed, that in amongst all this there will be  
opportunity for people to turn to Jesus.

## **Global Prayer:**

Jehovah Elohim, Lord God Mighty Creator, we  
bring before You Pakistan where devastating  
floods have left families and the population  
feeling insecure - with very limited drinking  
water access as well as food, sanitation, and  
hygiene issues. We think about Indonesia and  
Java where an earthquake has caused  
landslides - impacting on many villages and  
schools, as homes and schools are reduced to  
rubble. We pray for the response teams,  
health care workers, and families affected.

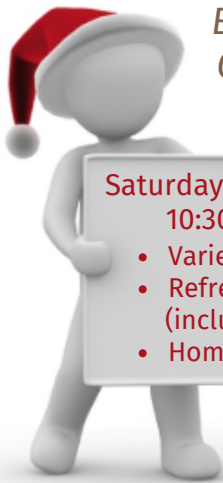
Lord God Mighty Creator, we bring before  
you all individuals who are in a position of  
responsibility and have influence on  
environmental issues.

# Coffee after the Service...

## Emmanuel Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 26th November  
10:30am til 2pm

- Variety of Stalls
- Refreshments (including lunches)
- Homemade Cakes



## Healing & Wholeness Service

Sunday 4th December at 6pm

Before the rush really starts, do join us for a reflective time preparing for the Christmas season.



## Christ Church Flower Rota

The new flower rota will be drawn up at the beginning of December. If you would like to join the team please speak to Sandra Wilkes. You do not need to be an expert flower arranger!



## Christ Church Carol Service

If you would like to be part of the choir/orchestra at this year's Carol Service at Christ Church (to be held on Sunday 18th December), please contact Andy or Helen



Page - they would welcome singers and players of all ages to join them!

The rehearsals are due to take place from 7:30pm-9pm on Fridays 2nd, 9th & 16th December and from 3:30pm on Sunday 18th December.

## Christ Church Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday 3rd December  
10am til 1pm

In what can be a busy time, come and relax with us with a cup of coffee and cake or mince pie!

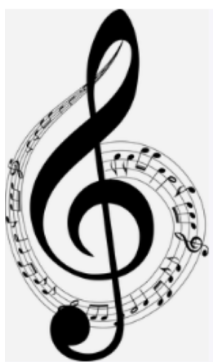
Children's Corner  
Book & Puzzle Stall  
Cakes, Chutneys & Edibles



## Carol Singing In Care Homes

We are planning on visiting various Care Homes around the parish for some carol singing on the afternoons of Wednesday 14th & Thursday 15th December.

Please sign-up on the sheet at the back of church if you would like to take part on either one or both of these afternoons.



## Watch the Morning Service

at [www.ccwsm.org.uk](http://www.ccwsm.org.uk)

Go to the 'Church Life' menu and click on the 'Sunday Services' page

## BIBLE READING NOTES

It is time to order Bible reading notes for 2023!

You can do this via the following link which takes you to our website:

<https://ccwsm.org.uk/product-category/bible-notes/> where you can order and pay online.

Alternatively, please give your order form to Sandra Wilkes as soon as possible. Please make payment for one year's subscription with the order. Payment can be made via the website or by cheque, cash, or card.

If you have not had Bible reading notes before, please see our website (link above) or speak to Sandra. Orders to be placed by 4th December please.

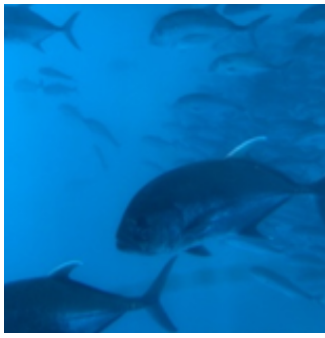


# More coffee anyone...

## John & Kathy's Adventures Part 7

Whilst on Hamilton Island we enjoyed a day trip to Whitehaven Beach – one of the most beautiful in the world - stunning with many coloured fish swimming around the shoreline where I was able to snorkel while John went up to the lookout to wonder at the beautiful patterns of blue and white made by the sea.

The Great Barrier Reef was another trip - snorkelling and taking the semi-submersible to wonder at the world underneath the sea. John explored the island on foot while I enjoyed swimming from Catseye Beach, a stones-throw from our hotel, and swimming in the 35-metre hotel pool.



Next stop via Sydney was Sentosa Island (Singapore), where we had a super hotel with pool complex, visited Universal Studios (which was a lot of fun), and took the cable car across the island.

John visited Fort Siloso which was a large military outpost for many years and I went to Adventure Cove to swim with more fish, walk with rays, watch dolphins and turtles, and kick back on the lazy river. We also managed some Christmas shopping at VivoCity.

Before travelling home we spent some time at Changi Airport (The Jewel). Pretty amazing with an indoor waterfall, surrounded by so many trees, plants, and greenery. The Christmas sound and light show in the evening was a bonus before the long journey home arriving at Heathrow at dawn.

End of a very special trip.

We hope you have enjoyed sharing some of our experiences.  
John & Kathy



## MUGS!!

Emmanuel now have enough mugs so no more are required.



Meg & Daphne would like to thank everyone who has recently responded to their request and provided mugs for use at The Beacon & Winter Warmth.

Thank You

## Contact Details

Rev. Tom Webber (Day Off - Tuesday)  
t: (01934) 709343  
e: vicar@ccwsm.org.uk

Rev. Larissa Trust (Day Off - Tuesday)  
t: 07379 754372  
e: curate@ccwsm.org.uk

Church Office (09:30-12:30 Mon-Fri)  
t: (01934) 641016  
e: office@ccwsm.org.uk  
w: www.ccwsm.org.uk