

# Connected

Sunday 3rd December 2023

First Sunday Of Advent

## Sermon Snippets

Christ Church  
Isaiah 11: 1-9

The best things are coming...

This Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting for Jesus. We remember his first coming and think ahead to his second coming.



This Sunday we will look at this passage from Isaiah where he uses the illustration of an animal's nature changing which shows just how much Jesus intends

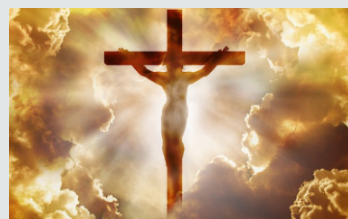
to transform us when he returns. Enemies will no longer be enemies. We'll be the very best versions of ourselves we can be... but still recognisable.

What things in your character do you look forward to Jesus transforming into something better?

## Emmanuel

1 Corinthians 15: 50-58

Victory may not be the word on your lips in Advent but, as God the Father sends his Son into the world, that is what the Father requires. Total victory. Jesus' name encapsulates the purpose of



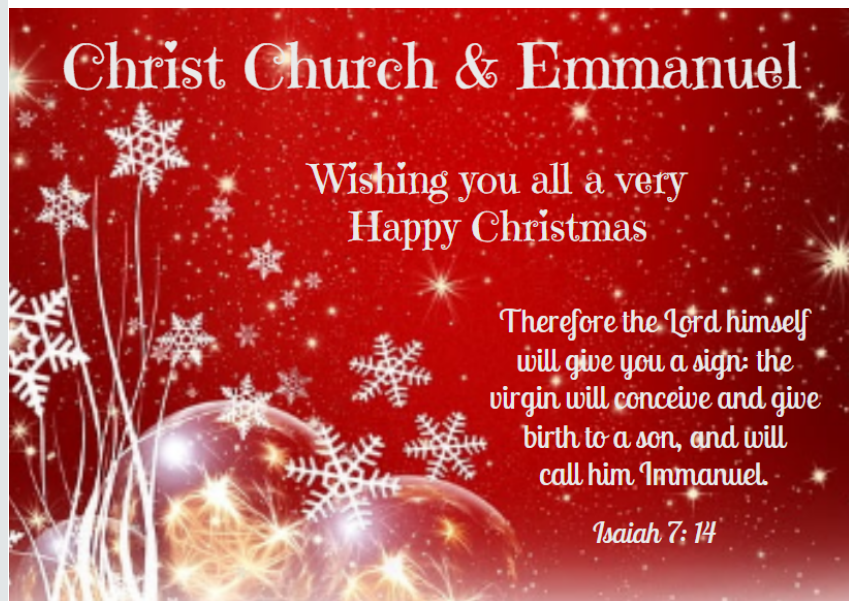
his coming 'for he shall save his people from their sins'. Failure was not an option. God's plan of salvation and reconciliation came

through the victory of the Son - on the cross - through resurrection and ascension, and it began with a baby in a manger heralded by angels and shepherds alike.

Come and celebrate his victory this Sunday morning at Emmanuel.

## Our Christmas Services!

The invitations for our Christmas Services have now arrived - please see below details of all the planned services...



## Christ Church & Emmanuel

Wishing you all a very  
Happy Christmas

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Isaiah 7: 14

### Christ Church

Montpelier, BS23 2RH

Christingle Service  
4pm on Sunday 10th December

Candlelit Carol Service  
6pm on Sunday 17th December

Nativity Service  
4pm on Christmas Eve

Midnight Communion  
11:15pm on Christmas Eve

Family Communion  
10:30am on Christmas Day

### Emmanuel Church

Oxford Street, BS23 1TN

Town Centre Carol Service  
12:30pm on Monday 11th December

Candlelit Carol Service  
7pm on Friday 15th December

Carol Singing In Church Square  
2:30pm on Monday 18th December

Holy Communion  
10:30am on Christmas Day



## 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

# What's On This Week

## Saturday 2nd December

Christmas Fayre from 10am-2pm at Christ Church  
Coffee Morning at 10:30am at Emmanuel

## Sunday 3rd December

'Blue Christmas' at 6pm at Christ Church

## Monday 4th December

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

## Tuesday 5th December

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel  
The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

## Wednesday 6th December

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10:15am at Christ Church

## Thursday 7th December

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

## Sunday 10th December

Christingle Service at 4pm at Christ Church

## Notices

### *Church Office Closed*

Please note that the Church Office will be closed on Friday 1st December and Monday 4th December.

### *Volunteers for Christmas Services*

If you are able to help with various jobs during/after our Christmas Services at Christ Church, please sign-up on the sheet at the back of church. Thank you.

### *Christmas Invitations*

There are now some Christmas invitations available to pass on to your friends, family, & neighbours. If you are able to take a batch of invites to deliver to a specific road within our Parish, please speak to Emma in the Church Office. Thank you.

## *Verse For The Week*

" Listen, I tell you a mystery: we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed - in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. "

*1 Corinthians 15: 51-52*

# Prayer Pointers

**Monday:** Advent has arrived; a season of preparation, both practical and spiritual. Ask God to help you make time to sit with Him and consider Jesus' arrival as a human and His future coming in glory.

**Tuesday:** Please pray for those who are not well, those who are missing loved ones, and those who struggle with any kind of addiction.

**Wednesday:** Keep on persisting in prayer for an end to the wars in Ukraine/Russia, the Holy Land, and many other places around the world. Pray for God to pour power into the work of peacemakers and to provide for all who are bereaved, injured, displaced, or taken as hostage.

**Thursday:** Remember to pray for all our preachers, teachers, service leaders, wardens, our family and children team, musicians, chair movers, and refreshment teams as their workload increases for the next few weeks.

**Friday:** Consider prayerfully how you can reduce your waste and use less of our beautiful world's resources; especially as we are being bombarded with pressure to spend more than ever in the Christmas season.

**Saturday:** Please pray for our mission partners at home and abroad - for their health and wellbeing, and for their work to be effective.

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## 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

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# Coffee after the Service...

## Blue Christmas



This Sunday (3rd December) is Advent Sunday and our Evening Prayer Service (6pm at Christ Church) will be a quiet reflective service helping us prepare for all that is to come.

We have called it "Blue Christmas"; but Christmas doesn't have to evoke difficult feelings and you would be very welcome to come along to use the time to prepare.

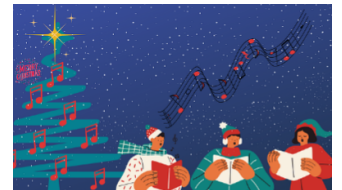
We would love for you to join us.



## Carol Singing In Care Homes

We will, again, be visiting a few Care Homes around Christ Church Parish for some carol singing on the afternoons of Wednesday 13th & Thursday 14th December (starting from 2:15pm).

Please do 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.



We would love for you to join us!

## CAP CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

If anyone would like to donate to Christmas Hampers for CAP's clients you can either pay online to:

PCC EMMANUEL WSM

Account Number 82608393

Sort Code 60 23 32

(using the reference: Hamper)

or put your contribution in an envelope marked 'Hamper' and place it in our new collection box

or just give Carl your contribution.

The payment from Emmanuel has to be made by Friday 8 December 2023.



If anyone would like to know more about the CAP Christmas Hampers - see their newsletter (on our website (under 'Church Life' / 'Mission Partner News')) or, alternatively, please click [here](#).

## Christingles



If you can help prepare oranges for the Christingle Service on the morning of Saturday 9th December (from 10am) in the Spire Centre (Rooms 1+2) please contact Nicky (family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk)

# More coffee anyone...



**A good time was had by all at the Active Men's SS Great Britain trip!**

## ALPHA COURSE

**GOT QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE**



OUR NEXT ALPHA COURSE WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS STARTING IN MID-JANUARY.

IT'S DESIGNED FOR ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE THE FAITH A LITTLE... MAYBE YOU HAVE A FRIEND WHO YOU COULD INVITE ALONG? IF SO, PLEASE DO BE IN TOUCH WITH ANGIE, LARISSA, OR TOM.

### Emmanuel Coffee Morning

**Saturday 3rd December  
10:30am-12noon**

Emmanuel are holding a coffee morning this Saturday and will be selling off some remaining items from last week's Christmas Bazaar!



## REPAIR CAFE

On 11th November the monthly Weston Repair Café at Christ Church, Montpelier celebrated a significant milestone - we had completed our first full year of operation.

A huge thank you went to the church for hosting us, to all our community volunteers, and to our guests who have brought along over 200 items for advice or repair, keeping many from ending up in landfill. Together with the café team, offering wonderful cake and cuppas and a very warm welcome, we have all had great fun and made new friends along the way.

The generous donations received each month enabled us to present the Weston Foodbank with a cheque for £600. Their manager, Frederique, was able to join us and said "I am delighted to receive such a large donation from another community-led project. This will help us to continue supporting people in our town with essentials as winter approaches." A further gift of £350 was given to the Church's fund to install power-assisted doors to ease pushchair and disabled access.

If you haven't managed to get to one of our sessions yet, do give us a try. You don't need to bring an item for repair - just come and have a cuppa!

