

Connected

Sunday Next Before Advent

Sunday 24th November 2024

'Blue Christmas' Reflective Evening Service



At this time of year, if you're watching the TV or out shopping, it's nearly impossible to avoid the news that Christmas is coming!

By now, I expect many of us are giving some thought to this season. This can produce a number of different reactions within us - all the way from excitement to panic. For some of us, this season may be especially difficult. But I also imagine that many of us get swamped with the busyness of it all and miss why Christians celebrate it.

At the start of Advent, next Sunday evening (1st December), we have a reflective service helping us prepare for the Christmas season; to find space and purpose in this special time.

It will be at 6pm at Christ Church - you'd be very welcome.

Tom

Sermon Snippets

Christ Church Romans 12: 1-21

This is the last Sunday in our sermon series exploring being ROOTED and FRUITED in Christ.

Paul's writing in Romans about how we are to live as followers of Christ is both countercultural and challenging. So how does knowing WHO we are, and WHOSE we are, equip us for HOW we are to live.

Let's think about this together on Sunday.



Emmanuel John 18: 33-37

Pilate asks Jesus, "Are you King of the Jews?". We afford Jesus many titles - Saviour, Master, Lord, Good Shepherd - many of these may reflect what we would like Him to be for us.

Today we celebrate Christ as King. What does that mean for us? How should we respond to being His subjects?



Watch the Morning Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

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

Prayer Pointers

Church Family:

We pray for the seeds sown so far in all those taking part in our Life Groups: "So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ." (Ephesians 3: 17-18). Let us lift up to our Lord our loved ones and those in our Church family who are sick, suffering, lost, lonely, hurting, or bereaved. We pray that they may know God's presence amidst their pain.

Let us bring before the Lord those in both our Church families who are feeling stretched at this time, especially with Christmas preparations on the horizon. We pray that they can cope and that they remain hopeful that God will bring strength and peace.

The Local Area:

We live in troubled days. As Christmas time approaches, pray for those in our community who are struggling with debts and the consequences to daily life that arise from these, thinking especially of the Foodbank as they help increasing numbers of people in poverty.

As the colder weather approaches, let us bring before the Lord our street we live in, the local town and community, families on the edge, and especially the homeless.

Matthew 6: 32-34 - "Your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need."

National Prayer:

We pray for our children in society today - for their education, for the youngsters who are at crisis point and slipping through the cracks of education, and also for child food poverty. We lift up to our Lord all who are working supporting local schools, for school educators, and school staff. Pray that the children may grow into the fullness that God has in store for each of them.

We pray for our farmers at this time - of the extra tax implication that has hit them in the budget, how this may affect crops, the working conditions as they work in the changing seasons, and the effect this may have on the availability of local produce.

Please take time to reflect in your prayers and think how God may be prompting us to make a difference.

Global Prayer:

We pray for the people of Ukraine and ask the Lord to be close to them at this time - protecting them, helping them, and encouraging them to walk in His ways so that peace will become a reality in Ukraine and around the world.

What's On This Week

Saturday 23rd November

Christmas Bazaar : 10:30am-1:30pm at Emmanuel

Monday 25th November

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Tuesday 26th November

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel

The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

Wednesday 27th November

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10:15am at Christ Church

Thursday 28th November

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

Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Saturday 30th November

Christmas Fayre : 10am-2pm at Christ Church

Sunday 1st December

Reflective Evening Service at 6pm at Christ Church

Verse For The Week

"Jesus said 'My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.' 'You are a king, then!' said Pilate. Jesus answered 'You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.'"

John 18: 36-37

Life Bookshop

Andrew & Lydia will be taking a sabbatical in the new year. Their opening hours during November/December have changed slightly and then, during January/February, they will only be open on Wednesdays 10am-1pm.

Please see the noticeboards in both churches for full details.



Contact Details

Rev. Tom Webber (Day Off - Tuesday)

t: (01934) 709343

e: revtom@ccwsm.org.uk

Church Office (09:30-12:30 Mon-Fri)

t: (01934) 641016

e: office@ccwsm.org.uk

w: www.ccwsm.org.uk

Coffee after the Service...

Emmanuel Christmas Bazaar

**This Saturday, 23rd November
10:30am til 1:30pm**

**Variety of Stalls / Homemade Cakes
Refreshments (including lunches)**

See you there!

Christ Church & Emmanuel Carol Services Choir

Don't forget... Christmas Choir rehearsals start this Sunday, 24th November (12:30pm-2pm) at Christ Church. If you are attending the morning service (at either church), it is suggested that you bring a packed lunch to eat before rehearsals start.

If you would like more information, or would like to join in but haven't yet signed-up, please contact Angeline via email before Sunday (angeline.white@ccwsm.org.uk).



Carol Singing in Care Homes

Please do sign-up on the sheet at the back of church if you are available to join us carol singing in some local Care Homes on either one or both of the following afternoons in December:



**Wednesday 11th
&/or Friday 13th
starting from 2:15pm
(meet at Christ
Church at 2pm)**

We would love for you to join us!

Christ Church Christmas 'Fayre'

Saturday 30th November 10am til 2pm

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

Light lunches will also be available.

Also:

*Children's Corner / Books / Puzzles / Crafts /
Cakes (& other edibles) / Gift Items*

*Please continue to bring any donations to the
Church Office as follows:*

- Jigsaws / Books / Craft
- Cakes (& other edibles)
- Brand New / Nearly New Gift Items

*...& pop your name on the sign-up sheet if
you can help in any way! Thank you.*

Come To Church Sunday

On Sunday 8th December at Christ Church we are having a 'Come To Church Sunday' as a precursor to our Christmas Services which, at that time, will be just around the corner!

Please pray about this service and ask God to lay on your heart anyone who he might want you to invite along.

Flyers/invites are now available for you to take away.

More coffee anyone...?

Dave Wilkes' **Funeral**

The funeral for Dave Wilkes
will be held on:
Thursday 12th December
at 12noon
at Christ Church

All church family
are invited.



BIBLE READING NOTES

LAST WEEK TO ORDER YOUR
BIBLE READING NOTES FOR 2025!



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLACE AN ORDER,
PLEASE CONTACT EMMA IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.
PAYMENT OF ONE YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION WILL BE REQUIRED ON
PLACING THE ORDER (EMMA CAN LET YOU KNOW HOW MUCH THIS
WILL BE). PAYMENT CAN BE MADE BY CHEQUE, CASH, OR CARD.

CAP News



The Weston Area CAP Centre is
being wound down and will
close next year. For more
information, please visit our
website (Church Life / Mission
Partner News) or, alternatively,
click [here](#) to view.

Frances Trickey's Funeral

The funeral for Frances
Trickey will be held on:
Friday 6th December at
12:15pm at Christ Church

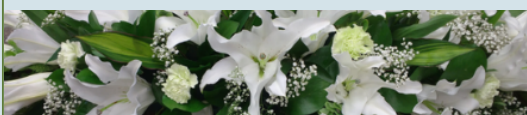
All church family are
invited.

Please do feel free to wear
colourful clothes.

Donations can be made to
Weston Hospicecare either
on the day or via:

francestrickey.muchloved.com

Lunch will be served in
the church afterwards -
for catering purposes, if
you are planning to stay
for lunch, could you please
either speak to Jolyon
directly or contact Emma
in the Church Office.



Shirley Hunt would like to say
thank you to everyone who came
to Mike's funeral and also for all
the cards and messages she
received which have been very
much appreciated.

**Thank
You**

CHURCH SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

IF ANYONE WANTS TO DO SOME BASIC ONLINE
SAFEGUARDING TRAINING, EVEN IF THEY ARE NOT
ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN VOLUNTEERING WITH
CHURCH GROUPS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG
PEOPLE OR VULNERABLE ADULTS, IT IS EASY TO
LOG ONTO THE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING PORTAL:

[HTTPS://SAFEGUARDINGTRAINING.COFEPORTAL.ORG/](https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/)

(SCROLL DOWN THE PAGE AND CLICK ON "CREATE
AN ACCOUNT" AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS,
PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THE USER NAME AND
PASSWORD YOU USE FOR FUTURE USE)

I SUGGEST YOU DO THE SAFEGUARDING
AWARENESS WHICH TAKES ABOUT 1 HOUR.
WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED IT, PLEASE
FORWARD ME THE EMAIL WITH YOUR CERTIFICATE
THAT YOU GET SENT FOR OUR CHURCH RECORDS.
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
ME (EMAIL: [SAFEGUARDING@CCWSM.ORG.UK](mailto:safeguarding@ccwsm.org.uk))

Anne Jones