

Connected

Sunday 30th November 2025

1st Sunday Of Advent

Sermon Snippets

Christ Church

Isaiah 35: 1-10

Watch Out!

How do you view the future? There may be a big difference between how you see your upcoming trip to the dentist and this year's fast approaching Christmas dinner. The word Advent means 'the arrival' and is seen as a time of preparation for the arrival of God, not only his coming as a human baby but his final coming to complete a new eternal kingdom.



The Old Testament constantly looks towards the 'Day Of The Lord' which will bring final justice and judgement on evil and bring peace and righteousness for ever.

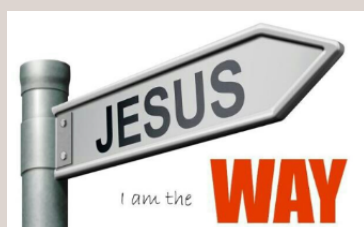
The same event is portrayed as both something to fear and something to look forward to. How can one event evoke such opposing feelings? It is easy to see how God coming in judgement could make us worried about our actions, but how is it a time of joy and celebration?

EMMANUEL

JOHN 14: 1-7

ADVENT SUNDAY REMINDS US THAT WE ARE WELL ADVISED TO REMEMBER THE FIRST ADVENT WHEN JESUS CAME TO EARTH AT WHAT WE CALL CHRISTMASTIME. WITHIN THAT REMEMBRANCE IS THE EXPECTATION THAT JESUS WILL COME A SECOND TIME.

OUR SERMON WILL ASK THE QUESTIONS - IF JESUS IS OUR WAY? AND WHERE ARE WE EXPECTING TO GO WHEN WE LEAVE THIS LIFE?



Our Christmas Services!

Please see below the dates and times of all our planned Christmas Services. Invitations are now available for you to take away and give to friends/family/neighbours!

Christ Church & Emmanuel

But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.'

Luke 2: 10-11



Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas

Christ Church

Montpelier, BS23 2RH

website: www.ccwsm.org.uk

Christingle Service

4pm on Sunday 14th December

Candlelit Carol Service

6pm on Sunday 21st 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

website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11148/

Carol Singing In Church Square

2:30pm on Monday 15th December

Town Centre Carol Service

12:30pm on Thursday 18th December

Candlelit Carol Service

7pm on Friday 19th December

Holy Communion

10:30am on Christmas Day

Watch the Morning Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

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

Prayer Pointers

MONDAY : Father God, today we pray after receiving the budget. You tell us to be anxious for nothing and you know the end from the beginning. So, guided by you Lord, we pray that our spiritual, political, and social leaders might realise they are doomed to failure without your rule, guidance, and power.

TUESDAY : We pray that we may answer your call to be salt and light in a country that seems to be getting ever darker and leaderless.

WEDNESDAY : We pray, Lord, that our Christmas Bazaar (Emmanuel) and Christmas Fayre (Christ Church) may be times of real Christian fellowship - and also encouragement to want growing contact with our two churches - thus experiencing our witness to our wonderful Saviour.

THURSDAY : Lord, we pray for our carol singers and all doing visits in our parish, especially Nashley House and other homes. May their singing, conversations, or just the warmth of their smiles take the very presence of Jesus into every home.

FRIDAY : We pray for Angeline, the choir, and musicians as they rehearse for the carol services. May the congregations be set on fire for true worship through your Holy Spirit.

SATURDAY : In remembering loved ones no longer with us at this time, we ask you Father to give your abundant love and comfort to all the bereaved and for special memories of times past, bringing overwhelming joy rather than distress and regrets. So, Lord, may all of our prayers be wonderfully answered by you our faithful God.

Verse For The Week

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him'."

John 14: 6-7

What's On This Week

Saturday 29th November

Emmanuel's Christmas Bazaar from 10:30am-1:45pm

Sunday 30th November

'Blue Christmas' Service at 6pm at Christ Church

Monday 1st December

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Tuesday 2nd December

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel

The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

Wednesday 3rd December

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10:15am at Christ Church

Thursday 4th December

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

Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Friday 5th December

Ambassador's Christmas Lunch at 1pm at Beachlands
(for those who have signed-up)

Saturday 6th December

Christ Church Christmas Fayre from 10am-2pm

Coffee Morning from 10:30am-12noon at Emmanuel

Christmas Notices!

Church Office Closed

Please note that the Church Office will be closed from Thursday 4th til Monday 8th December inclusive and also Monday 22nd December til Friday 2nd January inclusive.

Carol Service Choir Rehearsals

Carol Service Choir rehearsals continue this Sunday, 12:30pm-2pm at Christ Church. Bring a packed lunch to church and then join us for rehearsal.

Christmas Invitations

If you are able to take a batch of invites to deliver to a specific road within Christ Church Parish, please speak to Emma in the Church Office. Thank you.

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.

Coffee after the Service...

Emmanuel Christmas Bazaar

Do come and join us
this Saturday,
29th November, from
10:30am til 1:45pm

We would love to
see you there!

'Blue Christmas' Healing & Wholeness Service

Sunday 30th November
6pm at Christ Church

Some of us love
this time of year
but get caught up
in the busyness,
and others of us
find this season a
difficult one.



We have a 'Healing & Wholeness' Advent
service at 6pm this coming Sunday,
30th November, at Christ Church – it's
a quiet, reflective service and you would
all be very welcome.

Please do join us in preparing for
this season so that we may live the
next few weeks more consciously
in God's company.

Mince Pies - Emmanuel

We will be in need of boxes of mince pies
for all the various carol singing events at
Emmanuel - please do bring them to church
over the next couple of Sundays.

Christ Church Christmas 'Fayre'

Saturday 6th December
10am til 2pm

Cakes (& other edibles) / Gift Items / Books / Puzzles / Crafts



Also: Children's Corner and...
...Father Christmas will be visiting
us between 11am-12noon!



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.

Donations for the stalls can be brought to the Church Office
anytime between now and Wednesday 3rd December.

Volunteers are needed for various tasks - please
pop your name on the sign-up sheet at the back of
Church if you can help in any way. Thank you.

Carol Singing in Care Homes

We are again planning to visit a few of
the Care Homes within Christ Church
Parish for some carol singing on:
Friday 12th December
Wednesday 17th December
starting from 2:15pm
(folk to meet at Christ Church at 2pm)

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.



More coffee anyone...?

Active Men's Skittles

Everyone had a great time at the Active Men's skittles evening on Saturday...



...many congratulations to David for winning the trophy!

Christingles

**Saturday
13th December
(from 10am) in
the Spire Centre
(Rooms 1+2).**



We will be preparing oranges for the Christingle Service on the morning of Saturday 13th December.

If you can help with this, please speak to Nicky or email her: family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk



Emmanuel

Coffee Morning

The next 'Coffee Morning and Sale' at Emmanuel will be on Saturday 6th December from 10:30am-12noon

Another chance to browse any items which did not sell at the Bazaar



For those who have signed-up for the Ambassadors' Christmas meal on Friday 5th December, please aim to get to the Beachlands at about 12:30pm ready for a 1pm start

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/> (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 Basic Awareness which takes about an hour. When you have completed it, please forward me the email with your certificate which you get sent for our church records. If you have any questions, please contact me, Anne Jones, at email: safeguarding@ccwsm.org.uk

SAVE THE DATE

Church Weekend At Home 2026

When: 9th-11th October
Speaker: Bishop Mike Hill (Tom's old Bishop who is an excellent speaker)
More details to follow...

explore

life
faith
meaning

Alpha

Our next Alpha course will be starting mid-January 2026 (date to be confirmed)

It is designed for anyone who would like to explore the faith a little... maybe you have a family member or friend or colleague who you could invite along?

If so, please do be in touch with Tom or Sian.

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
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