

PARISH OF ESHER

CHRIST CHURCH, ESHER with ST GEORGE'S, WEST END

SHARING THE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE IN ESHER

Reconciling - Sustaining - Guiding - Healing

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9 DECEMBER 2018

WELCOME TO OUR SERVICES

If you are new to the parish or worshipping with us for the first time please introduce yourselves to a member of the clergy or one of our churchwardens or sidespeople. This sheet gives some words that will be needed in the services and notices about the life of the church communities. Please do take it home.

TODAY'S SERVICES

9.00am	Sung Communion at St George's led by David and John Sandison
Reading & Prayers	Caroline St Gallay
Chalice	Clare Craigmile
10.30am	Parish Communion at Christ Church led by David and John Sandison
Churchwarden	Beverley Eastwood-Taylor or Will Stevens
Sides	Margaret Dane, Pam Stark, David Stark
Reading	Rosemary Seaton
Prayers	Jane Tyrrell
Chalice	Pam Stark, David Stark

MUSIC

9.00am	Sung Communion
Hymns	39, 46, 75
10.30am	Parish Communion
Hymns	39, 46, 815, 41
Anthem	<i>Torches, torches</i> (Joubert)
Musicians	Keith Howell-Jones, Stuart Whatton

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first
coming that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

READING Malachi 3.1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight - indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

PSALM 25.1-9

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

2 O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

3 Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

4 Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

6 Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

8 Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

GOSPEL Luke 3.1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."'

PARISH NOTICES

2018 Advent Appeal - This year we are raising money for the Children's Society, a charity specialising in providing direct support to the most vulnerable 10-18 year olds across the country. They focus on five areas of work - young carers, drug/alcohol abuse, runaways, refugee/asylum seekers and child sexual exploitation. Please give generously to this worthwhile cause by using an appeal envelope in the pews. Thank you.

#FollowTheStar this Christmas - Christmas brings up so many expectations, emotions and memories. We have one nativity story but we all seem to have very different Christmases. The Church of England's Christmas campaign #FollowTheStar doesn't ask you to be perfect but to just come as you are to take the life-changing Christmas journey. To embark on the journey sign-up for emails at <https://www.churchofengland.org/followthestar>.

Parish Christmas Lunch - The Christmas Lunch is taking place today at 12.30pm at the Bear. Two course menu, filter coffee and gratuity. Price £25 per person. There may be some spare spaces still. If you are interested please speak with Peggy Howell-Jones.

Mince Pies needed! - Our annual Festival of Lessons & Carols is at 6pm on Sunday 23 December - a great occasion to prepare for the good news of Christmas. We shall be serving mince pies and mulled wine after the service. Everyone is very welcome. If you can help with providing mince pies please sign-up on the sheet. Many thanks.

Posada Dolls - To make room at home for Mary and Joseph for one night during Advent do sign-up in Christ Church. Pass the Posada dolls to the next person on the list. Thank you.

Music on the Green Come & Sing Carols - Please come and enjoy festive food with your favourite carols at Christ Church on Wednesday 19 December at 12.30pm.

Sundays 23 December - Please note on Sunday 23 December there is Sunday Morning Prayer at Christ Church at 8am, the usual 9am and 10.30am services at St George's and Christ Church and the Festival of Lessons & Carols at Christ Church at 6pm.

Ever wondered if you could help - Yes, you can either by being a sidesperson, a reader, an intercessor or a chalice assistant. And you would be very welcome too. If you are interested please do speak to a churchwarden or sign-up. To be a chalice assistant you will need to be trained and we will be arranging a short training course in the new year for all those who wish to volunteer. It would be great to involve more people in our services at Christ Church and St George's so please do think about how you can help.

Sermons - All sermons are now being uploaded to the Parish website under latest news.

Interregnum - The Parish of Esher is in a temporary period of being without a Rector, known as an Interregnum ('between reigns') or a Vacancy. The legal responsibility for the parish rests with the churchwardens, Sandra Argent and Beverley Eastwood-Taylor, and supported by the PCC. We will follow a process laid down by the Church of England to find and choose a new Rector. We will fully engage the parish, we will keep you informed of progress and will seek your views, feedback and opinions as and when appropriate.

Please stay for coffee or tea after the service.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Naomi Shaw, Tara Duffy, Jackie Hinton, Shirley Marshall, Yasmin Ingram, Betty Walker, Margaret Williams, Beverley Eastwood-Taylor, Lindsay Handcock

RIP Anniversaries: Muriel Ross, Francis Walden, George Thirtle, Charles Watson, Cicely Martin

RIP: Stephen Semple, Mark Redman, Ian Armstrong

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Taken from the Church of England Lectionary - readings for Morning Prayer are given below. All are welcome to use Christ Church for daily prayer.

December		Time	Reading
Monday	10		Isaiah 45.14-end; Ps 44; 1 Thessalonians 1
Tuesday	11		Isaiah 46; Ps 56; 1 Thessalonians 2.1-12
Wednesday	12		Isaiah 47; Ps 62; 1 Thessalonians 2.13-end
Thursday	13		Isaiah 48.1-11; Ps 54; 1 Thessalonians 3
Friday	14		Isaiah 48.12-end; Ps 86; 1 Thessalonians 4.1-12

LOOKING AHEAD

December		Time	Event
Sunday	9	12.30pm	Parish Christmas Lunch, The Bear
		5.30pm	Pioneers, Christ Church
Wednesday	12	7.30pm	Esher High School Christmas Concert
Thursday	13	10.00am	Fellowship Group
		Midday	Funeral: Stephen Semple
Friday	14	All day	Parish Office closed
Saturday	15	11.15am	Moore Place Care Home Communion
Sunday	16	5.30pm	Voyagers, Esher Church School
Monday	17	6.00pm	Christ Church Choir Carol Singing, Arbrook House Care Home
Wednesday	19	9.00am	Esher Church School Christmas Services, Christ Church
		12.30pm	Music on the Green lunchtime event: Come & Sing Carols
		3.00pm	Christ Church Choir Carol Singing, Moore Place Care Home

CONTACTS

RECTOR Vacancy	PARISH OF ESHER Website www.esherparish.org.uk Twitter www.twitter.com/esherparish Christ Church Open Every day, 9am to 3pm
PARISH OFFICE Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS Tel 01372 462282 Email office@esherparish.org.uk Office Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 10-12am	

All main events at Christ Church unless stated otherwise