

27th December 2020

WELCOME

Christmas 1

to

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST



9.45 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST

Collect

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so may we share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings

Isaiah 61 v 10 – 62 v 3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Galatians 4 vv 4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Luke 2 vv 15-21

When the angels had left them and gone in to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered

them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Psalm 148 vv 7-end (Page 535 in the red Prayer Book)

Hymns

- Angels from the realms of glory (44)
- Away in a manger (45)
- Once in royal David's city (omit v 3) (66)
- Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child (60)
- Joy to the world, the Lord is come! (57)

Reflection – Christmas Lectio

In the silence of falling snow, the Word comes gently to my heart, its beauty whispered deep and hidden before the dawn light, its virgin presence making all things new.

David Hodges

Christmas Socks and Jumpers

Thank you to everyone who joined in last week by wearing their Christmas attire. We hope you checked out the photos on Facebook. You helped to raise £62.45 for church funds.

Thank You re the Little Trees

Thank you again to everyone who has joined in decorating little trees. The total raised currently is £500+ which far exceeds what we thought. The charity has asked that thanks be given to everyone for supporting them. Their decorated tree and details of the group are on the Font Tree.

Thank You to Maralyn and Brenda

For sorting out the problems at the bank and getting to 200 Club cheques up to date – just in time for Christmas. We are sorry it took a while to get them all distributed but at the moment things do take time if we are to do things safely. It was lovely, however, to see happy faces as the cheques were handed over.

Thank You to Chris and Charlotte

Who cleared some space and cleaned parts of the gallery in time for Christmas Eve as we may get some visitors to our service who we would not want to turn away if at all possible.

Mile of Pennies

The Mile of Pennies total is usually added to the Autumn Fair money but as this did not take place this year we have put the MoP money in to the General Fund. £130 was raised this year and we thank everyone who collected their small change

during the last year. It is a great total given the Corona virus restrictions in which we have been operating this year.

Entering Church

Taking into consideration the current Tier 3 situation, the corona virus statistics and concerns about numbers of people going into church apart from our Sunday worship the wardens along with Canon Elaine have made the decision that the lock on the outer door will be temporarily changed and only limited keys will be issued. This is for the health and wellbeing of everyone. Anyone wishing to enter the church for reasons other than services, although we do not envisage this being a regular request, will need to speak to Elaine, Claire or Alan. We hope that the majority of things can wait until Sunday when we are open as normal. Thank you for your co-operation on this.

Annual Raffle

This is now organised and is called a Valentine's Raffle. The draw will take place in church at 11 a.m. on Sunday, 7th February 2021. There will be a cash prize, Valentine Spring Hamper, wine, spirits and goodies galore. If you have not received any raffle tickets to sell or need some more please see either Mary Bucknell or Brenda Green.

Used Postage Stamps

In this Christmas time just a reminder that Pat Gregory would like your used postage stamps please. These go to help The Bransby Home for Horses. There will be baskets in each porch so any donation of stamps can be left there. Thank you.

Mission of St. John's Church

To be a caring community striving to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ;
sharing in the love of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
and to love our neighbour, having the Eucharist at the centre of our worship.