

Willen Church Newsheet
for
the Fourth Sunday before Advent

Website: www.willenchurch.org



Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership
St Mary Magdalene, Willen
Sunday 5th November, 2023
The Fourth Sunday before Advent



Today: The Fourth Sunday before Advent

9.30am All Age Morning Worship led by Margaret Moakes LLM.

Thank you, Margaret, for leading us this morning Refreshments after service.

11.00am Signed Communion at Cross & Stable led by Rev Peter Green

Service details for SEP churches are on SEP website and in monthly newsletter

This week

St Mary Magdalene church is open for private prayer or quiet reflection on Mondays from 9.30am until c.3.00pm. Also open on Sunday until 4.00pm if volunteer available to close church – please sign rota in church foyer.

ChatterboxMK at Cross & Stable each Wednesday 10.30am to 12.30pm. All Welcome - tea - coffee - cakes - chat. Come and meet others.

Volunteer Gardening at St Mary Magdalene Church. Join volunteers as they continue with the upkeep. New faces welcome! **Saturdays 10am – 12pm** Even if you only come sometimes speak to Sharron about joining the WhatsApp group.

Next week November 12th Third Sunday before Advent, Remembrance Sunday

9.30am Holy Communion led by Rev Dr. Sam Muthuveloe

10.00am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial led by Rev Dr. Sam Muthuveloe

Saturday **11th November** 14.00 – 16.00 God's Heroes a Free Event at Cross & Stable, Downs Barn, MK14 7RZ for children aged 4 – 10 and their parents. Join for an afternoon of story telling, crafts, games, music, singing, drama. GodsHeroes@CrossAndStable.org

Saturday **11th November** 10.45 – 11.15am annual service at the Milton Keynes Rose for Armistice Day with silence at 11am followed by wreath laying.

<p>Pastoral contact: Revd Dr Sam Muthuveloe Tel: 01908 668829 priest@willenchurch.org Stephen Fletcher LLM, 07428118450, Stephen@willenchurch.org</p>	<p>Margaret Moakes Licensed Lay Minister Telephone: 01908 237915 Margaret@willenchurch.org Church website: www.willenchurch.org</p>
<p>Churchwarden Brad Stone 01908 990 901 warden@willenchurch.org Please contact Brad with any queries for weddings, funerals and baptisms</p>	
<p>Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership: www.stantonbury.net and Facebook Please email short succinct notices to notices@willenchurch.org by 5pm on the preceding Thursday</p>	

The Collect of the Fourth Sunday before Advent

God of glory,
touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit,
that we with all creation
may rejoice to sing your praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*



OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 35 (NRSV)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.'

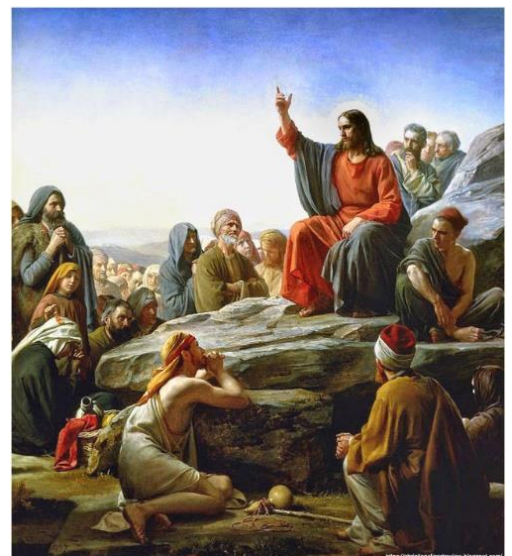
⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸ A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;



Sermon on the Mount
by [Carl Bloch](#) (1877)

no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.
⁹ No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5: 1 – 12 (NRSV)

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³ 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

This is the gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you, O Christ

NOTICES

Thank you to Tony and Brad for all their work to make the Tower roof watertight. There have been no leaks following recent heavy rains and we pray that it will remain watertight until a permanent repair or replacement can be funded and organised.

Dates for your diary:

T.T.T.T (Third Tuesday at Twelve Thirty) Pop along to St Mary Magdalene Church Willen and be entertained by Webster and Ferguson on Tuesday 21 November at 1230 Saturday **2nd December** Willen Pavilion - afternoon children's event for Advent. Please note that there are now no plans for an evening event.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS - Please pray for

- The Hospice: Please pray for all those facing the end of life; for their families and those who care for them. Please pray particularly for the hospice and the staff who work hard to help people through difficult times.
- Tearfund, a Christian charity which partners with local churches and organisations in over 50 of the world's poorest countries. It tackles poverty and injustice through sustainable development, responding to disasters and injustice. www.tearfund.org

Sick: Louise Folley, Mark & Janice Earls, Fr Edmund Wheat SSM, Lyn Coppendale, Mike Halliwell, Alison Read, Gill Farrow, Paul Smith, Michael Hall, Harold Redwood

RIP: There will be a service of Cremation for the late Revd Robert Cecil Macaulay at the **Oak Chapel** at the Crown Hill Crematorium will be at 10.45 am on **Wednesday 15th Nov. 2023** followed by an opportunity to meet the family and one another at Cross & Stable Church for around 12 noon for food and drinks. We thank God for Cecil's life and all that he has contributed in God's kingdom here on earth and pray for Pat his wife, daughter Hilary & son Ian as they grieve his passing. May the God of all comfort be very real to them at this time.

World Prayers: All those who died and those bereaved, injured, made homeless or otherwise affected by the strife in Israel and Gaza and those trying to find resolution

CTE Presidents appeal for prayers for peace in the Middle East:

This week the Churches Together in England Presidents met, prayed together and shared their overwhelming grief at events in the Middle East. They urged their Christian brothers and sisters to gather together and join them in prayer:

"We appeal to churches to meet together and to pray for peace in the Middle East"

The Presidents of Churches Together in England

Nov. 5 [World Tsunami Awareness Day](#) **Nov. 6** [International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict](#) **Nov. 9 - 15** [International Week of Science and Peace](#) **Nov. 10** [World Science Day for Peace and Development](#)

HYMNS - Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New -

- 178** For all the saints
- 626** Take up thy cross, the Saviour said
- 231** God's Spirit is in my heart
- 876** O when the saints go marching in

