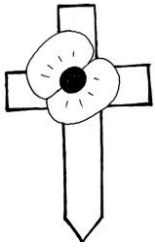




Willen Church Newsheet
The Second Sunday before Advent



Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership
St Mary Magdalene, Willen
Sunday 19th November, 2023
The Second Sunday before Advent



Today: The Second Sunday before Advent

9.30am Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Jonathan Ewer SSM

Thank you, Jonathan, for leading us this morning

11.00am Morning Worship at Cross & Stable led by Stephen Fletcher LLM

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.

Tuesday 21 November at 1230 **T.T.T.T** (Third Tuesday at Twelve Thirty) Pop along to St Mary Magdalene Church Willen and be entertained by Webster and Ferguson

The **Congregation Leadership Team** will meet online on Tuesday, November 21 at 7.00pm. If there are any matters you would like the team to consider at the meeting please speak to David Preston or any of the members of the team or email secretary@willenchurch.org

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

Next week November 26th Sunday next before Advent, Christ the King

9.30am Holy Communion led by Rev Steve Barnes

PRAYER OF THE DAY Almighty and eternal God, you have kindled the flame of love in the hearts of the saints: grant to us the same faith and power of love, that, as we rejoice in their triumphs, we may be sustained by their example and fellowship; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

<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 <i>Church website: www.willenchurch.org</i></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 Second Sunday before Advent

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



PSALM 90 (NRSV)

- ¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling-place
in all generations.
- ² Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
- ³ You turn us back to dust,
and say, 'Turn back, you mortals.'
- ⁴ For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night.
- ⁵ You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;
- ⁶ in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.
- ⁷ For we are consumed by your anger;
by your wrath we are overwhelmed.
- ⁸ You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- ¹² So teach us to count our days
that we may gain a wise heart.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Thessalonians 5: 1 – 11 (NRSV)

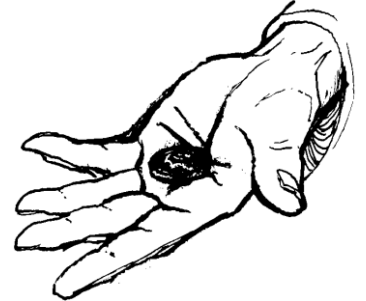
A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

- ¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who

have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God



GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25: 14 – 30 (NRSV)

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

Glory to you, O Lord

¹⁴ 'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." ²¹His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." ²³His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." ²⁶But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

NOTICES

Dates for your diary:

Saturday **2nd December** Willen Pavilion - afternoon children's event for Advent. Please note that there are now no plans for an evening event.

Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership has a vacancy for **an elected trustee** to join our Trustee Group. Trustees need to be nominated by 2 members of the Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership. The vacancy is initially until the 2024 AGM when the Trustee can stand for re-election. Nominations should be sent to Anne Slee by 17 December 2023 anne.e.slee@gmail.com Further details have been circulated with the newsheet email or are available from Anne Slee.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS - Please pray for

- organisations that work with young people. Please pray for those who run these organisations, and for volunteers who give their time. those who have nowhere to call home
- our preparations for Advent and Christmas; that we might be prepared ourselves to welcome Christ afresh into our own lives and share the message of Christ's coming with our community.
- 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

World Prayers: For political and military leaders to seek peaceful resolution in place of conflict. For provision of medical aid and basic supplies for those in greatest need. Nov 13–19 [World Antibiotic Awareness Week](#) Nov 19 [World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims](#); [World Toilet Day](#) Nov 20 [World Children's Day](#) Nov 25 [International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women](#)

We pray for those throughout the world who suffer as a result of poverty and hunger: that there may be a fairer sharing of the earth's resources, so that all may have what they need to live.

November 19 Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680 *O God of peace, by whose grace the abbess Hilda was endowed with gifts of justice, prudence, and strength to rule as a wise mother over the nuns and monks of her household, and to become a trusted and reconciling friend to leaders of the Church: Give us the grace to recognize and accept the varied gifts you bestow on men and women, that our common life may be enriched and your gracious will be done; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen*

HYMNS - Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New -

- 210** God! As with silent hearts we bring to mind
- 224** God of freedom, God of justice
- 379** Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us