



Weekly News

Sunday 7th December 2025

A family following Jesus

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9 v 6 (NIV)

Welcome to our Morning Service with communion led by Revd Karen Bugg

Order of Service

Welcome and notices

Lighting the advent candles

Song: Light of the world (Here I am to worship)

Song 493: O come, o come Emmanuel

Media clip

Song 539: Once in royal David's city

Children leave for their group during carol

Bible Reading - Isaiah 9 vs 1 -7

Talk

Song 1157: Behold the lamb (The communion hymn)

Communion

Intercessions

Song 1282: Hear the call of the kingdom

Blessing

The Grace

Please come and join us for **carol singing for Christian Aid** outside Tesco on **Saturday December 13th at 10.30** for approximately an hour. The money raised will go to help people fleeing conflict in the DR Congo. Come even if you can't stay the whole time.

In our services throughout Advent, we are reflecting on the wonder of the incarnation - when God takes on flesh in the form of Jesus, the baby in the manger. Along with this theme, there is a prayer journey you can join with, running from 1st December to Christmas Day. You can sign up and follow on the YouVersion Bible app or receive an e-mail each day. Here's the sign up link: <https://licc.org.uk/ourresources/small-wonder-a-christmas-devotional-journey/> Do join in with this if you can!

Rosie Richardson would like to thank everyone at church for their kindness and thoughtfulness at this sad time. God bless you all. *Rosie*

Meet & Make is on **Tuesdays, 1.30-3.00 pm** in the Lower Hall, using the Holliday Street entrance. Come and join us for a time spent doing arts and crafts or jigsaws and puzzles. All welcome.

Open Church takes place every **Thursday 10.00 am until noon**. You will find us in the Lower Hall. Do join us for tea/coffee and cake.

Notices

Next Sunday, the **14th December**, will be our **Carols by Candlelight Service at 4pm**. There will not be a morning service on that day.

On **Wednesday 10th December at 7.30pm** we will be having a **Zoom Praise** session, sharing worship videos to sing to. A link will be sent nearer the time.

We need packs of mince pies for the **Glee Club Charity Christmas Concert** which will be held here on **Saturday 13th December at 7pm** and for the **Carols by Candlelight** service on the **14th**. Please help if you can.

First Steps, our parent + toddler group, meets in the Lower Hall **1.30-2.45 on Thursdays** during term-time. We would love to have more helpers – not necessarily present every week – so please see Karen or Beth if you are able to assist.

Our **Small Groups** meet weekly and fortnightly. You are encouraged to attend one to share in mid-week fellowship and learn more about Jesus through his Word. Please speak to Pat Ginger, Sandra Wotton or Alun Sainsbury if you wish to try or join a group.

A reminder to all to please save used stamps, for the charity 'Kicks count'. They work to prevent the death of babies in pregnancy & the early weeks. All you need to do is cut a centimetre around the stamp and pop them in the box in the lower hall. *Thanks Maggie*

The amount raised from our annual **Gift Day appeal** was £3308. A big thank-you goes to all of those members and friends who contributed to this fine total figure.

As agreed at our September Church meeting, a donation of £1100 each will be sent to both the Swan Youth Project, and to the Waterways Chaplaincy. The remaining third will be added to Church funds.

John Ball Treasurer

The local Scout Groups are offering a collection service for real Christmas trees after the Christmas season is over. For a suggested voluntary donation of £6 per tree, they will pick it up on Sunday, January 4, 2026 (or Saturday, January 3, for the Hall Park area), and take it to the Dacorum Council shredder. All funds raised will go to support local Scout charities.

You can book and pay for your tree collection online by 11 pm on January 2, or visit the Scouts' Christmas tree market stall next to Tesco in Berkhamsted between 8:30 am and 12:30 pm on Saturday, January 3.

We are continuing to collect food and other grocery items for the DENS Foodbank; these are delivered to Hemel Hempstead each week. Please leave your contributions in the box in the church entrance.

Their urgent needs include:

- Tinned ham/corned beef
- Tinned fruit
- Cooking sauces
- Long life juice/squash
- Jams and spreads
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned sweetcorn
- Tinned fish
- Sweet and savoury biscuits
- Christmas chocolates and selection packs

- Custard
- Nuts
- Rice pudding
- Sponge puddings
- Roasting trays (large)
- Deodorants
- Laundry liquid/tabs/powder (small packs)
- 2-in-1 shampoo

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Prayers

Please pray for

- The Pastoral Care Team
- Our Christmas services and events
- The NHS
- Those in our church family who are unwell

From BMS World Mission

Most churches in north east India have experienced revival at some point in time. Pray that the flames of revival will be rekindled and that a great missional movement will radiate from here.

Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup;
you make my lot secure.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;

surely I have a delightful inheritance.

I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.

I keep my eyes always on the Lord.

With him at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure,
because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,

nor will you let your faithful one see decay.

You make known to me the path of life;

you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Psalm 16 vs 5 - 11

And finally...

'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.' *Luke 2 v 14 (NIV)*

Items for the next News Sheet to Chris Hayward by Thursday 11th December, please

Motto text 2025: 'When you call out to me and come to me in prayer, I will hear your prayers. When you seek me in prayer and worship, you will find me available to you. If you wholeheartedly seek me, I will make myself available to you,' says the LORD.
Jeremiah 29 vs 12-14 (NET)

