

WHEATHILL PRIORY BENEFICE

“Jesus Lives: Follow Him”

Sunday 6 December 2020 Advent 2

Welcome to the end of Lockdown 2 and tier 2. For us as churches that means we're back worshipping in church for those who wish to come, and we'll also be on YouTube as usual. This week it is the 8:30am service that will be livestreamed but you can watch it later in the day (or week), when you're ready to do so.

The theme of the second week of Advent is the Prophets. In the Old Testament they are the people (usually men, with the notable exception of Deborah in the Book of Judges) who remind Israel and Judah of her calling and challenge people to turn their lives around and turn back to God. Sometimes this feels like a strong and condemnatory word, at other times it is more gentle and encouraging.

Isaiah 40 is one of the gentler prophecies, speaking as it does of comfort and hope. Isaiah calls the people to return home, and to do so by the 'easy route' with the valleys and hills levelled out and a revelation of the glory of God.

This prophecy was in part fulfilled when the exile ended and people began to return to Jerusalem. John the Baptist (who we meet in the Gospel reading) fulfils another part of the prophecy as he cries out in the wilderness, calling people to return. But parts are still to be fulfilled because much as we might like to, all people do not yet see the glory of God, nor do we see him gathering everyone to him.

But the prophecy also reminds us that God and his word are eternal, they will not fail us, nor will they fade away. We can depend upon this word. So maybe this week ask yourself what is the place of the Bible in your life and how do you listen to this Word?

Services and readings for week beginning 6 December

Sunday 6 December Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-8

8:30am Holy Communion Barton, 12:45 Baptism Lydford

4pm Christingle & Advent Star Keinton Churchyard (Please book)

Monday 7 December Psalm 44, Isaiah 45:14-end, 1 Thessalonians 1

9am Morning Prayer Keinton Mandeville

Tuesday 8 December Psalm 56, Isaiah 46, 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

Advent Group 7:30pm on Zoom

Wednesday 9 December Psalm 62, Isaiah 47, 1 Thessalonians 2:13-end

Advent Group 2:30pm in Keinton Church

Thursday 10 December Psalm 54, Isaiah 48:1-11, 1 Thessalonians 3

Friday 11 December Psalm 86, Isaiah 48:12-end, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

Saturday 12 December Psalm 145, Isaiah 49:1-13, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-end

Sunday 13 December **8:30am Holy Communion Keinton**

10:30 Morning Prayer Barton, 4pm A Blue Christmas Lydford

The 'Blue Christmas' also called a 'Quiet Christmas' is a quiet and reflective carol service. Please come if you would like a service with some carols that is inside, and maybe quieter than some other services. It may also be warmer than services that are taking place in barns and churchyards! No need to book.

A reminder that the choir are producing a CD/DVD of the pieces that they've produced in recent months. Please contact Lynne Kirkman to order (01458850040)

Christmas services are booking up, if you have not yet booked then please go to [Wheahill Benefice website](#) and there is a link on the front page, or contact the person taking bookings details are as follows. Bookings help both with managing capacity and complying with track and trace requests, enabling people to access the locations quickly and easily. Please do let the

person taking bookings know *if you book a place and subsequently do not need it.*

For all services please come with a mask for anyone over the age of 12 (advisory at the crib service, needed at all others) and please don't come if you have any Covid symptoms. For the Carol and Crib service please bring chairs and dress appropriately for the outside conditions. The Carol Service is under cover, and hence dry, but unheated and so resembles the outdoors!

If you are unable to use the website the following people are taking bookings:

20 December 2:30pm Carol Service *at Kingweston Grain Store TA11 6BE* (also on YouTube/CD or DVD if requested, please request by 14/12)
Booking Jonathan Beardsworth 01963 240929

wheathillbenefice@gmail.com

24 December, Christmas Eve – 4:00pm Crib Service Keinton Mandeville Churchyard (under gazebos)

Booking Rachel Wilcox 01458 224644 r.kaywillcox@gmail.com

24 December, Christmas Eve – 8:00pm Holy Communion Lydford (also livestreamed to YouTube) Booking Jennie Cooper 01963 240236

jennifer.cooper245@btinternet.com

Christmas Eve 11:15pm Holy Communion Keinton Mandeville

Booking Stephen Jenkins 07831 505 170 familyjenkins@hotmail.com

Christmas Day 25 December 08:30am Holy Communion Barton St David

Booking Carolyn Browning 01458 851617 carolynbrowning@aol.com

Christmas Day 25 December 10:30am Christmas Celebration Lydford

Booking Jennie Cooper 01963 240236 jennifer.cooper245@btinternet.com

It is going to be different, but we hope to see you and look forward to celebrating with you.

We will be singing at the services that are outside.

