

The Second Sunday of Advent

Scripture Readings: Philippians 1:3–11 and Luke 3:1–6



The Lighthouse

Benefice of Dersingham, Anmer,
Ingoldisthorpe and Shernborne

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich

5 December 2021, Issue 82
The Second Sunday of Advent

Services today

9.30 am The Gathering –
contemporary worship
at St Nicholas, Dersingham

11 am Traditional Worship –
Holy Communion
at St Nicholas Dersingham

4 pm Christingle Service
at St Nicholas, Dersingham

Next Sunday, 12 December

9.30 am The Gathering –
with Holy Communion
at St Nicholas, Dersingham

11 am Traditional Worship –
Morning Prayer
at St Nicholas Dersingham

4 pm Tea & Carols –
at St Nicholas Dersingham

Bible readings

Sunday, 12 December

Third Sunday of Advent

First reading: Philippians 4:4–7
Second reading: Luke 3:7–18

Christmas craft activities

18 December, Christmas craft activities in church, 10 am–2 pm, alongside Father Christmas' visit. Come and enjoy making a Christmas decoration or design your own Christmas card!

“And this is my prayer:
that your love may abound more
and more in knowledge and
depth of insight”...

– *Philippians 1:9*

Festive events at St Nicholas, 11–26 December

Trees by Candlelight:
Saturday 11th, 5–9 pm

Tea & Carols: Sunday 12th, 4 pm

**Meet Father Christmas and enjoy
Christmas craft activities:**
Saturday 18th, 10 am–2 pm

Service of Lessons & Carols:
Sunday 19th, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve: Friday 24th
Crib Service 4 pm
Midnight Communion 11:30 pm

Christmas Day: Saturday 25th
Family Christmas Celebration 10 am

Boxing Day: Sunday 26th – no Services today, but our Lessons & Carols Service will be available to enjoy online.

Nearly there We are almost there with paying our Parish Share in full for this year. This is a massive achievement in these challenging times. Thank you! If you are able to reassess your planned giving or make an additional offering to help get us across the line, this would be most gratefully accepted. –*Rev Mark*

Scripture Reading: Luke 3:1–6

‘Take Me to the River’ – Eva Cassidy

Dear Friends, Greetings! Our reading today shows how Luke, the historian, sets the ministry of John the Baptist in historical context. This is how he writes. In Luke chapter 1 Luke records ‘There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias’ [v5]. In chapter 2 he also references the time of Jesus’ birth by mentioning Augustus and Quirinius [v1, 2]. In Luke chapter 3 [our reading today] Luke introduces four men who will play significant roles in Jesus’ crucifixion: Pontius Pilate, Herod, Annas and Caiaphas. He also refers to three officials, Tiberius, Philip and Lysanias, who serve only to date the beginning of John’s ministry to be 26 AD at the earliest or as late as 29 AD. The year 27 AD was a Jubilee year, when debts were cancelled. In a Jubilee year God required people who bought land to return it to the original owner; the year also required that people bound to servitude be freed. [You can read up about all this in Leviticus 25 verses 10, 23, 27, 41.] Was this the year that John baptised Jesus? In Luke 4, after Jesus had been baptised and tempted in the wilderness, he went to the synagogue in Nazareth, and, selected to read publicly, he opened the scroll of the prophet Isaiah and read ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach the good news, to proclaim freedom for prisoners, recovery of sight for the blind, freedom for the oppressed, and to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’ Here is Luke the physician, sharing with us his precise doctor’s notes – pointing to Old Testament promises being fulfilled in Jesus, acknowledging that Jesus is the Messiah, and predicting his way of salvation on the cross.

I lived in a small cottage in Cumbria for a few months while a house sale was completed. Above the front door was the date the cottage was built [1851]. The full address was The Lodge, Garwithfield, Egton-cum-Newland, Pennybridge, Greenodd, Ulverston, Cumbria. Dated and detailed, which is what Luke does for us in our reading today as he announces the arrival of John the Baptist.

With every blessing, Derek the Cleric.

News from The Gathering

Looking ahead to the new year, we are pleased to announce that the Youth Band will resume playing music at this service, one Sunday each month. We thank Roger and Sue DuBois for leading this new outreach, which enables the young people to take their place in leading worship. Please pray for the youth, for Roger and Sue, and for the Gathering as this new venture begins. –*Rev Mark*

Wordsearch: John the Baptist prepares the way



JORDAN DESERT
 PREPARE VALLEY
 BAPTISM VOICE
 ZECHARIAH CAIAPHAS
 CROOKED FORGIVENESS
 JOHN REPENTANCE

Thanks to Carol for this week's puzzle, based on Luke 3:1-6.



DERSINGHAM SCOUTS AND GUIDES

invite you to a

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

On SATURDAY 11th DECEMBER

10 am-12 noon

At the SCOUT & GUIDE HQ

MANOR ROAD

Delicious seasonal refreshments, tombola, raffle – 1st prize Christmas Hamper plus many other prizes, books, jigsaws, cards, games

Fun for all

Proceeds to Dersingham Scout Group & Dersingham Guide Units

Prayers for persecuted Christians around the world: Kenya

Population 53.5 million
 44 million Christians (82%)

Please pray: • That Christians in Kenya would know God's love, peace and joy. • For healing and protection from violence for believers. • That the plans of the Islamic extremist group al-Shabaab would come to nothing, and God's peace will reign.

[Serving Persecuted Christians Worldwide - Kenya - Open Doors UK & Ireland](#)

A prayer for Kenya from Open Doors

Lord, we ask You to lift up our brothers and sisters living in Kenya. Guide them to find great joy in following You, no matter the circumstances. Please provide for them contentment, strength and the resources they need to be obedient and alive to Your mission. Give them boldness, even in the face of opposition, to show the unconditional love of Your Son, Jesus, to their persecutors. Amen.

Newsletter note Our 19 December issue will be a bumper one to take us through Christmas and the new year, when we'll start again on 9 January 2022. Please send any items for either issue to secretary@stnicholasdersingham.org.uk

Congratulations to Michael on the occasion of his baptism last Sunday! It was a privilege to hear Michael's very moving testimony. May God bless you and your family, Michael. A warm welcome to you from all of us.

Prayer points

- + those who have died and those who are grieving
- + humanitarian crises around the world
- + for food and aid to reach those who are facing famine
- + hope, encouragement and peace in all circumstances
- + our nation and community
- + wisdom in decision-making
- + action to protect and sustain our planet and environment
- + all affected by coronavirus
- + GPs, NHS staff, carers and key workers
- + care home residents
- + anyone who is poorly
- + all who have lost livelihoods or fallen on hard times
- + all who are homeless
- + all who are treated unjustly
- + our families; our elderly
- + our schools, teachers, staff and students; our children, young people, parents and caregivers
- + our youth groups at church and the Youth Band
- + The Well at Ingoldisthorpe
- + our Armed Forces
- + our Ministry Team and volunteers
- + all who come to church, in person, online or who visit us via social media
- + Baby Basics and the families they serve
- + thanks for God's love, peace, goodness and provision