

49/24



This week at the **Church of
St James the Greater**
Leicester

www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk
office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk



8th DECEMBER 2024
2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Prayer for the Week

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power
and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

Our Prayers are asked for:

All prevented from worshipping with us, remembering
Marilyn Dorum : Anne Sylvester : Nina French : Anthony Green :
Gillian Boorne : Josephine Chizema : Ann Blanchard
and all those currently unable to attend services.

Those who are unwell and who are recovering
Rex Woolhouse : Penny Judge : Mark Sadler : Nicola Shilton : Mandy Stephensen :
Mollie Drake : Revd Jane Sharp : Michael Molloy : Chris Jones :
Revd David Clark

Rest in peace Diana Jones. Funeral details to follow.

Welcome to St James the Greater

08:30 Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel

Common Worship Order I (Traditional)

President: The Reverend Andrew Quigley, Vicar

Assisted by: Feby John

Churchwarden: Paul Jenkins

A card reader donation machine is available.

10:30 Sung Eucharist

President: The Reverend Andrew Quigley, Vicar

Assisted by: Lucy Hutchinson and Vicky Roe, Pastoral Assistant

Churchwarden: April Rule

Sidesperson: Vacant

Servers: Charles Samuel, Lucy Hutchinson and William Woolley

Setting: Ireland in C

HYMN 39

Hills of the North, rejoice

READING Baruch 5 *read by Jennifer Smith*

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,
and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God.

² Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;

put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;

³ for God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven.

⁴ For God will give you evermore the name,

'Righteous Peace, Godly Glory'.

⁵ Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;

look towards the east,

and see your children gathered from west and east

at the word of the Holy One,

rejoicing that God has remembered them.

⁶ For they went out from you on foot,

led away by their enemies;

but God will bring them back to you,

carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

⁷ For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low

and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,

so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

⁸ The woods and every fragrant tree
have shaded Israel at God's command.

⁹ For God will lead Israel with joy,
in the light of his glory,
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

GRADUAL HYMN 50 (Tune 602)

The advent of our King

GOSPEL Luke 3.1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." '

SERMON

The Reverend Andrew Quigley, Vicar

INTERCESSIONS

The Reverend Andrew Quigley, Vicar

OFFERTORY HYMN 46

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

MOTET

How beautiful upon the mountains - Stainer

Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven,

who sent your Son to redeem the world

and will send him again to be our judge:

give us grace so to imitate him

in the humility and purity of his first coming

that, when he comes again,

we may be ready to greet him

with joyful love and firm faith;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

RECESSIONAL HYMN 51

The Lord will come and not be slow

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Please be aware of those remaining to listen.

Please stay for refreshments at the end of the service.

A card reader donation machine is available at the back of church.

Please take this leaflet away with you at the end of the Service.

18.30

Choral Evensong

See order of service

Officiant: The Reverend Philip Norwood

Churchwardens: April Rule and Simon Edwards

Sidesperson:

Servers: Michael Bull and Duduzile Chizema

HYMN 36

PRECES

PSALM 75

Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes

Forbes-L'Estrange

(See music sheet)

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 40.1-11 *read by Alex Coles*

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her
that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

⁶ A voice says, 'Cry out!'
And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

⁹ Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
'Here is your God!'
¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

MAGNIFICAT

Chanted – see separate sheet

SECOND LESSON Luke 1.1-25

read by Andrew Curry

Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, ²just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, ³I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

⁵ In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. ⁷But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

⁸ Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, ⁹he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. ¹⁰Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. ¹¹Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. ¹³But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. ¹⁴You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶He will turn many of the people of Israel to the

Lord their God. ¹⁷With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.' ¹⁸Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' ¹⁹The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.'

²¹ Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. ²²When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. ²³When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

²⁴ After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, ²⁵'This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favourably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'

NUNC DIMITTIS

Walmisley in D minor

Please remain seated but stand for the Gloria

RESPONSES

Forbes-L'Estrange

ANTHEM

And the glory of the Lord - Handel

PRAYERS

The Reverend Philip Norwood

HYMN 52 (omit verses 3&4) The people that in darkness sat

SERMON

The Reverend Philip Norwood

HYMN 815

Thy kingdom come! On bended knee

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Please be aware of those remaining to listen.

A card reader donation machine is available at the back of church.

The Vicar Writes I don't think John the Baptist attended the same missiology lectures I did. He goes into the wilderness to proclaim his message – instead of going where the people are, he goes where the people *aren't* – so they have to come to him. Perhaps, besides needing the water for baptism, he needs the space for people to hear God's word, away from other distractions. There may be something for us to learn in this...



The Week Ahead

Wednesday 11th

21:00 **Compline** via Zoom. To join, please use the link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81259880030?pwd=TG9JbmJzUW56VmFrMmJxdDJBTHFNQT09>

Meeting ID: 812 5988 0030 Passcode: u7iqca

Thursday 12th

12:30

Holy Communion Common Worship, Order 1 (traditional)

President: The Reverend Andrew Quigley, Vicar

Assisted by Lin Mawer

Friday 13th

16.30

Junior Choir. 18.15 Chorister Training. 18.45 Full Choir Rehearsal.

Saturday 14th

19.00

Ratby Band/Fosse Singers Christmas Concert

Sunday 15th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

08:30 **Holy Communion**

President: The Reverend Philip Norwood

10:30 **Sung Eucharist**

President: The Reverend Andrew Quigley, Vicar

Readings: Zephaniah 3.14-20 and Luke 3.7-18

19:00 **Community Carols**

Officiant: The Reverend Andrew Quigley, Vicar

ORGAN RECITAL TODAY 3pm Guy will be playing a mixture of organ pieces by Bach, Brahms and Leighton, in preparation for an upcoming organ diploma. Proceeds will go jointly between this Church and Tansen Hospital in Nepal where he will be undertaking his medical elective.

THURSDAY HOLY COMMUNION Please note that this service now takes place at **12.30 pm**. If you haven't experienced our midweek worship perhaps this is the time to try it - the service lasts about 30 minutes and should fit conveniently into a lunch time break. It will be followed by refreshments.

PLANNED GIVING St. James relies on donations for funding. The Parish Giving Scheme enables donations directly from your bank account and adds Gift Aid for the church, if you are a taxpayer. Information packs are on the table at the back of church. Alternatively, boxes of envelopes for cash donations for each Sunday from 1st December 2024 to 30th November 2025 can be provided. If you would like to have a box, please see Vicky Roe, leave a message for her at the church office (0116 2542111) or send an E-mail to:

pastoral.assistant@sthamesthegreater.org.uk

ANNIVERSARY COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE We are hosting a Community Carol Service in collaboration with Dave Andrews DL. This year, it is **next Sunday 15th December 2024** from 7.00pm-8.30pm. Our chosen charity this year is LOROS and there will be festive refreshments after the service. Free tickets are available from: trybooking.com/uk/DVGO You can scan the QR code on your smart phone to find this page, or call the church office.



CONCERT DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Sunday 8 th December	3.00 pm	Organ Recital with Guy Steed
Saturday 14 th December	7.30 pm	Ratby Band/Fosse Singers Concert
Sunday 15 th December	7.00 pm	Community Carol Service
Thursday 19 th December	7.30 pm	Leicester Philharmonic Choir
Saturday 21 st December	7.00 pm	City of Leicester Singers

LEICESTER THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY The next meeting of the LTS is on Friday 13th December at 7.30 pm in the Frassati Centre at Holy Cross Priory. The subject this time is 'Religion and Art' and will be presented by The Revd Gwyn Davies, Minister at Clarendon Park Congregational Church. For more information, please visit <https://sites.google.com/view/leicester-theological-society/home?pli=1>

ARCHIVES The Church archives in the south tower are currently in a rather disorganised state. William Woolley is planning to sort and catalogue them and will be delighted to hear from anyone with surplus bookshelves, cupboards, filing cabinets etc which could be donated to the project.

CHRISTMAS STAMPS FOR CHARITY Please save Christmas stamps by cutting them out surrounded by a border of paper and put them in the box provided to help raise money for Inter Care.

Resources for Home Worship

Broadcast Media

Daily Service Monday – Friday at 9.45am Radio 4 Extra on DAB Freeview 708, Freesat 708, Sky 0126, Virgin Media 910 and online at

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006wzfs>

Sunday Worship Sunday at 8.10 am Radio 4

Songs of Praise Sunday at 1.25 pm BBC 1

Choral Evensong Sunday and Wednesday at 3 pm Radio 3

Online at www.churchofengland.org and www.leicestercathedral.org

DAILY HOPE TELEPHONE SERVICE - Freephone 0800 804 8044

Funded by the charity 'Faith in Later Life', which welcomes donations for the service at:

www.faithinlaterlife.org.uk/donate

The options available from a telephone keypad are:

It is helpful to have the telephone on speakerphone to avoid having to hold the handset.

The options available from a telephone keypad are:

1. Hymns we love – reflections on favourite hymns
2. How to support Daily Hope
3. One-minute sermon from J, John
4. Morning and Evening Prayers
5. Weekly Church of England Service
6. Sleep Well with Daily Hope
7. An interview with R. T. Kendall



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