

This week's services



Sunday 22nd December

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Leaffield**

Tuesday 24th December Christmas Eve

4.00pm, Family Carol Service, **Finstock**

6.00pm, Traditional Carol Service, **Ramsden**

Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Ramsden**

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Leaffield**

Friday 27th December

6.30pm, Evening Prayer, **Wilcote**

Sunday 29th December

10.30am, Holy Communion, BCP, **Wilcote**

Everyone welcome at all services!

These Bible readings are designated for each day

Monday	2 Peter 1: 1-15
Tuesday	2 Peter 1: 16-2.3
Wednesday	Matthew 1: 18-end
Thursday	Acts 6
Friday	1 John 2: 1-11
Saturday	Matthew 18: 1-10

Please pray for the following throughout the week

Monday *Those who are sick or grieving within our community.*

Tuesday *Those who are suffering in this country and around the world.*

Wednesday *The King and other leaders in this country.*

Thursday *For the troubled areas around the world, we pray for peace and justice.*

Friday *For the ministry of the Forest Edge Benefice and for those who lead us.*

Saturday *For an abundance of love, peace, harmony and forgiveness to reign within families and relationships.*

Please also pray for the Chipping Norton Deanery.



If we as a Church can help in any way, please contact:

The Rev'd Paul Mansell – 01993 868687
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PEW SHEET



22nd December 2024
4th Sunday of Advent

Please take this pew sheet with you when you leave.

Benefice website:

<http://www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk>

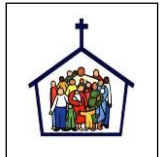
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The Collect



God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

Micah 5: 2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

Second Reading
Hebrews 10: 5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God" (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).' When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Gospel Reading
Luke 1: 39-45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'



This is Advent,
the season of expectation.
In homes throughout the land
Christmas cards have arrived
and stand displayed on mantelpiece and windowsill.
Festive trees are adorned with tinsel and baubles,
and children wonder what gifts will lie beneath them.

Two thousand years ago
a people waited expectantly
as they listened to a prophet called John
talk of one who was to come,
the Promised One of God,
and they began to prepare themselves
for that moment.

Father God, your servant John the Baptist
came with a challenging message;
calling for repentance and lives to be transformed.

Those who heard were filled with expectation,
waiting for Messiah,
and yet ultimately failing to notice his arrival
in that humble stable.

This Advent season,
may we be filled with expectation,
as we celebrate the greatest gift of all;
your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen



Christmas Services in the Forest Edge Benefice

Christmas Eve

4.00pm, Family Carol Service, Finstock
6.00pm, Traditional Carol Service,
Ramsden

Christmas Day

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Leaffield
10.30am, Holy Communion, CW,
Ramsden

