

This week's services



Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Ramsden

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Leafield

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



25th December 2024
Christmas Day

Please take this pew sheet with you when you leave.

Benefice website:

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

Also follow us on Twitter, Facebook & Instagram


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forestedgebenefice



The Collect



Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading Isaiah 52: 7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Second Reading
Hebrews 1: 1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Gospel Reading
John 1: 1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.



The joy of discovery
that moment
when hope and expectation
were gloriously met
by the illumination of one bright star.

We cannot imagine
what words were spoken by visitors
or if first impressions
left them somewhat confused.

Messiah, Saviour, a King
born in the barest of palaces.

Yet they saw and fell down
on their knees in adoration.

Lord, they saw you and knew
whom they had met.

As we meet around crib
candle or advent wreath
draw us into that stable

in our imagination.

In the quiet moments of prayer
this Christmas, that brief oasis
from the bustle of the world

bring alive to us
the smell of the hay
the sound of the animals
the cry of a baby.

Draw us close to our Saviour
Messiah and King as we bring
not Gold, Myrrh or Frankincense
but the gift of our lives
the only offering we can bring.

Amen

