

Welcome

We welcome the Revd. Sharon Bavington as our preacher and celebrant this morning

Leaflets

There are some leaflets at the back of church advertising events we hold at church. Please take some to deliver to neighbours and local addresses if you are able.

Christmas Pillar Box

The pillar box will be in church throughout Advent. Any donations will be sent to the Martin House Hospice.

Please pray for all on our prayer list: Dermot, Eric and Wendy, Doreen, Ivan, Pauline, Tracy, Keretha and Simon, John, Billy and anyone known to you

Sunday 22nd December 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Service: Holy Communion

Hymns:

467; 248; 226; 186

Welcome to St. Saviour's Church

(www.stsavioursfwg.org.uk)

Interim Priest-in-Charge:

Vacant

Assistant Curate

Revd. Daniel Furlong (tel: 07749 941348)

Churchwardens:

Mrs. Grace Studholme;

Mr. John Ratnik

Children in Church

Children are most welcome to our services.

Refreshments

Please join us for refreshments in the hall after this service

Please take this service sheet home with you

Collect of the Day (*Fourth Sunday of Advent*)

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Micah 5: 2-5a

The LORD says to his people:

² 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. ³ 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. ⁴ 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; ⁵ and he shall be the one of peace.

Luke 1:57-80

⁵⁷ The time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. ⁵⁸ Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

⁵⁹ On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. ⁶⁰ But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called John.'

⁶¹ They said to her, 'None of your relatives has this name.'

⁶² Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. ⁶³ He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.'

And all of them were amazed.

⁶⁴ Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God.

⁶⁵ Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. ⁶⁶ All who

heard them pondered them and said, 'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

⁶⁷ Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy: ⁶⁸ 'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favourably on his people and redeemed them. ⁶⁹ He has raised up a mighty saviour for us in the house of his servant David, ⁷⁰ as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, ⁷¹ that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. ⁷² Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, ⁷³ the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us ⁷⁴ that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. ⁷⁶ And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, ⁷⁷ to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. ⁷⁸ By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, ⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.'

⁸⁰ The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

Post Communion (*Fourth Sunday of Advent*)

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Activities for the week

Today	10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
Wednesday 25th	10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
Saturday 28th	3.00 p.m. Private booking
Sunday 29th	10.00a.m. Holy Communion