

Weekly News 3rd December 2023 - Advent Sunday



Welcome to St Paul's Egham Hythe, especially if you are here for the first time. Do stay for refreshments after the service. To join our mailing list email office@speh.org.uk

Hymns for 3rd December: 480 O come, o come Emmanuel, 528 Only by grace, 202 Give thanks, 658 There is a redeemer, 405 Lo, he comes with clouds descending

Collect: Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion: O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Isaiah 64: 1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—² as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³ When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴ From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. ⁵ You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. ⁶ We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷ There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸ Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹ Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever.

Mark 13: 24-37

“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶ “Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷ Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸ “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰ Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³² “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵ Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, ³⁶ or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

What's on 3rd – 10th December



Sunday 3 rd 10am	Holy Communion (<i>streamed to YouTube and our zoom room</i>) <i>All ages together in church.</i>
Tuesday 9.30am 10am -7pm 3-4.30pm 7pm	Prayer Space in church Installation and decoration of Christmas Trees Youth Space for year 7's Foodbank
Wednesday 9.30am 10am-5pm 2pm	Christmas Tree Festival Opening Ceremony Festival open for visitors Psalm Group Advent reflection in church – all welcome
Thursday 9.30am -11am 1pm-3pm	Toddler Nativity (for pre-school children with parents or carers). Christmas Tea Party (contact office@speh.org.uk to book).
Friday 10am-5pm 7pm	Festival open for visitors So is this Christmas?
Saturday 9.30am 10am – 4pm 10am 11am 12 noon	Prayer Space in church Festival open for visitors Godly Play Taster Session in chancel Preparing Christingle packs for Sunday (come and help if you can) Godly Play Taster (repeat of 10am)
Sunday 10 th Dec 10am 3pm	Holy Communion in church (<i>streamed to YouTube and zoom</i>) Christingle Service



For details of our Christmas Services see our website www.speh.org.uk

Contact office@speh.org.uk for zoom joining codes and to sign up for weekly email updates

For prayer this week

- For those who live in Farm Close and Beech Lodge, Farmers Road, Field View
- For the Christmas Tree Festival and all those who will come to the different events.
- For those who are ill and have asked for prayer including baby Albert, Ted, Edna, Hazel, Pauline, Christine, Sadhu, Jon and Alma.
- For those who mourn and at their year's mind we remember David Spooner, Victor Wells, Donald Dandridge, Susan Antill.

Community Christmas Meal: We are invited to a Christmas meal being organised by Councillor Rob King on Sunday 17th at the Hythe Centre after our 10am service. To book, visit www.speh.org.uk/community-2/ and follow the link.



Church Christmas Card: Use our Christmas board to send one Christmas Card to all your friends at St Paul's, and make a donation to Christian Aid.

Godly Play: Why not come along to our taster sessions for all generations - 10am or 12noon on Saturday 9th December during the Christmas Tree Festival. On Sunday 17th we have a Godly Play session during the 10am service for ages 4-14.

St Paul's Church, Thorpe Road, Staines TW18 3HJ Office: office@speh.org.uk 01784 459444
Revd Rosie Hoad: vicar@speh.org.uk 01784 449570 Revd Josh Cleaver: joshc@speh.org.uk

www.speh.org.uk

Charity Registration Number: 1184186