

# St George's Church, Benenden

*Our Mission: "To know and love Jesus and make his love known to all"*

## Our Worship: Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December

### The Fourth Sunday of Advent

**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.

#### Sunday: 19<sup>th</sup> December - The Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Readings: Hebrews 10.5-10, Luke 1.39-45*

**8 am HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S**

led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie

**10 am SUNG EUCHARIST AT ST GEORGE'S**

led by David Harmsworth & Revd David Commander

<i>Hymns:</i>	32	<i>Come, thou Redeemer of the earth</i>
	52	<i>The people that in darkness sat</i>
	85	<i>The Angel Gabriel from heaven came</i>
	394	<i>Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!</i>

#### THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9.30 am – noon	Setting up the Church for Christmas
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>ST GEORGE'S PARISH CAROL SERVICE</b> led by Revd David Commander
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 – 11.30 am	Coffee Morning at Benenden Memorial Hall
	8 – 9.30 pm	Bellringers' Christmas Social at St George's
<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	<b>3 pm</b>	<b>CRIB SERVICE - OUTDOORS - ON THE GREEN</b> led by Revd David Commander
	<b>11.30 pm</b>	<b>THE FIRST COMMUNION OF CHRISTMAS</b> led by Revd David Commander
<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	8 am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b> led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
	10 am	<b>MORNING WORSHIP followed by</b>
	11 am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION (for those who wish to stay)</b> led by Revd David Commander

#### Sunday Next: 26<sup>th</sup> December - The First Sunday of Christmas

*Readings: Colossians 3.12-17, Luke 2.41-end*

**9 am BENEFICE SERVICE - HOLY COMMUNION - AT ST GEORGE'S**  
led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie

**Readings: Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December – The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Hebrews 10.5-10**

<sup>5</sup>Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,  
'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;

<sup>6</sup> in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

<sup>7</sup> 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).'

<sup>8</sup>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), <sup>9</sup>then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup>And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**Luke 1.39-45**

**Mary Visits Elizabeth**

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

**Chair working-party!** Could we please have a helping hand after the 10 o'clock service TODAY to move folding chairs from the south parvais and from the Owl House to the back of church. Thank you! Revd David

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December - from 9.30 am - setting up the church for Christmas.**

**Parish Candle-Lit Carol Service  
at St George's, Benenden**



**7.30 pm  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

**Prayers:** It is with sadness that we pass on the news that dear Lesley Attwood passed away, at home, on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Please continue to hold Tracy and Deborah and the family in your prayers. Lesley's funeral service will take place on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at the Kent & Sussex Crematorium in Tunbridge Wells. This will be attended by family and invited friends. A memorial service to celebrate Lesley's life will take place at St George's Church on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2022.



## **Crib Service**

(weather permitting)

**at the top of the Green,  
St George's,  
Christmas Eve at 3pm**

*It would be lovely if everyone - young and not so young - could come along dressed as a character from the Nativity story: Mary, Joseph, Shepherd, Inn Keeper, Wise-men, Angel, Star, Cow, Sheep, Donkey ... anything appropriate you can think of! This will enable us to bring to life the story of the nativity in a way that will be meaningful and fun for all.*

### ***New Covid Guidelines - AS AT 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2021:***

**Please continue to hand sanitise on entry to and exit from church.**

**You are encouraged to use the NHS Track and Trace QR Code, or record your attendance in the register, but this is not mandatory.**

***Face coverings are now mandatory in places of worship, unless you are exempt from wearing one.*** These should be worn throughout the service, including when singing, please. The choir, as they will be socially distanced from one another and from the congregation, can remove their face coverings to sing if they wish. Anyone reading or leading intercessions from the front of church can remove their face covering at the lectern - and replace it before returning to their pew.

**Seating:** you are encouraged to respect the concerns of others and to sit socially distanced from other households. Please make use of the space in the whole church.

**Communion:** we will maintain simultaneous administration, and distribute standing at the altar rail at the 8 o'clock, or at the chancel step for other services.

The church will be "fogged" (sanitised) between services/events that are less than 48 hours apart. For the Parish Carol service, Midnight service, and Christmas morning services additional chairs will be laid out at the back of church. This is not to get more people into church, it is to allow people to be more socially distanced. The "Crib service" will take place - weather permitting - outside at the top of the Green on Christmas Eve.

I realise that this is all very tiresome, and that some will agree and others will not. Some will think this is going too far; some will think it is not going far enough. We do, however, all have a duty to take care of one another. I would prefer that we worship together and celebrate the joy of Christmas together in a way that reduces the risk of spreading Covid to someone who becomes seriously ill. I will be wearing my face covering to protect others; I encourage you to do the same.

Many thanks. Revd David

## **Christmas Services at St George's 2021**

### DECEMBER

<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	7.30pm	Parish candle-lit carol service
<b>Christmas Eve Friday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	3pm 11.30pm	Crib service - on the Green First Communion of Christmas
<b>Christmas Day Saturday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	8am 10am	Holy Communion Morning Worship, followed by Communion for those who wish to stay
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9am</b>	Benefice Holy Communion

***NB: No midweek Communion service on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> December***

### JANUARY

<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	8am 10am 5pm	Holy Communion All-Age Communion Choral Evensong
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#### Contacts: St George's Church, Benenden

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St George's Churchwardens	Mr David Collard Tel: 01580 241 944 E-mail: <a href="mailto:julia.collard@btinternet.com">julia.collard@btinternet.com</a> Mrs Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241907 E-mail: <a href="mailto:sue@undaunted.co.uk">sue@undaunted.co.uk</a>	
St George's Parish Safeguarding Officer	Ian Malaugh Tel: 01580 240 999 E-mail: <a href="mailto:ianmal@sky.com">ianmal@sky.com</a>	
Priests	Revd David Commander, Rector. The Rectory, The Green, Benenden, TN17 4DL Tel: 01580 240 658 E-mail: <a href="mailto:revdavidcommander@gmail.com">revdavidcommander@gmail.com</a> <b>(NB The Rector's day off is Thursday)</b> Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Curate Tel: 01233 820100 Mobile: 07766 711957 Email: <a href="mailto:rev.ylva@gmail.com">rev.ylva@gmail.com</a> Revd Dr Rosemary Kobus van Wengen Tel: 01580 764 857 Email: <a href="mailto:rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com">rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com</a>	
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