

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: 4th December The Second Sunday of Advent

Collect: O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Sunday 4th December –The Second Sunday of Advent

Readings: Romans 15.4-13, Matthew 3.1-12

8 am HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S

led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie

10 am ALL AGE COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S

led by Revd David Commander

Hymns 38 *Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding (v5 U/D)*
 569 *The kingdom of God is justice and joy*
 507 *We have a gospel to proclaim*
 581 *Lord of lords and King eternal (omit v4)*

No Evening Service this Sunday

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 5 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
Tuesday 6 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
	8 pm	Benenden Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
Wednesday 7 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 – 11.30 am	Coffee Morning at Benenden Memorial Hall
	7.30 pm	Deanery Synod meeting – via Zoom
Thursday 8 th	10 am	Rhythm of Life Community Choir at St George's
Friday 9 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos at St George's
	10 am	Interment of t/l Adrian Betts at St George's
Saturday 10 th	9.30 am	Deanery Treasurers meeting at Sandhurst Mission Church
	1 – 4 pm	Benenden Primary School Christmas Market

Sunday Next: 11th December –The Third Sunday of Advent

Readings: James 5.7-10, Matthew 11.2-11

8 am 1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S

led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

10 am MORNING WORSHIP ST GEORGE'S

led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie

Readings: Sunday 4th December – The Second Sunday of Advent

Romans 15.4-13

⁴For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel for Jews and Gentiles Alike

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

‘Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name’;

¹⁰and again he says,

‘Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people’;

¹¹and again,

‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him’;

¹²and again Isaiah says,

‘The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope.’

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 3.1-12

The Proclamation of John the Baptist

³In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’ ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.”’

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ ‘I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

Sad News & Prayers: I am saddened to pass on the news that our dear **Roma Marshall** died in the early hours of Wednesday 23rd November in Maidstone Hospital. Her family had been with her earlier in the week to say their goodbyes, and Revd Ylva had been to see her on Tuesday. We thank God for her life, and pray that she now rests secure in His arms. Please hold Cliff, John, Nigel and the family in your prayers.

I am also very sad to pass on the news that **Iain Thomson** has passed away; he died on Wednesday 23rd November. Please hold Anne in your prayers, and Sarah, Robert and Skye.

Details of the services will be announced when they are known. Revd David.



Follow the Star App - now available

The Follow the Star app features daily Advent reflections (1st – 23rd December) and 12 days of Christmas reflections (24th December – 6th January). Together, each reflection takes you on a journey that will help you take fresh encouragement and hope from Advent and the Christmas story into the year ahead.

The app is available to download now for free, or you can sign up for a daily email reflection via: cofe.io/FollowTheStar

[Please see the poster in church for a QR code
and for Smart speaker or telephone access](#)

Bell-ringing Practice at St George's (usual weekly timetable)

Mondays: 3.30 to 4.30 pm - Learners' practice

Tuesdays: 6.30 to 7.30 pm - Simulator practice

Wednesdays: 7.30 to 9 pm - Weekly Bell-ringing Practice (shutters open)

Thursdays: 4.30 to 5.30 pm - Simulator practice

Fridays: 9 to 10.30 am - Simulator practice

Christmas Services at St George's 2022



DECEMBER


Sunday 11th	8am 10am	1662 BCP Communion Morning Worship
Friday 16th	2.15pm	Benenden Primary School Christmas service
Sunday 18th	8am 10am	Holy Communion Sung Eucharist
Tuesday 20th	7.30pm	Parish Candle-lit Carol Service
Christmas Eve Saturday 24th	3pm 11.30pm	Crib Service First Communion of Christmas
Christmas Day Sunday 25th	8am 10am	Holy Communion Morning Worship, <i>followed by Communion for those who wish to stay</i>

NB: No midweek Communion service on Tuesday 27th December

JANUARY

Sunday 1st	8am 10am	Holy Communion All-Age Communion <i>No Choral Evensong tonight</i>
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Contacts: St George's Church, Benenden

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St George's Parish Safeguarding Officer	Ian Malaugh Tel: 01580 240 999 E-mail: ianmal@sky.com	
Priests	Revd David Commander, Rector. The Rectory, The Green, Benenden, TN17 4DL Tel: 01580 240 658 E-mail: revdavidcommander@gmail.com (NB The Rector's day off is Thursday) Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Curate Tel: 01233 820100 Mobile: 07766 711957 Email: rev.ylva@gmail.com Revd Dr Rosemary Kobus van Wengen Tel: 01580 764 857 Email: rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com	
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