

## Bible Reading from the Old Testament

Ezekiel 34: verses 11 to 16, and 20 to 24

### God the True Shepherd

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

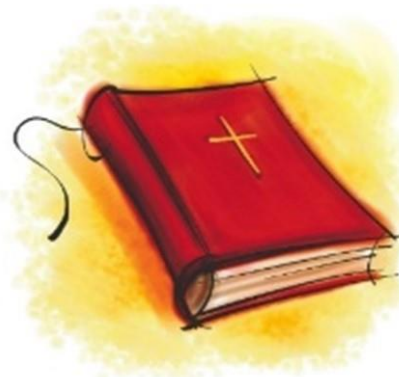
## First Reading at Service Bible Reading from the New Testament

Ephesians 1: verses 15 to end  
Paul's Prayer

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**



## Second Reading at Service Gospel Reading

Matthew 25: verses 31 to end  
The Judgement of the Nations

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Notices

**Refreshments** – everyone welcome to join us for a cuppa and biscuit after the service. Thank you to everyone who has helped with refreshments in 2023. A new rota from December 2023 to February 2024 is on the noticeboard, please sign up to help.

### **Open Church Wednesdays back in 2024.**

The church will not be open on Wednesday afternoons during December. We shall be back in the New Year to welcome you every Wednesday between 1pm and 4pm for refreshments, a chat or simply as a space for quiet reflection. We will be delighted to see you!

**22 Questions** The next open discussion group (at 22 Phildock Wood Road DE22 4PH) will be on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 7.30-9pm. As well as tea/ coffee/biscuits there will be wine. If you feel like bringing any other nibbles/ drink please feel free (no way compulsory!) If you haven't joined us before, please contact Chris for directions on 07502291577.



**Burial** The burial of Wendy Chambers' ashes will take place at 11.15am on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November in the Garden of Remembrance.'

**Don't forget your Christmas stamps!** Please continue to save your used stamps and help us find a cure for cancer.



## Dates for the Diary

3<sup>rd</sup> December – 9.30am Holy Communion.

4<sup>th</sup> December – 6.30pm Bring a bottle and a snack to share and have a social chat with fellow parishioners!

8<sup>th</sup> December – 2.30pm Christingle Service with the pupils of Kirk Langley Primary School.

## Contacts

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For more information please visit our website: [www.klmm-parishes.org.uk](http://www.klmm-parishes.org.uk) or follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/klmmparishes](https://www.facebook.com/klmmparishes)  
If you would like to include a notice in the pew sheet, please contact Emma Jones.

**WELCOME TO  
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH  
KIRK LANGLEY**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**The Sunday Next Before Advent**



**The service today is Holy Communion**

*If you have a prayer request, please pass to the Church Warden.*

**Please take this leaflet home with you for reference.**