

## All Saints' Church, Brenchley



### Third Sunday of Advent December 12 2021

#### **Collect (The Special Prayer for today)**

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever **Amen**

#### **Old Testament Isaiah Ch 25 vs 1 -9**

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

<sup>2</sup> For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

<sup>4</sup> For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

<sup>5</sup> the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

<sup>6</sup> On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup> And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations;

<sup>8</sup> he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup> It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

#### **Epistle Philippians Ch 4 vs 4 – 7**

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

#### **Gospel Luke Ch 3 vs 7 – 18**

<sup>7</sup> John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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. <sup>9</sup>Even 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.'<sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' <sup>11</sup>In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.'<sup>12</sup> Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him,

'Teacher, what should we do?' <sup>13</sup>He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' <sup>14</sup>Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'<sup>18</sup> So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people

## NOTICES

I know that some of you will for a variety of reasons be concerned about attending. Below is a list of measures the Churchwardens, PCC, and I have agreed in order to reassure people and to make the safety of our 'at risk' members a top priority. You will of course still be able to watch the service on Facebook. Thank you for being patient as we trial 'streaming'. Before purchasing expensive equipment, we will continue to feel our way forward on this. We do understand that some of you have had issues with the sound quality though this may be to do with your own devices rather than the church's. If you are experiencing difficulties, please let us know and someone will be happy either to visit or telephone you hopefully to correct this.

1. The North Aisle will be reserved for those wishing to wear a FACE MASK and maintain SOCIAL DISTANCING.
2. In the building itself we ask people to maintain a responsible loving distance between each other, respecting especially those wearing face masks.
3. Please sanitise your hands in the porch before entering.
4. Air circulation is very good inside the church building and we will be keeping all doors open. Congregational singing is now permitted.
5. Communion is in both forms now. The consecrated wafers will be set out on The Lord's Table and the wine in biodegradable tiny cups on a table next to it. Please approach the table in a clockwise direction from the north side, keeping a 2 metre space between you and the person in front (unless a 'bubble'), take and consume the wafer and then the wine, taking the cup with you and return to your seat continuing in a clockwise direction. Churchwardens/Sidesmen will assist on distanced circulation.
6. At the end of the service, please leave promptly in order to gather outside to converse and catch up

**Christingle Café** Children from the school will be making Christingles in Church on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December from 3.30 – 4.45pm. Children from the congregation are invited to join in, even if they don't attend the school. They need to take their own orange everything else will be provided including a drink and a snack. Please contact the School office if interested. 01892 722929

Bakers to provide cakes and biscuits and help with the crafts are needed for this.

Contact [allsaintsbrenchleyyouth@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintsbrenchleyyouth@gmail.com)

**PLEASE PHONE HELEN BROWN 722885 IF YOU WANT TO BE INCLUDED ON THE ALL SAINTS/READYCALL CHRISTMAS CARD AS THIS IS THE LAST DAY TO LET HER KNOW**

**Churchyard** I am stepping into large shoes and will in future be coordinating upkeep and management of our beautiful Churchyard. I would like to form a small group of people to continue the great work done by the previous committee. If you feel you can help, be it in a practical or advisory role, I would be delighted to hear from you. Moira Tunstall [moiratunstall88@gmail.com](mailto:moiratunstall88@gmail.com) 07719058660

Please send any information that you wish to be included, by Thursday evening of each week,

to: [thelma.cunningham@icloud.com](mailto:thelma.cunningham@icloud.com) or 01892 724419

Website: [www.allsaintsbrenchley.blogspot.com](http://www.allsaintsbrenchley.blogspot.com)