



Welcome to St. Michael and All Angels, Amersham on the Hill.

13 January, 2019

2nd Sunday of Epiphany: The Baptism of Christ

Please take this sheet home with you for future reference.

You can follow the service in the booklet given to you as you came in. This week's readings are printed out below. Please use the time before the service to be quiet and to prepare for worship. We invite you to stay for tea, coffee or juice, served in the area to the left of the altar after the 10.00am. service.

8.00am.: Said Eucharist with Healing and Laying on of Hands

10.00am.: Gathered Round Informal all-age worship with Communion.

Collect

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Alternative Collect

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Isaiah 43.1–7

8.00am. only

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, 'Give them up,' and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29

Response: May the Lord bless his people, bless his people with peace.

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. **Response**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation; the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice. **Response**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf and Sirion like a young wild ox. **Response**

The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;

the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. **Response**

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare;

in his temple all cry, 'Glory!' **Response**

The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.

The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. **Response**

Acts 8.14–17

8.00am. only

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Luke 3.15–17, 21–22

8.00am. and 10.00am.

In the wilderness John proclaimed a baptism of repentance. As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 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. 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.' Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Services this week

THE CHURCH AND LADY CHAPEL are usually available for prayer and meditation from 9.30am.

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9.00am. MORNING PRAYER from 'Celebrating Common Prayer' - Lady Chapel

A gentle 20 minute service of prayer, psalms and readings. All welcome. There is a simplified service booklet available in the Lady Chapel, which can be used by anyone, should no priest be present.

TUESDAY 10.30am. SAID EUCHARIST

NEXT SUNDAY: 8.00am. SAID EUCHARIST

10.30am. COTHA United Service at Amersham Free Church. No 10.00am. service at St. Michael's.

Readings for next Sunday: Isaiah 62.1-5; Psalm 36.5-10; John 2.1-11

Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael's

TRAIDCRAFT STALL – Today, 13 January, after the 10.00am. service

Special orders should be given to Sue Eames, or left in the Office, to ensure availability on the monthly stall.

MESSY CHURCH–St. Michael's - Saturday, 19 January - 11.30am. – 1.00pm.

Family Fun Saturday! Crafts. Song and Dance. Lunch for everyone. You choose what you want to do. No need to book in advance. Just come along. No charge.

NOT-ONE-FOR-LUNCH - Lady Chapel –Monday, 21 January - 12.45pm. for 1.00pm. (please note amendment to date)

A sandwich lunch for those who live alone and eat alone, and an opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones in a very informal atmosphere.

POP IN AND PAINT" - St. Michael's – Friday, 25 January – 10.30am. – 12.15pm.

Join Jenny Thompson and Liz Grammenos from Simpatico. No experience needed - only enthusiasm and interest. All materials supplied, but you are welcome to bring your own paints. If you prefer just to come along for a chat and to watch the proceedings, that's fine too! Further information from Judy Redpath on 725271.

WISE CHOICES FILM CLUB- Wheeler Room- Friday, 01 February- 2.00pm. – 4.00pm.

A Quiet Passion: The story of the American Poet Emily Dickenson from her days as a school girl through to later life as a recluse, starring Cynthia Nixon and Jennifer Ehle. *Running Time –125mins.*

All welcome. Refreshments served after the showing.

CANDLEMAS – Sunday, 03 February

The end of the post-Christmas season is marked by the Feast of the Presentation. This year, Candlemas will be celebrated at St Michael's on Sunday, 03 February with a Sung Eucharist at 4.00pm. Incense will be used at this service. There will be no service at 10.00am. that day.

HEALING AND WHOLENESS - Lady Chapel – Wednesday, 06 February - 3.00pm. 3.30pm. & 4.15pm.

Sessions last 30 minutes. Please arrive before the start of your preferred time. Appointments are not necessary. If you would like to come but need transport, please call Joy Johns on 729061.

RECYCLING YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR A GOOD CAUSE

A reminder that Jenny Baker is again collecting used Christmas and other cards on behalf of Judith Holst of St. Thomas Becket Church, Hamburg <http://anglican-church-hamburg.de>. Judith leads the team of hardworking volunteers who select, cut and paste the pictures into thousands of new cards and then sell them on in aid of

their church funds. Judith warmly appreciates the past support of members of our congregation at St Michael's and sends her heartfelt thanks to everyone concerned. Regarding Christmas cards it would be appreciated if you could first take time to discard any cards with glitter, bows or other 3D embellishments. Cards with a religious theme and any number of robins and English country and village scenes, as well as good quality humorous cards, are especially welcome. A reminder that the scheme has recently been expanded to include non-Christmas cards – i.e. used birthday and other greeting cards. Kindly leave your cards for recycling in the box under the letters table.

PRAYER CHAIN AND PRAYER WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

A number of people pray at home for St. Michael's and for specific needs or thanksgivings that people may have. If you would like to be part of this network or have a prayer request, please contact Joy Tobler on 818172. If anyone would like prayer with laying on of hands, either for themselves or for someone else, this ministry is available after church services. Please ask a member of the healing team, whose names are on the 'Healing Board', or the clergy.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's

LUNCH BREAK - Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 15 January - Midday to 2pm.

Lunch Café with coffee, speciality teas and snack lunches, daily newspapers. The church is open for quiet reflection and offers a varied programme of music, worship, meditation and speakers between 1.10pm. and 1.30pm. We are open for anyone who wants a bit of an oasis during the week at lunch time every Tuesday.

This week: Bite-sized service with Ian Green