

***St. Michael and All Angels – Church of England  
14 December, 2025 – 3rd Sunday of Advent***



**Said Eucharists – Sunday, 8.30a.m. and Tuesday, 10.30a.m.**

**Gathered Round – Sunday 10.00a.m.**

**Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel – Tuesday, 9.00a.m.**

***Tea and coffee will be served after the 10.00a.m. service.***

***Please stay for a chat with other members of the congregation if you can.***

***The Traidcraft stall will be in the North Transept after the 10am service.***

**Hymns for 10a.m.**

40 As we are gathered

528 Wait for the Lord

401 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

519 Thy Kingdom come, O God

**Collect**

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.**

**Alternative Collect**

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Isaiah 35.1–10**

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

For the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalms 146.4-10**

**Response: I will praise the Lord as long as I live.**

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them; who keeps his promise for ever; **Response**

Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong and bread to those who hunger.

The Lord looses those that are bound; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;

**Response**

**Response: I will praise the Lord as long as I live.**

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous;  
The Lord watches over the stranger in the land; he upholds the orphan and widow;  
but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.

The Lord shall reign for ever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.

**Response**

### **Matthew 11.2–11**

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## ***Activities and Events at St. Michael & All Angels, Amersham on the Hill***

### **CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2025**

Sunday, 14 December – **Advent 3 – Eucharists at 8.30a.m. and 10a.m.**

Wednesday, 17 December – **Nine Lessons and Carols – 7p.m.**

Saturday, 20 December – **Messy Church – 11.30a.m.-1p.m.**

Sunday, 21 December – **Advent 4 – Eucharists at 8.30a.m. and 10a.m.**

Wednesday 24 December – **Christmas Eve – Family Crib Service – 4p.m.**  
**Sung Christmas Mass – 8p.m.**

Thursday 25 December – **Christmas Day – Said Eucharist at 8.30a.m.**  
**Christmas Mass & Carols – 10a.m.**

***Please note that coffee and mince pies will be served after the 10a.m. services on Sunday, 14 and 21 December.***



**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL AT ST. MICHAEL'S** - raising funds for Wycombe Homeless Connection. – starting on Saturday 29th November and running up to the end of Christmas Eve.

This year we have 29 illuminated Christmas Trees, inside and outside the Church, sponsored and inspiringly decorated by local Community Groups. Well worth dropping in any day between 10a.m. and 4p.m. Free entry, with donations requested for Wycombe Homeless Connection.

**CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES** will be open in the South Transept every Monday-Saturday, from 10a.m.-4p.m. (except 20 December when they will open from 1.30p.m.-4p.m.) and Sundays from 11.30a.m./12noon-4p.m.



## **CHOIRS, COFFEE AND CAKE - RAISING FUNDS FOR WYCOMBE HOMELESS CONNECTION**

For those of you unable to come to this event, it's not too late to enjoy the fun and support the fundraising. Sit back with coffee and cake in your own home and enjoy! <https://wyhoc.org.uk/donate>

**The Heatherton Singers** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tz7Gy-0QtvU>

**Amersham A Cappella** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7sJFe0DOR4c>

**The Ukaholics Singalong** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqYsJF6CC1o>

**Knights of Harmony** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kzMtFOBfCDU&list=RDkzMtFOBfCDU&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kzMtFOBfCDU&list=RDkzMtFOBfCDU&start_radio=1)

**A CRAFTY CUPPA –12 December – 10.30a.m.-12noon.** A Crafty Cuppa is a drop-in session for everyone who wants a cuppa and some company. Do bring your knitting, crochet and sewing, if you would like to. Some organised talks or crafts will also be available for those who prefer to come empty handed. We look forward to seeing you.

**FAIRTRADE STALL – Sunday, 14 December.** The stall will be in the North Transept, after the 10a.m. service.

**MESSY CHURCH – Saturday, 20 December – 11.30a.m.-1p.m.** Join us with your children/grandchildren for fun activities, followed by an interactive session with Revd. Debbie, and a light lunch. The session is free. Donations are welcome.

**REPAIR CAFÉ – Saturday, 3 January – 10.a.m.-1p.m.** Come along to SustainableAmersham.org's pop-up Repair Café. Volunteer repairers will help you fix your stuff for free. No appointment required. Free refreshments.

**WISE CHOICES FILM CLUB – Friday, 9 January – 2p.m.-4p.m – in The Wheeler Room – MR BURTON** Starring Harry Lawtey and Toby Jones. In the Welsh town of Port Talbot in 1942, Richard Jenkins lives as a wayward school boy. Until his teacher Philip Burton spots his natural talent for drama. Running Time 2hrs.

**CANCER SUPPORT GROUP FOR AMERSHAM – Thursday, 5 February – 10a.m.-12 noon – Wheeler Room, St. Michael's.** Are you or a loved one facing a cancer diagnosis? Are you finding cancer treatment tough? Is your treatment over, but you still feel anxious? You are not alone. Please drop in for coffee and a chat.

### ***Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's***

**LUNCHBREAK – Amersham Free Church – Tuesdays – 12noon-2p.m.** Tea, coffee and soup are available. The church is open for quiet reflection, and on 9 December, from 1.10p.m.-1.30p.m., Bite Sized Carols.

**THE DAMON SINGERS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT – Sunday, 14 December at 7.30p.m. – The White Hill Centre, Chesham.** There will be the usual opportunity to join in with some carols, and then share some mulled wine and mince pies. Tickets £12.50 in advance / £14 cash on the door. £5 for 12-18s, under 12s free. Available in advance from Perfect Pitch, The Broadway, Chesham, or for tickets and further information call 07747 45570.

**LUNCH FORUM – Friday, 19 December – 12.15p.m. – Amersham Free Church.** Dr Rudi Newman, transport historian and author, will give a talk on the Lusitania, the British passenger liner. This was the ship torpedoed by a German U-boat in 1915 during World War I, creating a global outcry. As usual we will sit down to eat our own packed lunches at 12.15-12.30 with the talk starting at 1.10p.m. just after our short AGM. As this is our Christmas meeting, a glass of wine will be on offer along with the usual tea, coffee and water. Suggested donation £3-£5 to cover the cost of speakers. It would be wonderful to have members from St. Michael's come and join us.